

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
Witherspoon Quartet

July 15, 2007

10:00 a.m.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Summer Preaching Series: The Ten Commandments

Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land.

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT

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WORDS OF WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON PSALM 69)

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: I will praise the name of the Lord with a song.

People: We will glorify our God with thanksgiving.

Leader: Praise and thanksgiving pleases our God.

**People: God rejoices when his people remember him, when they love him
and give thanks for all that he has done.**

Leader: Let heaven and earth praise the Lord;

People: Let the seas and everything that moves therein glorify our God.

Leader: Let his people open their hearts to Him.

**People: Let them lift up their hands in prayer and in worship, now and for-
evermore.**

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

**All: God of grace and of glory, God of strength and of tenderness, God of
peace and of joy – holy God, we ask you to hear our prayers this day
and to direct our actions. May this time of worship touch us and bless
you – we ask it in the name of Jesus – Amen.**

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*OPENING HYMN

When Morning Gilds the Sky

#487

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that the lives we lead may be worthy of you and fully pleasing to you, as we seek to bear fruit in line with our calling as your followers. We recognize the need for our fruitfulness to be visible in and through the way we reach out to our neighbor. Forgive us if we seek to justify any lack of action on our part by asking the question, “Who is my neighbor?”

People: **while knowing in our hearts that the correct question must always be: “Who is not my neighbor?”**

*** SILENT CONFESSION ***

Leader: Forgive us when we make our responsibility as your followers a far lower priority than attention to our own needs and desires:

People: **when our comfortable lifestyles interfere with our social action.**

*** SILENT CONFESSION ***

Leader: Forgive us when we gladly profess that our love for God, is with all our heart, all our soul, all our strength and all our mind;

People: **while stumbling over the call to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.**

*** SILENT CONFESSION ***

Leader: Forgive us when we ignore the cries of the poor, and are indifferent to those who have needs. Help us to identify with those who are oppressed and to recognize and help bear the burdens of those who suffer in any way.

People: **Jesus, Savior and Lord, open our hearts to love as you loved and to care as you cared.**

Leader: Strengthen us to include in our lives, our prayers, and our fellowship, those who feel excluded because of such things as their race, their sexuality, their age, their handicap...

People: **Help us to accept people as you accept them, as people made in the image of God, and precious to God.**

Leader: Help us to reach out to people as you reached out to them,

People: **as people to whom justice is to be exercised;**

Leader: as people with hurts to be healed – as neighbors of yours – and of ours. This we pray in your name. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#391

**Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

Words by Frances Ridley Havergal. Music by H. A. Cesar Malan. CCLI# 498673

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Through the graciousness of God we have been rescued from the power of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of God’s beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14, NRSV). Friends, 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

Be Thou My Vision

#339

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 20:12
1 Samuel 2:12-26

Page 66
Page 246

SPECIAL MUSIC

SERMON

***Thou Shalt Not Rage
Against the Machine?***

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

*SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS

All: Gracious and loving Father – we love you – and we thank you for your love – a love that upholds us – a love that surrounds us and keeps us – a love that never lets us go. Receive, O God, our gifts at this time – gifts given in obedience to your will – gifts for your work in this world. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* #343

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!

NURSERY CARE is provided for children 0-5 during worship (10:00).

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 22.

USHERS for this morning's service are Victoria Meisel and Maria Potts. Next week's ushers are Gerald Delk and Elaine Walker Marsh.

ATTENDANCE at the service of July 8 was 73.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of July is Vicki Meisel. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Vicki (609-637-9417).

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, July 22, is Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42.



REGISTER NOW FOR VBS! – Vacation Bible School is planned for this week -- **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 8:00. Registration forms are available in the Narthex. **Please submit your REGISTRATION today** 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 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.



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.

A NOTE OF



The Presbyterian Church at Bound Brook sent the following letter in appreciation for donations received. *The gifts you donated to the shelter at the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church after the nor'easter flood were most appreciated, not only by those you helped but by those who saw that your donations found the right recipients. Thank you for your gift, thank you for your thoughts and prayers for our guests, thank you for your willingness to forgo those other things you could have done with these donations. The church property housed several hundred flood victims during those five weeks, with every nook and cranny of the church that could be used converted into dormitory or cafeteria space. These were not ideal conditions, but your contributions made the situation more bearable. We will continue to keep you in the prayers of the congregation and hope, with us, you will keep the future of our guests in yours. In Christ, Ann Tromladore*



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

This Week at Witherspoon

Today	Deacon Board (Meeting Room)	Following Worship
Monday	Vacation Bible School	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday		6:00 p.m.
Wednesday		6:00 p.m.
Thursday		6:00 p.m.
Friday		6:00 p.m.
Next Sunday	Worship – Rev. Burrows to Preach	10:00 a.m.
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Following Worship



Home Office Hours for Phyllis Rich, Secretary (609-581-1952)
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9:30-12:30