

WHITE MEMORIAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 21, 2021
5th Sunday in Lent
Live Streaming and In Person Worship with registration
8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christopher Edmonston, Pastor
Grier Booker Richards, Associate Pastor for Discipleship
Gloria Johnson, Associate Pastor for Outreach
Kelly Gold, Director of Children's and Youth Music
Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music
Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music
Jeanine Wagner, Ruth Mock; sopranos
Timothy Sparks, tenor
Jared Smith, bass

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE

Two Chorale Preludes on The Lord's Prayer
Johann Lorentz (ca. 1610-1689)
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted from Psalm 119)

One: Let us seek the Lord with our whole hearts;

All: Let us remember God's commandments and treasure God's word.

One: God's word is manna in the wilderness. It is a blessing in times of trial.

All: We shall declare our delight in the way of the Lord with our song, prayer, and praise.

One: Remembering God's promises and blessings, let us worship the Lord our God.

HYMN 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God - we confess that when the winds blow cold, and the tides go low, and we feel the challenge of the wilderness, we often give up and lose faith. And yet we believe in your providence: like manna in the wilderness, we are called to trust in your providential love, grace, and care. Through the Holy Spirit, help us to stay strong in our faith. In the name of Jesus, forgive our sins and renew our lives for service and praise. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 6:1-15

¹After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.

²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.

³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples.

⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.

⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?"

⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."

⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him,

⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.

¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.

¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost."

¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.

¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 16:1-17

¹The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.

³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,

⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?”

⁸And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we?

Your complaining is not against us but” against the Lord.

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’”

¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said,

¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?”

For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

¹⁶This is what the Lord has commanded:

‘Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.’”

¹⁷The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less.

SERMON

“God’s Word in the Wilderness: Providence”

MUSICAL OFFERING

Kyrie from Requiem

John Rutter (b. 1945)

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: How do you live for the love of God?

All: I love because God first loved me. God loves me in Christ with a love that never ends. Amazed by grace, I no longer live for myself. I live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, I take those around me to heart, especially those in particular need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me.

HYMN 445

God, How Can We Forgive

CHARGE AND BLESSING

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in F Major, WTC I

J. S. Bach

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JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Phil, Stephanie, Mitch and Abbey Mosely,
on the death of Phil's father, Graham Hartwell Mosely,
March 5, Wilmington, NC.

NEW PRESBYTERIAN

Eliza Wells Battle, born March 17,
child of Haley and Staats Battle,
grandchild of Romy and Player Barefoot,
and Carol and Richard Battle.

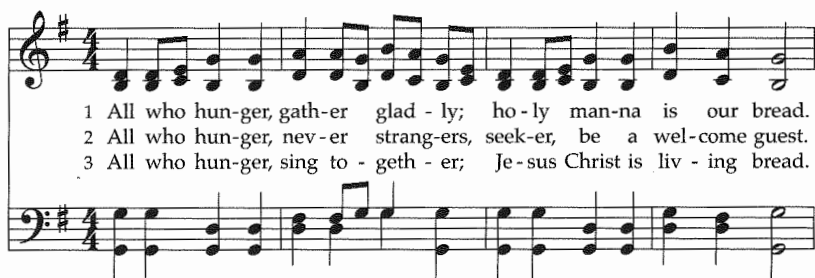
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Music included in today's service:

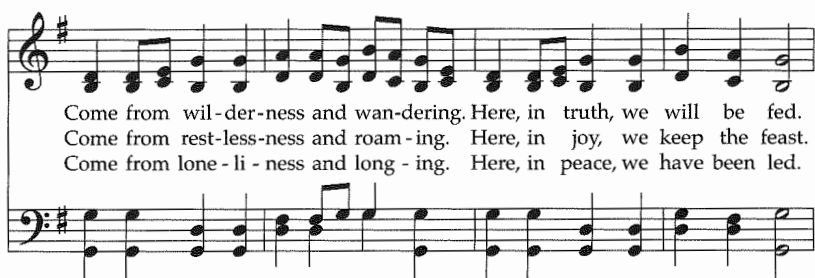
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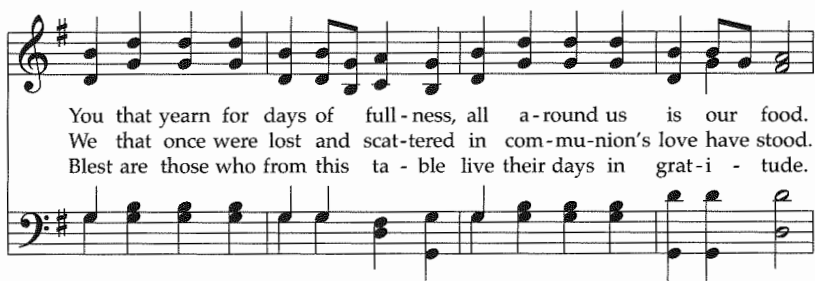
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth- er; Je-sus Christ is liv- ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

445 God, How Can We Forgive

1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
 3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,

How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?

When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

This text reflects both the struggle to deal with a deep personal hurt and a keen awareness of biblical language and content. The opening line of stanza two, for example, draws on the root meaning of the Greek word for sin, and the beginning of stanza three alludes to John 8:3-8.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUNDAY | MARCH 21

Annual Congregational Meeting
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.

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 23

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 23, we will conclude 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 Tuesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. [Registration is required in order to receive your Zoom link.](#)

WEDNESDAY | MARCH 24

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 Meat Loaf, Hash Brown Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Hot Roll, and Dessert, today is the day to pick-up! Your host for the evening is the Service Committee. They will be collecting canned fruit.

THURSDAY | MARCH 25

Keenagers
10:00 a.m. | Zoom

Join us for Social Connection Time Please contact Tonya Higgins at thiggins@whitememorial.org to receive Zoom link.

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SAVE THE DATES

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.

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