

PRAYING TO BE SHAPED BY PEACE

Monday: Peace That Transcends Understanding. Pray that you would accept a peace that comes from God even when it surpasses your understanding. Pray that you would allow God’s peace to guard both your heart and your mind. “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” —Philippians 4:7 (NIV)

Tuesday: Peace That Rules Your Heart. Pray that your emotions and actions would be ruled by the peace that comes from Christ. Pray that you would live up to your calling in Christ to be at peace with one another. “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” —Colossians 3:15 (NIV)

Wednesday: Peace That is Just Right. Pray that you would know a peace that is just right in all times and all places. Pray that God’s presence would be evident in your life as He makes His peace known to you in a variety of ways. “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” —2 Thessalonians 3:16 (NIV)

Thursday: Peace That Takes Effort. Pray that you would work in all ways to live at peace with the people around you. Pray that your efforts in pursuing peace would lead you to holiness that prepares you to be in God’s presence. “Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.” —Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)

Friday: Peace That is Sown. Pray that you would be aware of the seeds of peace which have been sown in your life. Pray that you would live as a peacemaker who sows those same seeds of God’s peace into the lives of others. “Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.”—James 3:18 (NIV)

Saturday: Peace That is Sought. Pray that you would turn from all that is at odds with true peace. Pray that you would pursue peace as you do the good God has created for you to do. “He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it.”—1 Peter 3:11 (NIV)

(from Tom Lemler of Impact Prayer Ministry)

2019 SPC SESSION AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

DISCIPLESHIP
Marie Finch, Sandy Simmermon
Ben Foster, Ann Byrd Porter, &
Donna Bortell

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP
Elisabeth Sawyer, Philip Ndahi,
& Rich Voter

ADMINISTRATION
Rob Courtois, Dave Horner,
Kathy Stark, & Tom Cherry

STAFF

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Amanda Besso & Madeline Tamburo, <i>Nursery</i>		
Tom Libbey, <i>Facility Manager</i> ; Helen Pribesh, <i>Parish Cook</i> ; Barbara Watson, <i>Housekeeper</i>		

Our pastor since 2010, Dr. Craig Wansink received his Ph.D. in New Testament from Yale University, after having graduated from seminary in Chicago, and having studied at universities in Japan, Jordan, Germany, and Israel. Since 1993 he has been a Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Wesleyan University, where he also serves as the Joan P. and Macon F. Brock, Jr. Director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom. Craig is married to Nancy Chapman, and his two children—Katrina and Teddy—are college students.

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, our Covenant Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Spiritual Formation, received her M.Div. from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Catherine also serves as the chaplain for University Presbyterian Ministries at Old Dominion University. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Norfolk with their three children, Whitley, Hart, and Alden.

Isaac Thomas, our Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology, joined the SPC staff in 2014. He received his education at John Brown University and The University of Texas at Arlington. He is a published composer and has served as conductor for contemporary Christian recording artists Twila Paris and Fernando Ortega. He is a graduate of Dubuque Theological Seminary via the Commissioned Lay Pastor program. Additionally, he completed a six-week piano course through The Juilliard School under the instruction of Dr. Michael Shinn, Chair of Keyboard Studies.



KNOWN BY YOUR FRUIT

“FROM STRESS TO PEACE”

Second Presbyterian Church, April 14, 2019

April 14 Palm Sunday
From Stress to Peace



John 14:1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God believe also in me.”

—We Gather in God’s Name —

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
Greet your neighbor with the peace of Christ.

RINGING THE CHIMES

PRELUDE “Wonderful Peace”—Music by William G. Cooper; Arranged by Jay Rouse

Peggy Troyer, Piano

Welcome!
Whether we are old or young, whether we are first-time or longtime worshipers, whether we come full of doubts or confidence, joy, or sorrow, in this place we all are family, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross.

