

WHITE MEMORIAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 14, 2021
4th Sunday in Lent
Live Streaming and In Person Worship with registration
8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christopher Edmonston, Pastor
Anne Galliher, Pastoral Resident
Chip Pope, Associate Pastor for Youth and their Families
Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music
Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music
Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music
Carol Hardman, Liz Marks; sopranos
Wayne Rogers, tenor
Jared Smith, bass

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE

Prelude in D Major; Op. 23 No. 4
Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 107)

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

All: The steadfast love of God endures forever.

One: God's word is true and protects us – even in the wilderness.

All: We journey through the wilderness and follow our Lord to the cross. We lay our lives at God's feet and seek out the grace and mercy that our Savior offers to all.

One: God sends the word and delivers us from death and destruction.
This is good news. This is a day for worship and praise.

All: Let us offer our thanksgiving and praise; let us share our faith with songs of joy.

HYMN 446

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We sing with the faithful: how blest are we, our transgressions freely forgiven, our guilt wholly covered before the sight of heaven. God of mercy, in your infinite wisdom and love, you became flesh and blood in Jesus Christ our Lord. In his name, we confess our sins while believing in your gift of mercy. May we seek you when trouble is near. Remove the fear from our hearts and replace it with love, that we would feel your hope, be assured of the gift of repentance, and remember your gift of love. Bless us and forgive us as we pray in Jesus' name this day. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Philippians 4:1-9

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 32:11-24

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?

¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.

¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’”

¹⁴And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

¹⁵Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back.

¹⁶The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets.

¹⁷When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, “There is a noise of war in the camp.”

¹⁸But he said, “It is not the sound made by victors, or the sound made by losers; it is the sound of revelers that I hear.”

¹⁹As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses’ anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.

²⁰He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.

²¹Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?”

²²And Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the people, that they are bent on evil.

²³They said to me, ‘Make us gods, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’

²⁴So I said to them, “Whoever has gold, take it off”; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”

SERMON

"God's Word in the Wilderness: Memory, Repentance, and Hope"

MUSICAL OFFERING

Salvation Is Created

Pavel Tschesnokoff (1877-1944)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Ecumenical Translation)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

RESPONDING IN FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the Study Catechism, PCUSA)

One: If God's love is powerful beyond measure, why is there so much evil in the world?

All: No one can say why, for evil is a terrible abyss beyond all rational explanation. Its ultimate origin is obscure. Its enormity perplexes us. Nevertheless, we boldly affirm that God's triumph over evil is certain. In Jesus Christ God suffers with us, knowing all our sorrows. In raising him from the dead, God gives new hope to the world. Our Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is himself God's promise that suffering will come to an end, that death shall be no more, and that all things will be made new.

HYMN 169

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Toccata on In the Cross of Christ I Glory
David Cherwien (pub. 1989)

* * *

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

David and Morgie Duke, Kitty Duke and John Duke,
on the death of David's father, Goodman Burnett "Budgie" Duke,
March 5, Louisa, VA.

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Theodore Carter Magee, born March 2,
child of Liz and Jack Magee.

The flowers in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Judy Carol Bright by Jan, Art, Amy, Craig, Kate, Reid and Katherine Ross in gratitude for Judy's friendship and in honor of her major bequests to White Memorial, StepUp Ministry and the Triangle YMCA.

* * *

Music included in today's service:

Prelude in D Major, Op. 23 No. 4; Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943);

Public Domain

HYMN 446 *How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions;*

Text and Music Public Domain

Salvation Is Created; Pavel Tshesnokoff (1877-1944);

Public Domain

Toccata on In the Cross of Christ I Glory; David Cherwien;

© 1989 MorningStar Music

Music presented with permission under Podcast/Streaming

License with One License #714069

* * *

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions 446

(Psalm 32)

1 How blest, those whose trans-gres-sions have free - ly been for-given;
 2 While I kept guilt - y si-lence, my strength was spent with grief.
 3 So let the god - ly seek you, when trou-bling times are near;

whose guilt is whol - ly cov - ered be - fore the sight of heaven.
 Your hand was heav - y on me; my life found no re - lief.
 no storm or flood shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear.

