

WHITE MEMORIAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 27, 2020
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Live Streaming at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christopher H. Edmonston, Pastor
Jim Ferry, Parish Associate
Judy Yates Siker, Parish Associate
Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music
Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music
Carol Hardman, soprano
Martha Hutchens, alto
Wayne Rogers, tenor
Jared Smith, bass
Ruth Mock and Martin Brinkley, oboes

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE

Largo from Concerto in d minor, RV 535
Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Hear our prayer Lord: we are awash in uncertainty and anxiety.
Everything around us seems complicated.
Nothing feels easy. In the simplest tasks, the most ordinary
conversations can become meddlesome.
Help us to resist the temptation to avoid important tasks,
to avoid complicated people, or to avoid the urgency of your word.
Draw us into the heart of your Son.
Make us channels of grace and peace.
Forgive the sin and doubt which makes
all that we are facing divide us from Jesus and his love.
Help us to remember the
lessons of scripture and the shelter they provide.
In the name of our Savior, we make this confession. Amen.

(CONTINUED)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

1From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.”

Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?”

³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”

⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

⁵The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.

⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

²³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said,
“By what authority are you doing these things,
and who gave you this authority?”

²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question;
if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority
I do these things.

²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven,
or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another,
“If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us,
‘Why then did you not believe him?’

²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’
we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.”

²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.”
And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority
I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons;
he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’

²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰The father went to the second and said the same;
and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go.

³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?”
They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them,
“Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes
are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness
and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors
and the prostitutes believed him;
and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds
and believe him.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SERMON

Meddling

MUSICAL OFFERING

Purpose (Nia) from The Nguzo Saba Suite
Glenn Burleigh (1949-2007)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

RESPONDING IN FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(From A Declaration of Faith)

**We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.
God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.
The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.
The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.**

**God comes to us on God's divine terms
and is able to do far more than we ask or think.**

**Jesus' involvement in the human condition is God's involvement.
His compassion for all kinds of people is God's compassion.
His demand for justice, truth, and faithfulness is God's demand.
His willingness to suffer rejection is God's willingness.**

Jesus' love for the very people who reject him is God's love.

(CONTINUED)

HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Concerto in d minor, RV 535

A. Vivaldi

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JOYS & CONCERNS

IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Thomas Ashby Newby, Jr. – September 17, 2020

WMPC family member: wife, Charlotte Newby

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 394



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 27

Cancer Companions

4:30-6:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)
Contact Jean Williams, Parish Nurse at jwilliams@whitememorial.org or Jim Ferry, Parish Associate at jferry@whitememorial.org.

MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 28

9@9 a.m.

Daily | Facebook Live

Begin the morning each weekday with a live Bible study with Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Chip Pope, Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families.

Churchwide Bible Study: The Parables of Jesus

7:00-8:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)
The well-known parables of Jesus are deep wells of Christian instruction and reflection, but ones that are often reduced to a single, simplistic meaning. Join us for a 10-week study of parables led by WMPC pastors as we explore the depth of Jesus' teaching and ask what these stories might have to say to us today.

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 29

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

7:30 a.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

Aging Well

1:00 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

To register contact: Jennifer Eastman at jeastman@whitememorial.org or Liisa Ogburn, liisaogburn@gmail.com. Open microphone: Bring any and all questions you have and Liisa will do her best to answer them and/or point you in the right direction.

Possibility and Peril: A Conversation About Hope

7:00-8:30 p.m. | On Zoom | [Registration required](#)
Hope is a Christian virtue with a rich history, but it can be hard to wrap our minds around in a world that experiences great depths of suffering. Join Pastoral Resident Anne Galliher and Pastor Christopher Edmonston for a conversation about the everyday practice of hope. We'll learn from the perspective of Christian ethics and the biblical witness and reimagine our understanding of this hallmark of our faith.

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 30

Centering Prayer

5:30 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

In all of the craziness and weariness of the pandemic, join us for 30 minutes each week to center and pray. It's a little different on zoom, but we're excited to gather. Centering Prayer is simply sitting in silence, open to God's word and love. Prepare yourself by sitting in a quiet space, if you wish light a candle and allow your mind and breath to slow down. Please mute your computer as we begin the opening reading. We will meet every Wednesday at 5:30 through November 11. If you have questions, contact Melinda Fox at Melindafox22@gmail.com.

THURSDAY | OCTOBER 1

Support for Healthcare Workers

12:00-12:45 p.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

All healthcare workers are invited to join Pastoral Resident Anne Galliher for a weekly opportunity to reflect and recharge in an environment of care and support. Connect with others experiencing similar challenges in healthcare settings and engage in self-care. Join us every week or drop in as you are able. All are welcome.

Lectio Live

1:00 p.m. | Facebook Live

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care or Anne Galliher, Pastoral Resident practice a contemplative way to read the Bible called Lectio Divina. It's an ancient yet simple practice that means "holy reading." In Lectio Divina, we slow down and listen for God's word. We take time to listen for words or phrases that stand out for us, and we listen for a call that God may be placing on us.

Keenagers

10:00 a.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

If you are 55 years old +, we invite you to join Keenagers via Zoom. On Thursday we will gather virtually at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Tonya Higgins at higgins@whitememorial.org to receive your Zoom link.

Haiti Outreach Ministries

7:00 p.m. | Facebook Live

All are invited to join us for a 30-minute Facebook Live event from Edinburgh on Thursday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Gary Fulton, Executive Director of Haiti Outreach Ministries will be joined by WMPC member Jeb Jeutter to share why the work being done is so crucial to Haitians. In addition, Leon Dorleans, HOM Founding Director will broadcast live from Haiti to provide an overview and the impact of COVID-19.