“In seasons of uncertainty and turmoil, we are being asked to make a deliberate decision. We are being asked to not allow our hearts to be troubled. The only way I know how to do that is to spend copious amounts of time with God so I can walk through hard times from a place of peace... and that peace will impact those directly around me. It starts with me.”
—Katherine Walden

“To advance further along the spiritual road, we must surrender control, become receptive and have the humility to be led.”
—Albert Haase

“Whenever a real tangible storm challenges the destiny over your life you have every right to stand up to it and allow His peace to overcome it.”
—Paul Martini

OPENING LITANY

The streets were crowded. A parade mood filled the air.
Shouts came from deep in the heart. **Hosanna. Save us.**
Save us from lukewarm faith. **Hosanna. Save us.**
Save us from callous indifference. **Hosanna. Save us.**
Save us from lazy habits and faithless commitments. **Hosanna. Save us.**
Save us from the anger that crawls out of our lives. **Hosanna. Save us. Amen.**

THE LENT CROSS TREE: FROM STRESS TO PEACE

During each of our Lenten worship services, we pause and place two crosses on the Lent Cross Tree.

One cross represents what we are putting behind us; the other represents the fruit of the spirit we hope to cultivate.

*HYMN # 145 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord, on this Palm Sunday we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem’s, that we welcome you and also reject you, that our faith is often more show than substance, that our hearts are in need of cleansing. Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, to welcome our praises, and to receive us as your own. Amen.

*MUSICAL RESPONSE # 444 “Nada te turbe/Nothing Can Trouble”

—Words and Music by Jacques Berthier and the Taizé Community, France

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

*WORDS OF GRACE

Laying aside judgment, **God offers us redemption;**
setting aside anger, **God embraces us with love;**
letting go of grief, **God pours living water upon us.**
This is the good news: God’s steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

— *We Hear the Word* —

TIME OF DISCOVERY “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

—Words by C.H. Woolston and Josphe Barlowe; Music by George F. Root

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Red, brown, yellow, black, and white, they are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

CHORAL ANTHEM “Jerusalem, Behold Your King”

—Words and Music by David Davenport; Arranged by Lloyd Larson

Jerusalem, behold your King! Hosanna in the highest! Jerusalem, behold your King! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Who is this man, Jerusalem? Hosanna in the highest! Behold the man, Jerusalem! Hosanna in the highest!

The Son of David comes, the Son of David comes. This humble man, the Son of God, rode on in majesty.

“I am the way, the truth, the life, oh come and follow me, follow me, follow me!” Behold your King! They spread their garments on the road and shouted loud their praise! The humble man, the Son of God rode on along the way; rode on along the way. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

John 14:25-31

(page 109; large print, page 133)

Mark 11:1-10

(page 47; large print, page 57)

SERMON

“From Stress to Peace”

—Dr. Craig Wansink

HYMN # 151 (vv. 1, 2, & 4) “Rejoice, O Zion’s Daughter”

— *We Respond to God’s Word* —

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: THE SHARING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY “Perfect Peace”—Music by Laura Story; Isaac Thomas, soloist

*THE DOXOLOGY # 965 “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

—Words by Thomas Ken; Music by Louis Bourgeois

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

Where there is offense, let me bring pardon.

Where there is discord, let me bring union.

Where there is error, let me bring truth.

Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.

Where there is despair, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.

Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

O Master, let me not seek as much to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love,

for it is in giving that one receives,

it is in self-forgetting that one finds,

it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,

it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life. Amen.

— *We Are Sent in Christ’s Name* —

*HYMN (See Insert) “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

*BENEDICTION

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,

and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE “The Palms”—Music by Jean-Baptiste Fauré (1830-1914)

The flowers today are lovingly given in honor of Suellen White’s birthday from the White Family.

“The reason we have a Comforter (Holy Spirit) is because on this side of heaven we will need comfort. Our peace comes from another world and not perfect circumstances.”
—Jennifer Eivaz

“If our minds are stayed upon God, His peace will rule the affairs entertained by our minds. If, on the other hand, we allow our minds to dwell on the cares of this world, God’s peace will be far from our thoughts.”
—Woodrow Kroll

Reflect on those ways in which you—like Jesus—need to stay on a path that you know leads you into challenges . . . even as it leads you closer to God.