Blest, those to whom our Lord God will not im-pute their sin:
 But when I made con - fes - sion and hid no sin from you,
 In you, O Lord, I hide me; you save me from all ill.

whose guilt has been for - giv - en; whose hearts, made true a - gain.
 when I re - vealed my fail - ings, you gave me life a - new.
 And songs of your sal - va - tion my heart with rap-ture fill.

Although this is one of the traditional seven penitential psalms, it could equally well be called a psalm of thanksgiving for forgiveness. It bears witness to the desirability of confession as well as to God's gracious and forgiving nature, encouraging the faithful to seek God.

169 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

1 *Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard be - side the Syr - ian
 3 O Sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, O calm of hills a -
 4 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
 5 Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

ways; re - clothe us in our right - ful mind, in
 sea the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let
 bove, where Je - sus knelt to share with thee the
 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

pur - er lives thy ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 us, like them, with - out a word rise up and fol - low thee.
 si - lence of e - ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love!
 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm!

*Or "Dear Lord, Creator good and kind"

These stanzas were carved into a hymn from a much longer poem describing a frenzied ritual by an obscure sect in India, but they culminate in a reference to 1 Kings 19:11–12 that celebrates silence (as befits a Quaker poet). This tune was created especially for these words.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUNDAY | MARCH 14

Healing Through Grief - Winter 2021
Sundays | through March 21
3-4:30 p.m.

Cancer Companions
Sundays | through April 25
4:30-6:00 p.m. | Zoom
[Registration required for any/all classes](#)

TUESDAY | MARCH 16

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
7:30 a.m. | Zoom | [Registration required](#)

Churchwide Bible Study:
Visiting Scholar Program
Reclaiming Sabbath
Tuesdays | March 2-March 23
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Zoom | [Registration Required](#)
On Tuesday, March 16, we will continue our 4-week church-wide Bible study entitled *Reclaiming Sabbath: Cultivating Rhythms and Routines of Rest* as a part of our Visiting Scholar Program. You won't want to miss this incredible opportunity to learn from Dr. Ryan Bonfiglio from Emory University's Candler School of Theology. This class will meet on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. [Registration is required in order to receive your Zoom link.](#)

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 17

Midweek Wednesday Lenten Services
Live Stream | 8:00 a.m onwards
Each Wednesday during Lent we will offer a Lenten Midweek Prayer Service and each week we will delve into the ecumenical translation of The Lord's Prayer. These pre-recorded services can be viewed starting at 8:00 a.m. and throughout the day. Thereafter, they can be accessed OnDemand.

Boxed Dinners to Go
Pick-up between 5:00-6:30 p.m.
McDonald Lane
Don't forget if you ordered vegetable plate: spinach casserole, macaroni & cheese, field peas, sweet potato soufflé, hot biscuit & dessert today is the day to pick-up! Your host for the evening is the Session.

THURSDAY | MARCH 18

Keenagers
10:00 a.m. | Zoom
Join us as Charles Kidder and Kathryn Wall present *45 Years in Bloom, The JC Raulston Arboretum*. Please contact Tonya Higgins at thiggins@whitememorial.org to receive Zoom link.

* * *

SAVE THE DATES

Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday | March 21 | 12:15 p.m.
Zoom | [Registration required](#)
All church members are invited to join us Sunday, March 21 at 12:15 p.m. for our Annual Congregational Meeting.

* * *

Easter Memorials
Contributions in memory of a loved one or in honor of a family member, friend, or member of the church family are welcomed and may be for any amount; suggested gift is \$20 or more. All those honored or memorialized will be listed in the bulletin insert on April 4. Contributions received in excess of the cost of Easter flowers and greenery will go into a fund used for all decorations in the sanctuary, main hall and overflow worship space during the year. All requests must be in the church office by noon on Monday, March 29. Send your contribution to Rebecca Turner, and call her at 919-834-3425, ext. 222, with questions. [The form can be found online here.](#) Due to COVID-19, our Pastoral Care Ministry will not be delivering plants to anyone this year.

Volunteers Needed to Help Hayes Barton Pharmacy hold Vaccine Clinics
Hayes Barton Pharmacy is looking for volunteers to help with the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out. They need volunteers who can vaccinate as well as those that can't. If interested, please email volunteerhbp@gmail.com. Let them know if you are licensed to vaccinate and/or what your general availability would be in the coming weeks to months.

* * *

Registration for most events can be found on our website www.whitememorial.org/register