

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education
David Shedden, Seminary Intern
Valerie Smith, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist
Cortné Edmonds, Violinist

January 28, 2007

10:00 a.m.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Quia respexit

Bach

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP (based on 1 John 4:7-17)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

People: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Leader: God's love was revealed among us in this way –
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.

**People: If we love one another, God lives in us
and his love is perfected in us.**

Leader: God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.

**People: Love has been perfected among us in this –
because as he is, so are we in this world.**

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All: Eternal God, we gather to give you praise and thanksgiving for the wondrous gift of Jesus the Christ – who proved the fullness of your love in his walk among us. Receive the worship we bring as an

expression of our love for you and touch our hearts that we may grow in love towards one another. Spur us on with your Word and your Spirit, and help us to abide in you as you abide in us – we ask it in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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*OPENING HYMN

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

#229

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you were able to command us to love one another because you lived and breathed love in all you said and did.

People: **Forgive us when we substitute ideas and words about love for its practice in our daily lives.**

*** SILENT REFLECTION***

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to be prophetic witnesses of your love.

People: **Forgive us for justifying our lack of action by saying we would not know what words to say to people.**

*** SILENT REFLECTION***

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you have shown us that love can be patient and kind; that genuine love is not envious, boastful, arrogant or rude. Above all, you demonstrated that love can bear all things, hope all things and endure all things.

People: **Forgive us for being so influenced by the ‘noisy gongs’ and ‘clanging cymbals’ of our age that we fail to discern your call to love others as you love us.**

*** SILENT REFLECTION***

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us all in the knowledge that when our love has its source in you, it is indestructible by outward circumstances and influences. Realign our lives and our hearts to your love so that faith, hope and love dwell within us and our lives testify that the greatest of your gifts to us is truly the gift of love. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#361

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God’s excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God’s righteousness which rescues and saves us has been revealed in Jesus. For God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned (John 3:17-18a), therefore, I declare to you: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: 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!

MOMENT FOR MISSION Souper Bowl of Caring Rachel Maddox

*HYMN *Hear the Good News of Salvation* #355

SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 1:4-10 Page 698

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Page 175

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

(Students in grades 1-12 are dismissed for their Bible classes.**)**

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Word of God* Young Voices of Faith

SERMON *A Truth Whose Time Has Come* Rev. Muriel Burrows

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids’ orange page)

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

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (kids’ red page) #592

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: Gracious God, your love for us is revealed in the gifts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You call us to make these gifts evident in our lives. Receive and bless this offering as a symbol of our thanksgiving and as a

sign of our commitment to be prophetic witnesses of your love and mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

#525

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

A Quiet Place

Carmichael

* Congregation stands

** Latecomers ushered in

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshippers. 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 or witherspoon@verizon.net).



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGE GROUPS! Adults will meet on their own schedule each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. All other Sunday school classes for students in grades 1-12 begin immediately after the children's message in morning worship. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

NURSERY CARE is provided for children 0-5 beginning at 9:45 a.m. Today Elizabeth Ferguson is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Anne Blackwood-Chirchir.

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 February 11.

USHERS for this morning's service are Pauline Brown and Joan Tomlin. Next week's ushers are Rebecca Campbell and Victor Richards.

ATTENDANCE at the service of January 21 was 109.



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

† Both Jeremiah and Jesus have to deal with obstinate people in today’s readings. Why do people resist a prophet’s radical call to peace and justice? Do you always accept “radical messages” right away? Prophets incite people to action. Is there some injustice about which you can no longer remain silent? What would you like to rouse people to do?

† Does your church sometimes have problems that stem from disagreements within the community? Is this a bad thing? Discuss the idea that growth involves some tension.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

† What is the only thing you take with you when you die? Do you think you can expand your capacity for love by exercising the giving and receiving of love? Do you think that love is the prime mover in all that the church does?

† Why is this reading placed in the middle of two readings where prophets are trying to change people’s attitudes or hearts? What changes people for the better? Name some things that love does in your life.

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, February 4, is Isaiah 6:1-13; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.



SPRING SPOONER DEADLINE – Deadline for the spring issue of *The Spooner* newsletter is **Sunday, February 11**. Committee chairs and leaders of church groups, as well as other individuals with news of special interest, are encouraged to submit articles to share with our readers.



CHURCH CALENDAR – A copy of the WSPC calendar for February is inserted in this bulletin. Please review it and contact the Church Office with any additions or corrections **by this Wednesday, January 31**. The updated calendar will be posted in the rear hallway.

DOLLARS & CENTS

COUNTERS FOR FEBRUARY are Brenda Lee (Team Leader), Jaime Escarpeta, and Elsie McKee.



FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY – The Deacons are collecting nourishing food for the Crisis Ministry. *****NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.***** 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.

Per Capita for 2007 is \$21.24 (per person).



The Annual Congregational Meeting
will immediately follow
today's service.
Everyone is urged to attend.



ITEMS MUST BE MOVED THIS WEEK! – Any items stored in the electrical closet (to the left and behind the sanctuary) should be removed **THIS WEEK**. The closet serves as a passage from the sanctuary and first floor in the event of fire. This is a serious fire hazard and code violation. Items remaining at the end of the week will be discarded.



NOONTIME RECITAL SERIES – Come one, come all! Enjoy the music of Lin Wang, cellist, at the *Noontime Series* in the sanctuary **this Wednesday, February 7**, at 12:00 noon. A light lunch will follow. This recital is free, however donations are always welcome. Flyers are available in the narthex for you to share with your family,

friends and acquaintances.



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 Member Class* at the manse (453 Walnut Lane) on **Saturday, February 17**, at 9:00 a.m. Pastry and coffee will be provided for those who confirm their plans to attend. Contact Rev. Burrows for details (609-924-1666 or mburr45@verizon.net).



PRINCETON COMMUNITY HOUSING, a non-profit housing developer (Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church is a sponsoring organization) is currently taking applications for their new 68 one-bedroom apartment complex scheduled to open this year. This new complex will serve low- and moderate-income elderly residents. If you are interested in more details or filing an application, please meet with Jim Floyd following the worship service **next Sunday, February 4**.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – On Super Bowl Sunday, **February 4**, our youth will hold pots at church doors. They will join young people in churches all across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2006, 11,000 groups from all 50 states and outside the U.S. participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring, generating over \$5 million. All of the money collected is

donated to a charity selected by the participant. None of the money is sent to Souper

Bowl headquarters. Organizers only ask that each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Our church will donate the Souper Bowl collection to the Crisis Ministry. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring became a national grassroots event in 1993, more than \$33 million has gone to help those in need. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to “love our neighbor” by dropping your dollar in a soup pot on Souper Bowl Sunday.



ATTENTION WSPC VOLUNTEERS FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – The joint WSPC/Nassau Presbyterian Church project continues to need volunteers. It is not too late for you to support this important effort. There is a critical need for crew

chiefs for the remaining Saturdays in January, February and early March. **CAN YOU PLEASE COMMIT OR RECOMMIT TO OUR PROJECT FOR THE FEW WEEKS LEFT? CONTACT MEG COGLAN (609-651-2945 OR 609-921-1050, X138) AND LET HER KNOW WHICH DAYS YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HELP.** Volunteers who have not received Habitat T-shirts may contact Barbara Flythe (732-274-9435 or seavy33@aol.com).



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

(as of November 30, 2006)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$151,170
Total expenses*	<u>99,039</u>
Balance	\$52,166

*2004 to present