

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor  
Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education  
Jaime Escarpeta, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director  
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist

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May 7, 2006

10:00 a.m.

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,  
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

### PRELUDE

INTROIT

*Beautiful Savior*

Traditional

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### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Good Shepherd invites us to green pastures.  
We are refreshed beside still waters.

**People: We have been given everything we have.  
God offers us everything we need.**

Leader: When we walk through shadowed valleys, God is with us.  
We are comforted and reassured.

**People: God leads us in the right paths.  
Our cups are filled to overflowing.**

Leader: God welcomes us to the table where love is expressed.  
We are invited to partake of the truth God offers.

**People: We have received plenty that we might share.  
We are called to be God's helpers.**

*All: Let us worship the living, loving God!*

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**All: Good Shepherd, we meet in your name, confident that we are known and loved by you. Here, we draw close to one another and to you, expecting to be empowered by fresh insights to live as your people. We embrace the wholeness you offer and dare to risk acceptance of a healing role for ourselves and the faith community. Equip us for service beyond this hour of meeting. Amen.**

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\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

#417

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: All of us have taken vows of loyalty to Jesus Christ. We have made promises in words that have not been lived out in truth. We have too easily pushed aside God's commands in favor of our own desires. We are more interested in pleasing ourselves than in pleasing God. Let us return to the One who is our Origin to re-attune ourselves to God's intent for us.

**All: Good Shepherd, we have wandered down the pathways of our world. We have ventured into dead-end streets that looked more inviting than the narrow ways marked by the signposts of your love. We have trusted other voices and turned away from your truth. We have accepted your gifts without acknowledgement. We have failed to use our overflowing cups to fill the cups of sisters and brothers who need what we could offer. Forgive us, we pray, and restore us to your fold. Amen.**

## MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

**Congregational Response (Sung):**

#399

**We walk by faith and not by sight;  
No gracious words we hear  
From Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke;  
But we believe Him near.**

**We may not touch His hands and side,  
Nor follow where He trod;  
But in His promise we rejoice,  
And cry, "My Lord and God!"**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news. By the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are restored to wholeness. Believe the good news of the Gospel;

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

\*HYMN

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

#172

**(\*\*\*Children in grades 1-4 are dismissed for their Bible class during the hymn.\*\*\*)**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 10:11-18  
Acts 4:5-12

Pages 103-104  
Page 121

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name*

Dennard

SERMON

***You're Doing a Good Job, Brownie***

Rev. Muriel Burrows

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,  
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY (The Ushers and Deacons will now come forward to take up the offering for the mission and ministry of the church.)

\*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page)

#592

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: How can we express our thanks, O God, for the One who laid down his life itself in witness to your love to all people? We are aware that many have not experienced that love. We see their need. And we want to respond. Use what we offer to you to bring healing and peace to others not of this fold. Draw us together as one flock in the care of one shepherd, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be thirsty. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

**Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

**People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, and to worship you in every place where your glory abides. By your power you raised Jesus from death to life. Through his victory over the grave we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom of the children of God. In his rising to

life you promise eternal life to all who believe in him. We praise you that as we break bread in faith, we shall know the risen Christ among us.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever pray to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying: “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ’s body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

### **Invitation**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

### **Communion of the People**

HYMNS	<i>Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts</i>	#511
	<i>I Come with Joy</i>	#507

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the**

**strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* #514

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Thy Will, Thy Way* Fryson

\* Congregation stands  
\*\* Latecomers ushered in

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WELCOME** - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609) 924-1666.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL WEEKLY FOR ALL AGE GROUPS!** Sunday school classes for adults and students in grades 5-12 begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. (The adult class is exploring the lectionary passages together each week before the service.) Students in grades 1-4 will be dismissed for their Sunday school class immediately after the children's message. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

**NURSERY CARE** is provided for children 0-5 during Sunday school (9:00) and worship (10:00). Today Pam Johnson is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Fran Allison.

**FLOWERS** - If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is May 14.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are Joyce Abbott and Melinda Velez. Next week's ushers are members of the Junior Usher Ministry: David McGriff and Joshua McGriff with Kaylin Blount, manager.

**COMMUNION SERVERS** for this morning are Gloria Frederick, James Frederick, Adrienne Daniels Paris and Joan Tomlin.



**COFFEE HOUR** - Host for the month of May is Barbara Brown. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Barbara (609-882-3788).

