

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Website: [www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.org](http://www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.org)

Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education

Beverly Owens, Music Director  
Amy Shortt, Organist

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June 10, 2007

10:00 a.m.

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## Youth Sunday

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

*Worship is one of the more important activities we offer to God as the Body of Christ. Our worship services reflect our understanding of who God is, of who Jesus is. Within worship, our children see, hear and learn what is central to their parent's faith. Within worship we sometimes are blessed with a particularly powerful sense of God's presence. And our worship services are the one regular time for the whole community to gather. For all these reasons and more, we believe that our worship services need to celebrate God's creation, including a biblical understanding of creation care.<sup>1</sup>*

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*Come, Now Is the Time to Worship* Witherspoon Children  
and Youth

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### CALL TO WORSHIP

Matthew Hawes

Leader: We gather together this day to show God's love to one another, to worship Jesus Christ, and express gratitude for God's beautiful creation. Let us read together Colossians 1:15-20.

**All:** *Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.*

Leader: May we worship this Christ in spirit and in truth.

\* HYMN OF PRAISE

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

#464

INVOCATION

Marquis McEwen

Leader: Almighty God, our Creator, today, we wish to especially remember and thank you for all the gifts of your good creation.

**People:** *As the Psalmist reminds us, the earth is the Lord's, and all the fullness thereof (Psalm 24:1).*

Leader: We thank you for the gift of our very lives, the lives of our loved ones, the lives of everyone present here.

**People:** **We thank you for the gift of clean air, for the breath we take each moment, for the food we are blessed with, food grown with the gift of sunlight, rain, soil and hard work.**

Leader: Thank you for the world around us which you have made.

**People:** **And thank you for the health and vitality of our minds and bodies.**

Leader: We know that we are ultimately dependent on you, for in you *we live and move and have our being*, as Paul says in Acts 17.

**All:** *Be with us here today. May we grow in our love for each other and for you, and may we seek a better understanding of our blessings, our responsibilities, and our opportunities to serve and preserve this world and all those who live in it. We pray all these things through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Brian Yuan

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!

TRIBUTE TO GRADUATES

\*WORSHIP HYMN

*How Great Thou Art*

#467

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 8:18-23

William Edmonds

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 96:1-13

Jonathan Colbert

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jessica Hart

SPECIAL MUSIC

Cortné Edmonds

SERMON THEME

*Creation Celebration*

Kalyet Blackwood-Chirchir  
Jasmine McEwen  
Rachel Maddox

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Ryan Velez

Leader: *O LORD, our LORD, how majestic is your name in all the Earth (Psalm 8:1)!*

**People: You said, *Let there be light, and there was light (Genesis 1:3).***

Leader: *You said, Let the water be filled with many kinds of living beings, and let the air be filled with birds (Genesis 1:20).*

**People: You blessed them, saying, *Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters, and let the birds fill the skies (Genesis 1:22).***

Leader: *You make the springs flow in the valleys, and rivers run between the hills. They provide water for the wild animals (Psalm 104:10-11).*

**People: From the sky you send rain on the hills, and the Earth is filled with your blessings (Psalm 104:3).**

Leader: *LORD, you have made so many things! How wisely you made them all. The Earth is filled with your creatures (Psalm 104:24).*

**People: When you turn away, they are afraid; when you take away your breath, they die and go back to the dust from which they came. But when you give them breath, they are created; you give new life to the Earth (Psalm 104:29-30).**

**All: *O LORD, our LORD, how majestic is your name in all the Earth!***

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Harper Joseph

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

OFFERTORY

*My Tribute*

Joshua McGriff

\*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page)

#592

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Harper Joseph

**All: Creator God, we rejoice in all life! We rejoice in this beautiful world! Thank you for all its peoples: the nomadic herder, the harried stock-broker, the patient farmer, the coffee-grower, the careful hunter, the loving teacher, the reindeer shepherd. Thank you for all life: for grizzly bear and tiger lily, for humpback whale and field mouse, for Douglas fir and Eastern hemlock, for sugar maple and flying squirrel, for Joshua tree and kangaroo. Thank you, God, for giving us your life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David McGriff

Leader: *Gracious God: for the times we have failed to think of the harm done to air, water, land, plants, and animals, Christ have mercy.*

**People: For failing to conserve energy, Lord have mercy.**

Leader: *For ignoring our civic responsibility, Jesus have mercy.*

**People: For allowing ourselves to be overwhelmed by the appeal of an overwhelming culture, Christ have mercy.**

Leader: *For not living more simply so others could simply live, Lord have*

mercy.  
**People:** For failing to ask forgiveness, Jesus have mercy.  
**Leader:** For not being thankful for the many gifts God has given, Christ have mercy.<sup>2</sup>

\* HYMN OF COMMITMENT *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #276

BENEDICTION Jawhar Kimbrough

As we leave this place, may our worship continue. May we go out with joy and be led forth with peace. May we have ears to hear the mountains and hills bursting into song around us; may we have eyes to see the trees of the field clapping their hands. And may we join with them in joyful gratitude and praise to God, our Creator.

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Ask – Seek – Knock* Witherspoon Children and Youth

<sup>1</sup> *Evangelical Environmental Network & Creation Care Magazine*  
<sup>2</sup> Adapted from *Eco-Church: An Action Manual* by Albert Fritsch, Resource Publications.  
\* 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** is on break for the summer. But Sunday school will resume on the second Sunday of September (September 11) with classes for all ages. Please plan to join us!

