

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
James Frederick, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Organist

April 22, 2007

10:00 a.m.

Third 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 (based on Psalm 30)

Leader: Sing praises to God, O you saints of God.
Give thanks to God's holy name.

**People: Praise God for the joyous gift of a new day.
Thank God for healing and ever-present help.**

Leader: Extol the one who lifts us up from defeat.
Praise God who upholds us when we are discouraged.

**People: God sees and hears our weeping.
God lifts our souls from the pit of despair.**

Leader: Give thanks to God who turns mourning into dancing.
Praise God who hears our cries and answers our prayers.

**People: We have cried to you in our need, O God.
We believe you are making us whole.**

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

All: We praise you, O God, for restoring to life your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Through his great love, woundedness is healed and mercy experienced as lives are transformed with his resurrected life and power. His victory over sin and death gives us the confidence to move from sorrow to joy, from mourning to dancing. We praise you and adore you, O God, for your graciousness towards us. To you and to

Jesus our Lord be all blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! Amen.

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*OPENING HYMN

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

#104

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: What questions is God asking us as we examine our faith and faithfulness? Have our attitudes been rigid or flexible? Have we been motivated by self-sacrificing love or self-serving lies? Do we live by a self-limited agenda or by a God-given mission? Surely we have much to confess.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Loving God, we admit to attitudes that exclude rather than embrace. We prefer to associate with others who think and act as we do. We turn away from those who are different from us. We identify some enemies to be avoided or even destroyed. Forgive us, God, for seeking to limit your family. Awaken us to the limits of our understanding and the narrowness of our dealings. Show us the better ways you intend and make us bold to respond, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#466

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of God's grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.**

Words by Charles Wesley. Music by Carl Gotthelf Glaser. Arr. Lowell Mason. CCLI# 498673

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Let the scales fall from our eyes. God has offered us new sight. God is claiming us as beloved servants. Let us warm to the community that surrounds us. God has given us sisters and brothers to love. Let us reach out to feed and care and follow where Jesus leads. We are forgiven and claimed and sent.

All: Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 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. Sunday school classes for students in grades 1-6 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 Anne Blackwood-Chirchir is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Keaton and Jay Hill.



FLOWERS – Flowers for today's service were given in honor of *Alice Satterfield's 85th birthday* by *Shirley Satterfield*. 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 April 29.

USHERS for this morning's service are Jaime and Jean Escarpeta. Next week's ushers are Michele Minter and Beverly Owens.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of May is Barbara Brown. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Barbara (609-882-3788).



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK – JOHN 21:1-19

(Questions on Sunday's readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups, or for individual prayer.)

- † Do people who love each other always look for each other? Love makes your vision more acute. Explain. Why did John recognize Jesus before the others did?
- † Do you think Jesus would have entrusted his Church to Peter without Peter's profession of love? How important do you consider this quality in leaders in the Church today?

- ✠ How would a layperson know if he or she were called to do something for God?
- ✠ Would you be willing to participate in opportunities to discuss, discern, or explore calling?

ATTENDANCE at the service of April 15 was 105.

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, April 29, is Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelations 7:9-17; John 10:22-30.



CALLING ALL WSPC MEN! – The WSPC Men’s Association will meet at the site of Habitat House in Trenton **this Saturday, April 28**, at 9:00 a.m. This will be an opportunity to fulfill obligations as volunteers and co-sponsors with Nassau Church of the house that is nearing completion. Let Ben Colbert (609-896-2303 or colbertben@aol.com) know if you plan to attend.



COME TO THE ANNUAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FORUM ON SUNDAY, MAY 6, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. Louise Johnson needs your input, insights and suggestions for making Witherspoon’s CE programs the best they can be. Topics for discussion will be VBS, Sunday school planning for all ages, leader recruitment, small group Bible study for adults, and hopes and dreams for CE in general. Come and bring your ideas.



BIBLE AND BAGELS TO CONTINUE IN MAY – Many of you have requested small group adult Bible study. Come to the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. the first three Sundays in May (May 6, 13, 20). Louise will be there with a coffee pot and muffins. The Bible study will focus on *Flawed Families of the Bible – How God’s Grace Works through Imperfect People*. Feel free to invite friends.



PAUL ROBESON LECTURE SERIES: TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY –

The second lecture in the Robeson lecture Series, is scheduled for **today** at 3:00 p.m. at Liberation Hall, Princeton University’s Carl Field Center for Equality and Cultural Understanding (86 Olden Street). This series, sponsored by WSPC and Nassau Presbyterian Churches Partners in Faith Committee, is intended to inform the WSPC congregation and Princeton community about the life and legacy of Paul Robeson as well as pay tribute to the memory of this great intellectual and activist in recognition of April as the month of his birth. The lecturer for this program is Giles R. Wright, Director of the Afro-American History Program, New Jersey Historical Commission. Please plan to attend the two remaining lectures and support these efforts to honor, remember, and learn more about this important American hero.



NOONTIME RECITAL SERIES – Come one, come all! Our *Noontime Recital Series* concludes for 2006-2007 on **Tuesday, May 8**. Beverly Owens, *soprano*, Amy Shortt, *piano*, and Esma Pasic-Filipovic, *piano*, will perform music composed by Florence Price. After the recital a light lunch will be served. We will continue to celebrate

the life and work of Florence Price with a lecture given by Price scholar Professor Rae Linda Brown from The University of California at Irvine. The lecture begins at 7:00 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public. Please join us as we celebrate the remarkable life and music of this outstanding African-American woman.



SUMMER SPOONER DEADLINE – Deadline for the summer issue of *The Spooner* newsletter is **Sunday, May 13**. 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.



Trenton Area
**Habitat
for Humanity**

HABITAT PARTNER FAMILY UPDATE! – Our Habitat for Humanity house will be completed sometime in May. Now, it is time to help prepare our partner family for home ownership and help them make their new house a

home. Jackie Collier, the mother of our family, and her three children currently live with Jackie's mother. She is very excited about the prospect of owning her own home. She needs help with many household items. With Jackie, we have created a "wish list" gift registry at three local stores: Target, Linens and Things, and Home Depot. If you would like to contribute to our Habitat Family, you can do one of the following:

1. Go to one of the three stores. Ask customer service for the Jackie Collier Wish List and purchase an item which you may bring to WSPC by May 25.
2. For online ordering, go to: www.target.com; www.lnt.com; www.homedepot.com. Select gift registry for Jackie Collier and have gift shipped to you. Deliver to the church by May 25.
3. Purchase a gift card at one of these stores and bring to the church.

There will also be an opportunity to give the gift to the Collier family at the House Dedication Ceremony (date to be determined).

We thank you in advance for your support. We also offer a special "thank you" to all Habitat volunteers who helped with the house. We will be planning a special "thank you" event for all of you at a future date!



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.