

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Organist
Leslie Young, Flutist

July 1, 2007

10:00 a.m.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Summer Preaching Series: The Ten Commandments

You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain.

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT

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WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 1 and John 15:5)

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

People: And also with you.

Leader: Blessed are those whose delight is in the law of God,
all those who find joy in studying it day and night.

People: They are like trees that grow beside a stream.

They yield their fruit in due season.

Their leaves do not wither.

They succeed in everything they do.

Leader: God's love makes the sun bright, the ice sparkle and the salmon leap.

**People: God's care makes the apple tree blossom
and the wheat turn golden.**

Leader: God's Spirit gives life to all that lives
and brings forth holy abundance among all God's people.

**People: Blessed be those whose delight is in doing God's will,
those who remain in Christ and Christ in them,
for they will bear much fruit, with peace and joy
they will bring forth praise and glory to our God.**

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

All: We thank you, O God, for giving us life – and more – for calling us together in Christ Jesus to be your family – your sons and daughters – your chosen people. We praise you too for the gift of the Holy Spirit – your presence and your power within us to help us grow and do your will. Help us to live by your Spirit and to heed the Spirit’s prompting. Indeed, O Lord, as we gather in this sanctuary of your presence to celebrate your love and to hear your word, bless each one who has come – the young and the old and those between – so that we might draw closer to you and to one another and, strengthened by the same, return to the world refreshed and renewed. We ask it in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

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*OPENING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

#143

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Merciful God, we think of the freedom which Paul speaks about and too often we accept it as the freedom to do what we like, rather than being obedient to you and serious about reflecting your character into the world. We confess with shame that whenever we “bite and devour one another” such things as discord and factions exist – even within our faith communities.

People: **Forgive us when we use our freedom to be self-indulgent, instead of serving one another in love.**

Leader: We confess that we fail miserably when we try on our own to live lives shaped by love, joy and peace; patience, kindness and goodness; faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

People: **Forgive us when we fail to be led and guided by the Holy Spirit who enables our lives to produce such fruit – fruit which enriches and enhances our lives, and through us, the lives of others.**

Leader: Merciful God, we confess also our failure to seek the empowerment of your Spirit when we are confronted daily with the challenges of following Jesus. When we look at the cost which Jesus sets on discipleship, we confess that so often we fail to meet that cost.

People: **Forgive us when we fail to take Jesus’ demands on our lives seriously enough, forgetting that out of love for us, he has already walked the hard road – the way of the cross.**

Leader: Gracious and loving God, in and through Jesus Christ, you have given us the freedom and the power to live by the Spirit, and be guided by the Spirit. May our acceptance of these gifts be visible as we bear profusely the fruit of the Spirit, and as we faithfully follow Jesus on the challenging road of discipleship. This we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#396

**O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!**

**The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.**

Words by William Cowper. Music: Scottish Psalter. CCLI# 498673

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: *...Your way, O God, is holy. You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples. With your strong arm you redeemed your people... (Psalm 77:13-14, NRSV). And that redemption was given a human face...in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us (Romans 5:8b, NRSV). Friend, believe the gospel: 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!

*HYMN

At the Name of Jesus

#148

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 3:1-15; 20:7

Pages 50, 66

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Surely the Presence of the Lord
Is in This Place*

Lanny Wolfe

SERMON

God's Last Name Is Not Damn

Rev. Muriel Burrows

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

(Please note that the Ushers will take the weekly tithes and offerings – followed immediately by the Deacons who will take the monthly offering for their particular ministry. Please hold your Deacons' offering and put it into the second plate.)

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page)

#592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: God of justice and love, of mercy and of power, we thank you for being with us and for giving to us every good gift as we turn to you. We pray that these offerings from our hands may be acceptable to you – and we offer once again our lives to you – our hearts and our minds, our wills and every effort of our bodies, so that fruit pleasing to you might grow in us and serve to make your kingdom grow in our world. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

This is the joyful feast of the Lord! People come from east and west, from north and south, and eat at the table of the Lord (based on Luke 13:29).

Great Prayer of 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.

Living God, we offer our thanks and praise to you; Creator of heaven and earth, Lover of all humanity. You revealed that love when you heard your people's cries of pain and rescued them from slavery. Even when they turned away from your ways you did not abandon them, but through the prophets spoke words of healing and hope and justice, simply because they were chosen and beloved by you.