**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, May 14, is Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8.

**ATTENDANCE** at the service of April 30 was 140.

## DOLLAR\$&CENTS

**COUNTERS FOR MAY** are Adrienne Daniels Paris (Team Leader), Vicki Meisel, Maria Potts and Florence Sharpless. Counters for the Deacon's Benevolence Offering are Alyce Bush, Curtis Johnson and Sam McGriff.



**OFFERING COUNTERS**

**COUNTERS DESPERATELY NEEDED!!!** – At least four people are needed to join our counting teams. Even if you are unable to count every Sunday during a designated month, you can still sign up to count on the Sundays you are available. Training provided. Please see Ron Smith or leave a message in the church office.



## PROPERTY ACQUISITION FUND UPDATE

As of April 30, the Property Acquisition Fund has accumulated **\$83,961.18** in cash, out of a total \$110,000 we have committed to raise.

## NEW VOLUNTEER POSSIBILITIES

**THE USHER BOARD** needs four additional ushers. Anyone who is willing to usher three to four times a year or would like more information should contact Joan Tomlin (609-637-9646 or jotomlin@msn.com).



**SUMMER SPOONER DEADLINE** – The deadline for the summer edition of *The Spooner* newsletter is **next Sunday, May 14**. Committee chairs and leaders of various church groups, as well as other individuals with news of special interest, are encouraged to submit articles to share with our readers.



**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** – Those who want to become members of, affiliate with, or learn more about Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church are invited to a *New Members Class* at the manse (453 Walnut Lane) **next Friday, May 19**, at 7:00 p.m. Pizza will be provided for those who confirm their plans to attend. Contact Rev. Burrows for details (609-924-1666 or [mburr45@verizon.net](mailto:mburr45@verizon.net)).



**MEN'S BREAKFAST** – Another in the series of breakfast meetings with the men of Witherspoon Street and Nassau Churches will be held **next Friday, May 19**. A panel discussion about the challenges and opportunities associated with Affordable Housing in Princeton will be led by Jim Floyd, Tad Vial and Jim Duncan. Open dialogue and discussion will follow. The meeting will be in the Assembly Room at Nassau Church at 7:30 a.m. A free will offering will be taken. Let Ben Colbert know if you plan to attend.

**SCAVENGER HUNT** – Remember to sign up by next Tuesday, May 16 for the **Scavenger Hunt** on **Sunday, May 21**, beginning at 12:30 p.m. (See insert for more information.) It's appropriate for those participating in the Scavenger Hunt to dress casually for worship; don't forget walking shoes!



**FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY** – The Deacons are collecting **canned fruit, vegetables and juice** for the Crisis Ministry. **\*\*\*NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.\*\*\*** Other nourishing food will also be accepted. Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



**BIRTHDAY OFFERING AND LUNCHEON** – Presbyterian Women of Nassau Presbyterian Church invite all Witherspoon women to the Birthday Offering Worship Service in Niles Chapel, Nassau Church **tomorrow** at 12:00 noon. A luncheon will follow in the Assembly Room. The Birthday Offering will be received and Joyce MacKichan Walker will lead a fun, fellowship building program. Please bring a salad to share; drop off the salad in the Assembly Room by 11:45 a.m. Bus service from the Mountain Avenue parking lot to Nassau Church will depart at 11:30 a.m. For more information, you may contact Shuang Huang (609-683-0385).



**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROJECT** – It has been a long time coming, but Habitat for Humanity is ready for us! Stephen Brame, Executive Director of Habitat in Trenton, is ready to begin building and thanks us for our patience over the past few months waiting for them to get organized and prepared. Stephen asks that **all volunteers** meet with him and his construction manager before we begin the actual work on our home. Because of the importance of this meeting, two dates have been set. Please attend the meeting on **Saturday May 13**, at 10:30 a.m. **or Sunday, May 14**, at 1:00 p.m. at the Habitat for Humanity headquarters in the East Trenton Center (corner of Olden Avenue and North Clinton Street). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Meg Coghlan (609-333-8585 or meg\_coghlan@yahoo.com).

**URGENT!**

We have lost our two volunteers who agreed to serve as WSPC crew chiefs for this Habitat project. If you are interested or can recommend someone from WSPC, please contact the church office or Barbara Flythe (732-274-9435) as soon as possible.