**NURSERY CARE** is provided for children 0-5 during worship (10:00). Today Elizabeth Ferguson is assisting with nursery care.



**FLOWERS** – Flowers for today’s service were given by *Cecelia B. Hodges in memory of her mother, Olive James Hodges, in honor of her goddaughter, Dr. Pamela Spearman, and our pastor, Rev. Muriel Burrows – their dates of birth occurred last week.* 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 June 24.

**ATTENDANCE** at the service of June 3 was 107.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are members of the Junior Usher Ministry: Isaiah Edmonds and Jessica Hart, with Sianna Peal, manager. Next week's ushers are Ruppert Hawes and James Mack.



**COFFEE HOUR** - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of June is Shirley Satterfield. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Shirley (609-924-2010).

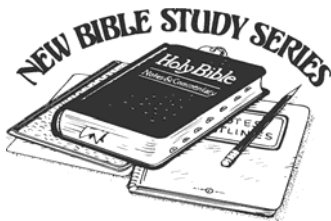
**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, June 17, is 1 Kings 21:1-21; Psalm 5:1-8; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36-8:3.



**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.



**MANY THANKS** – *The Frederick family wishes to thank the Witherspoon family for its many acts of kindnesses and condolences on the passing of James' mother, Mattie Frederick. We ask your continued prayers during this time.*



**COME TO THE BIBLE STUDY!** – The WSPC Presbyterian Women's Association is sponsoring a Bible study. The group will meet on **Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.** at the church. They will be using Horizon Bible study materials, curriculum developed by the Presbyterian Women's Group PC(USA): *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*. The authors of this study are Carol M. Bechtel, Western Theological Seminary, and Joyce MacKichan Walker, Nassau Presbyterian Church. The first meeting was May 23. There are nine lessons for the study, and the group has decided to meet through the summer months. Group discussion leaders will rotate. Bible study materials will be ordered for interested participants and copies will be available at the meetings. People interested in joining may begin by reading the Books of Jonah and Ruth in the Old Testament. For other details, contact Norma Wilson (732-398-0840).



**MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will immediately follow the service on **Sunday, June 24**. Everyone is urged to attend. **\*Please note\*** that committee chairs and group leaders should have their reports to the church office **today** to allow adequate time to prepare mid-year reports for distribution. Your assistance is appreciated.



**FROM THE SECRETARY** – I will begin my summer schedule **tomorrow** (June 11) working primarily from home until school begins (September 5). Please **refer to the bulletin each week** (under “This Week at Witherspoon”) for the hours I plan to be available at my home office.

You may leave messages at the church office (609-924-1666) or call me directly at 609-581-1952. This line is dedicated to WSPC use and is equipped with an answering machine. I will check church e-mail daily ([witherspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witherspoon@verizon.net)). Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I appreciate your flexibility as we make necessary adjustments and will work with you.

**\*\*\*THE SECRETARY WILL BE OUT-OF-TOWN JUNE 14-20.\*\*\***



**ARE YOU READY TO SOAR?** – Please save **July 16-20** for Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year will be *Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God*. *Lift Off!* is where “Sky Scouts” will experience the panoramic view of God’s love and launch into action serving others. More information will be forthcoming. If you are willing to help, please contact Elizabeth Ferguson (609-273-5985 or [eliferg@gmail.com](mailto:eliferg@gmail.com)) or Pam Johnson (732-236-9042 or [poncejoh@yahoo.com](mailto:poncejoh@yahoo.com)).



**HARPER JOSEPH AND ALEXIA PEART**, two members of the Young Voices of Faith, were chosen in a recent audition to be in the Children’s Chorus of the Princeton Festival’s June/July production of Bizet’s opera, *Carmen*. They will be performing on stage at the McCarter Matthews Theatre in Acts I and IV of *Carmen*

- ♪ Saturday, June 23, at 8:00 p.m.
- ♪ Friday, June 29, at 8:00 p.m.
- ♪ Sunday, July 1, at 2:00 p.m.

You may order tickets by calling 800-595-4849 or online ([www.princetonfestival.org](http://www.princetonfestival.org)).



**THANKS SO MUCH** for the wonderful farewell reception. We really appreciated the opportunity to fellowship with so many of you and share remembrances of our time in Princeton and at Witherspoon. Your love and support is something we will always cherish. Commissioning Ben Colbert to do a rendering of the church was inspired! What a wonderful gift!

We love it and will make sure it has a prominent place in our new home. If any of you ever find your way to Richmond, be assured our door will always be open. We’ll be

leaving the first of August and hope to see many of you before we leave town. We'll also make sure to let you know the date for Brian's inaugural. Hopefully some of you will be able to come down. We'd love to have you share in that experience with us. Please stay in touch. We'll miss you all! Love, Brian, Sharon, Joshua and Kaylin Blount



**READINGS OVER COFFEE** – The Princeton Public Library is hosting its monthly *Readings Over Coffee* **this Wednesday, June 13**, at 10:30 a.m. In *Here He Stands*, Cecelia B. Hodges presents her 11<sup>th</sup> celebration of the life and times of Paul Robeson, son of Princeton and of the world. This event is free and open to the public; no reservations are necessary.



**GHOSTS OF ABU GHRAIB** – To highlight the National Religious Campaign against Torture, the Anti-Torture Advocacy Group, Nassau Presbyterian Church, will host a screening of the film, *Ghosts of Abu Ghraib*, **this Wednesday, June 13**, at 7:00 p.m. at Nassau Presbyterian Church. A panel discussion will follow the screening. This film is graphic and intended for mature audiences only.