You revealed how beloved we are by entering our history in the person of Jesus Christ, who touches our lives with healing and wholeness and a love, which like yours, is unending and unconditional. And so, with all the company of heaven and earth, we rejoice before you and praise your holy name saying:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

At this table we bear witness to the love which has been poured into our hearts and lives. We remember when Jesus washed his disciple's feet and sat down at a table to share the meal with them. At that meal – he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, *This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*"

In the same way he took the cup also after supper, saying: *This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.* For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. We remember and we give thanks for such outpouring of love.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ – his life in us. Renewed by his life and recreated in his image, we set our minds on following you and fulfilling your purpose for us and this world of which we are a part. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

HYMNS	<i>Here, O Our Lord, We See You Face to Face</i>	#520
	<i>You Satisfy the Hungry Heart</i>	#521

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, we give you thanks that we have been fed and renewed by Christ's life in us and we go now to share that life with others. Send us forth equipped with the power of your Spirit to follow Jesus and to spread the message of his love and compassion to all whom we meet. Amen.

*HYMN	<i>Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us</i>	#387
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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

- * Congregation stands
- ** Latecomers ushered in

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 is on break for the summer. But Sunday school will resume on the second Sunday of September (September 9) with classes for all ages. Please plan to join us!

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 July 8.

USHERS for this morning's service are Kim and Terry McEwen. Next week's ushers are members of the Junior Usher Ministry: Martin Anim-Danso and Andrew Ojeda with Jasmine McEwen, manager.

COMMUNION SERVERS for this morning are Walter Daniels, Cecelia Hodges, Florence Sharpless and Paul Stephens.



COFFEE HOUR – There is **no** Coffee Hour today. However, the host for the month of July is Vicki Meisel. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Vicki (609-637-9417).

ATTENDANCE at the service of June 24 was 69.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS **COUNTERS FOR JULY** are Bernadine Hines (Team Leader), Deborah Colbert, Cecelia Hodges and Mildred Trotman. Counters for the Deacon's Benevolence Offering are Michelle Peal, Shirley Satterfield and Joyce Abbott.

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, July 8, is 2 Kings 5:1-4; Psalm 30; Galatians 6:1-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20.



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.



DEEPEST SYMPATHY – The Witherspoon church community expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of **Leonard Steinline**; he had a stroke recently and passed away on Tuesday. Mr. Steinline was a faithful member of Witherspoon for many years. His graveside service took place Friday at Rocky Hill Cemetery.



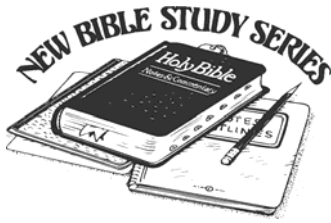
REGISTER NOW FOR VBS! – Are you planning to come to Vacation Bible School **July 16-20**? Our theme this year will be *Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God*. *Lift Off!* is where “Sky Scouts” will experience the panoramic view of God’s love and launch into action serving others. The evening begins with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and includes a Bible story and activities, concluding at 8:30. Registration forms are available in the bulletin and in the Narthex. **Please submit your REGISTRATION as soon as possible** so we will know how many kids will be participating. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Ferguson (609-273-5985 or eliferg@gmail.com) or Pam Johnson (732-236-9042 or poncejoh@yahoo.com).



WSPC HANDBELL CHOIR is preparing for a special concert on **Sunday, October 21**, to dedicate our handbells. Sacred and secular music will be performed. We are seeking new and old members who would like to join/rejoin the Handbell Choir for this special event. As always, you do not have to know how to read music to become part of this ministry. If you are curious about ringing and would like to learn a new skill, please join us this summer on July 1, 8, 22 and 29 and August 12 and 26 after Sunday worship service. A children’s chime choir is being formed for grades 4-12. Please contact Leslie Young (cmusique@comcast.net or 609-895-0509) for more information about joining the WSPC Handbell or Chime Choir ministries.



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES! – Summer has just started, but it’s not too early to think about school supplies for area children. The Equal Start donation of backpacks, paper, pens, pencils and notebooks will begin in August. This is an early notice asking the Witherspoon community for a contribution of the above-mentioned items. Collection of your donations will be received until August 20. See Rebecca Campbell for details.



BIBLE STUDY POSTPONED! – Due to conflicting vacation schedules, the WSPC Presbyterian Women’s Bible study group has decided not to meet through the summer. Our last meeting was last Wednesday, June 27. The Bible study will resume meeting again after Labor Day and will commence with *Above and Beyond: Hearing God’s Call in Jonah and*

Ruth, with reading and discussing the Book of Ruth.



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

(as of April 30, 2007)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$176,043
Total expenses*	<u>123,477</u>
Balance	\$ 52,566

*2004-2007