

# *Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church*

124 Witherspoon Street  
Princeton, NJ 08542-3224

*Office (609) 924-1666 ♦ Fax (609) 924-0365*

*E-mail: witherspoon@verizon.net*

*Website: www.witherspoonchurch.org*

Rev. Yedea Walker, Guest Preacher  
Debra Jones-Peart, Lector  
Edin Orellana, Sexton

Fumi Nakamae Korodan, Director of Music  
Cynthia Parker, Office Manager

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October 1, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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## **18th Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday**

PRELUDE

*Piano Instrumental*

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Luke 13:29)

People will come from east and west,  
**from north and south,**  
and will eat in the kingdom of God.

**Thanks be to God for welcoming us to the table.**

GATHERING HYMN *Yet Not I But Through Christ  
In Me*

by City Alight

Verse 1

**What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom  
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace**

**To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Verse 2

**The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Savior he will stay**

**I labour on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need his power is displayed**

**To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley he will lead  
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome  
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

**Verse 3**

**With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For he has said that he will bring me home  
And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne**

**To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to him  
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

**Ending**

**When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me  
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Sin is our stumbling block. Repentance clears the way to hear and receive God's truth. Let us confess our sins together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to live as good stewards of all you have given us. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Free our world for jubilee. Reorder our priorities so all your nations and peoples may thrive. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON (2 Corinthians 5:17; Book of Common Worship)**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

\*GLORIA PATRI

(PH #579)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Behold The Lamb*

by Kristian Stanfill and  
Passion

Verse 1

**See Him there the great I Am  
A crown of thorns upon His head  
The Father's heart displayed for us  
O God we thank You for the cross**

Verse 2

**Lifted up on Calv'ry's hill  
We cursed Your name and even still  
You bore our shame and paid the cost  
O God we thank You for the cross**

Chorus

**(Oh) Behold the Lamb the story of redemption  
Written on His hands  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
We sing Your praise  
Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours**

Verse 3

**Offer up this sacrifice  
For ev'ry sin our Savior died**

**The Lord of Life can't be contained  
Our God has risen from the grave  
Oh our God has risen from the grave**

**Chorus**

**(Oh) Behold the Lamb the story of redemption  
Written on His hands  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
We sing Your praise  
Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours**

**Verse 4**

**When the age of death is done  
We'll see Your face bright as the sun  
We'll bow before the King of kings  
O God forever we will sing**

**Chorus**

**(Oh) Behold the Lamb the story of redemption  
Written on His hands  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
(Oh) Behold the Lamb the story of redemption  
Written on His hands  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
We sing Your praise  
Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours**

**Ending**

**You reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
King Jesus reigns forevermore  
The victory is Yours**

**Chorus**  
**(Oh) Behold the Lamb the story of redemption**  
**Written on His hands**  
**Jesus You will reign forevermore**  
**The victory is Yours**  
**We sing Your praise**  
**Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name**  
**Jesus You will reign forevermore**  
**The victory is Yours**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bless us, O God, with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action, responding to your call. Inspire us as we hear your Word read and proclaimed. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

*Matthew 21:28-32*

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

SERMON

*For Your Consideration*

Rev. Yedea Walker

PROFESSION OF FAITH

(Nicene Creed)

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE (Luke 13:29; 24:30-31)

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

#### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**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.**

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD (John 6:35; 15:5)

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION HYMN

*Spirit Of The Living God (PH #322)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

We are inspired to be generous by a generous God. We are inspired to give by the greatest of givers. In gratitude to God, let us present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Piano Instrumental*

DOXOLOGY

*(PH #592)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ's mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

*The Paul Robeson House of  
Princeton 125th Anniversary  
Fundraiser Concert*

Ben Colbert  
Bill Wakefield

ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

*O Happy Day*

by Edwin Hawkins

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray**

**Watch and pray**

**And live rejoicing every day  
Every day**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray  
Watch and pray**

**And live rejoicing every day (Good god)  
Every day**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)**

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

AMEN

(PH #587)

POSTLUDE

*Piano Instrumental*



Today's liturgy was created by Teri McDowell Ott (The Presbyterian Outlook).

**OFFICE HOURS 112 WITHERSPOON ST.  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

The CDC's most recent COVID Community Levels for Mercer County remain Low. Witherspoon's COVID protocols for in-church worship service going forward are that **masks are optional for in church worship for low risk parishioners and are highly recommended for people at high risk for severe illness in consultation with their health care providers.** Hand sanitizing before entering the sanctuary and social distancing within each pew such as sitting on the ends or in the middle of a pew are in effect. Self health screening at home is encouraged prior to worship. If you are not well, please stay at home and contact your healthcare provider. Witherspoon will continue to monitor our COVID Community Levels weekly and update our protocols when the levels change.



**WELCOME** – The Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon warmly welcome 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 if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-mail distribution list. ([witerspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witerspoon@verizon.net) or 609-924-1666)

**WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE!** “Like” our Facebook page



(<http://www.facebook.com/WitherspoonStreetChurch>)

to get the latest updates on your wall. Share your WSPC comments, photos and videos. If you want pictures added or notices posted please send an email to the church office ([witerspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witerspoon@verizon.net)).

