

WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



August 15, 2021

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Live Streaming and In Person Worship

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Christopher Edmonston, Pastor

Cate Church Norman, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Youth Officers: (8:30) *Gabe Edmonston*; (10:30) *Laura Lillian Baggett*

Kirsten Homdrom, Associate Director of Music

Karl Zinsmeister, Director of Music

Members of the Adult Choirs

ORDER OF SERVICE

GREETING

PRELUDE

Prelude on a Welsh Tune: RHOSYMEDRE

R.V. Williams

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 111)

One: Let us worship the Lord, our God this day.

All: Praise the Lord! Let us give thanks to God with our whole hearts.

One: Great are the works of the Lord. We study them and grow in faith.

All: The works of the Lord are established forever and ever.

**The works of the Lord are faithful and just. Let us praise the
God of redemption and covenants.**

HYMN 652

A Grateful Heart

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We regret many of the things we have done. We regret the times when we left things undone. Forgive our sins. In the name of Jesus help us to honor the wisdom of sacred trust; help us to curtail our need of certainty. In the name of Christ help us to believe even when we cannot fully understand; help us to remember that faith is not a prize to be possessed but a practice to be employed. Hear our prayer in the name of our Savior.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All: And also with you

RESPONSE



May the peace of Christ be with you. May the love of God dwell deep in your heart. May the
Spir - it en-light - en your way. May you walk in the com-fort of God's care.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

¹Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals,
she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

⁴“You that are simple, turn in here!”

To those without sense she says,
⁵“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 6:51-58

- ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
Whoever eats of this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”
- ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying,
“How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”
- ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you,
unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink his blood, you have no life in you.
- ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life,
and I will raise them up on the last day;
- ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.
- ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me,
and I in them.
- ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me,
and I live because of the Father,
so whoever eats me will live because of me.
- ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven,
not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died.
But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

SERMON

“The Wisdom of Embracing Mystery”

MUSICAL OFFERING

O Taste and See

R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:
Blest is the one that trusteth in him.*

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 Brief Statement of Faith*, 1983)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent
and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

HYMN 174

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Little Prelude in G Major
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Lyman, Molly, Holden and Anna Kiser, on the death of Lyman's mother,
Helen Sealy Kiser, August 4, Raleigh, NC.

NEW PRESBYTERIANS

Miles Masterson Day, born July 28, child of Emily and Michael Day,
grandchild of Debbie and John Day.

* * *

Music included in today's service:

Prelude on a Welsh Tune: RHOSYMEDRE, R.V. Williams; Public Domain

HYMN 652 *A Grateful Heart*; Text © 2011 David Gambrell
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A Grateful Heart

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(Psalm 111)

1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
 2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
 3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you

praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
 poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
 dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can

lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - joice.
 works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
 com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

This paraphrase of Psalm 111 preserves the psalm's quality of providing a general list of God's praiseworthy characteristics rather than giving thanks for a particular act of deliverance. In the original text these attributes are organized as an acrostic on the Hebrew alphabet.

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174

1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who

earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,

for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -

path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

What's happening this week at WMPC

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE (Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend)

Sunday, August 15, 22 and 29
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. | Main Hall

MONDAY | AUGUST 16

T'ai Chi for Exercise

5:30 p.m. | Pickard Hall

T'ai Chi is a gentle art that is physically rewarding and mentally stimulating and brings a feeling of well-being, as well as relaxation, improved balance and coordination. For more information, contact Honey Music at honeyjmusic@gmail.com.

TUESDAY | AUGUST 17

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

7:30 a.m. | In-person or Zoom

[Registration is required for either.](#)

THURSDAY | AUGUST 19

Keenagers

Picnic at North Hills Park

MORE presents the Summer Challenge

Building upon the *21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge*, the MORE (Ministry of Racial Equity) Ministry Team has compiled a list of resources for you to dive into over the summer. We hope you'll enjoy and share these books, movies and podcasts. You can find a complete list of resources on our website: www.whitememorial.org.

Churchwide Summer Collection for August

The collections for August will be pet food which will go to the SPCA (who supplies Meals on Wheels with pet food) and school supplies which will go to various agencies that work with school age children. Drop off pet food and/or school supplies in the red bins outside of the Witherspoon building.

Major Mission 2021: TLC (Tammy Lynn Center)

We are excited to be supporting TLC through our Major Mission program for 2021. Your generosity can help families right here in our neighborhood! [Gifts can be made online or by check.](#)

WMPC Chair Campaign Edinburgh Building

As we conclude the Imagine Campaign, we invite you to purchase a chair in honor of or in memory of someone. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in the Imagine Campaign. Chairs may be purchased for \$500 each: www.whitememorial.org/register

SAVE THE DATES

Kickoff Sunday

Sunday | September 12

Worship times

Sanctuary 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

OnPoint@1704 in the Main Hall 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for children and adults: 9:30 a.m.

WMPC 75th Anniversary Celebration & Dedication of the Edinburgh Building

Sunday | September 19

after 11:00 a.m. worship

Join us for BBQ, live music, games, children's activities, fellowship and much more as we celebrate our 75th anniversary and dedicate the Edinburgh Building. RSVP is required. www.whitememorial.org/register.

Cancer Companions

Sunday | September 12 - November 14
4:30-6:00 p.m.

This support group uses Cancer Companions devotionals, videos and Bible lessons to explore how we can draw closer to God as we go through difficult times.

Vacation Bible School 2022

It's not too soon to mark your calendar for VBS 2022! June 13- 17, 2022

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