### **GIVING TO WITHERSPOON STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Support our mission using your credit or debit card. On our church website, click on the *Give Now* button. **WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG** <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

For those who prefer to give through the mail, please send your donations to: 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

### **IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE**

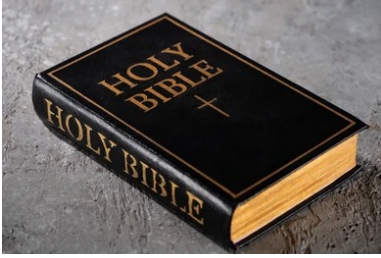
Our Communion Preparer Shirley Lewis, Communion Servers Terry and Kim McEwen, and Our Ushers and Tech Media Team



**REV. YEDEA H. WALKER, J.D., M.DIV.**

Rev. Yedea H. Walker currently serves as the Associate Dean of Student Life at Princeton Theological Seminary. Rev. Walker answered her spiritual calling into ordained pastoral ministry in 2013 and preached her initial sermon, “Identity Crisis”, on June 9, 2013. In April of 2017, Rev. Walker was ordained an Itinerant Deacon in the African Methodist Episcopal (“A.M.E.”) Church; and in March of 2019, Rev. Walker was ordained an Itinerant Elder in the A.M.E. Church.

Rev. Walker holds a Master’s of Divinity Degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, in Princeton, NJ; a Juris Doctorate from the University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville, AR; and a Bachelor of Arts in English Language Arts from Grambling State University in Grambling, LA., Rev. Walker is the mother of one a purpose-driven daughter, Olivia Anaya-Faith Walker. Ever grateful for the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the guiding presence Of the Holy Spirit, and the love of God, the Word, and all of God’s children, Rev. Walker leans into the scripture found in Romans 8:28, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”



### **SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

We invite you to connect with us each Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. All are welcome to be with us as we learn together.

**October 7 Philippians**

**October 14 Philippians**



**FELLOWSHIP HOUR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS** will be held **Sunday October 29** immediately following the Worship Service. If you are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in October, the Deacons invite you, your family, and friends to join us in celebrating you and your important event on this the last Sunday of your special event month.



### **VOLUNTEER MUSICIAN**

Do you have a gift that God gave you? Do you feel led to share it with us at Church? Volunteer Musicians for all instruments are needed to add to our Music Ministry for Sunday and Special Worship Services. Volunteer guitar player(s) (amplified, non-amplified or electric) are also needed for select Sunday Worship Music. We encourage you to come, rehearse and play with us!

Please contact Fumi Korodan, Music Director to share your gifts with Witherspoon.

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW ANNOUNCEMENTS, FLYERS, AND  
CALENDAR EVENTS:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG](https://www.witherspoonchurch.org)**

**WATCH SERVICE ON WSPC NEW WEBSITE**  
**WSPC website <https://www.witherspoonchurch.org>**

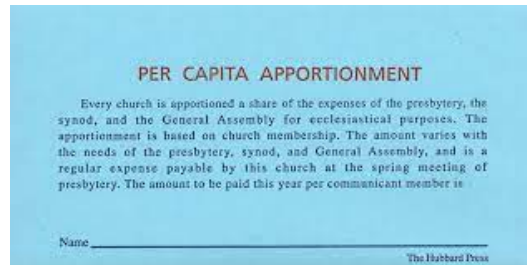
**A MESSAGE FROM WITHERSPOON'S TECH/MEDIA TEAM:**

Witherspoon is transitioning to a new streaming platform and Tech/Media staffing. Periodically we will not be able to stream to Zoom, YouTube and Facebook. **On this Sunday October 1, 2023 we will be streaming the Worship Service to Zoom and to YouTube.** We will continue to update our streaming availability weekly.

**WITHERSPOON'S TECH/MEDIA TEAM**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OPERATING THE SANCTUARY TECHNOLOGY TO  
LIVE STREAM THE WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAYS? JOIN OUR TECH  
MEDIA TEAM AND LEARN HOW TO BRING WITHERSPOON'S MESSAGE TO  
OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR ONLINE VIEWERS!!**

**EMAIL [witherspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witherspoon@verizon.net) FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SCHEDULE  
TRAINING LESSONS!!**



## 2023 PER CAPITA \$40

Mail to 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

or pay on-line <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

The Session asks Witherspoon Leadership and Congregation members to participate in the **2023 Per Capita Campaign**.

Witherspoon's expected 2023 contribution is **\$4,720**, Or \$40 x 118 members.

Per Capita contribution supports the work of three parts of our Presbyterian Church:

- 1. *The PC(USA)*** - 2022 RGJ-08 - Apology to African Americans for White Supremacy - Supports Reparations -- ***Strategic Initiative that will benefit Witherspoon***
- 2. *The Synod of the Northeast*** - 2015 settled Robeson House Mortgage with a \$170,000 Gift; 2023 and 2024 Innovation Grants of \$15k, \$7500 supporting Joint WSPC - NPC Bending the Moral Arc Courageous Conversations.
- 3. *The Presbytery of the Coastlands*** - Provided the 2023 Administrative Commission, 2022 Investigative Commission, and Permanent Judicial Commission. This year, our three Commissioners are participating as trustees, on committees, and in meetings to secure Witherspoon's ***Voice and Vote***.

**As of September, of Witherspoon's \$4,720, members and friends have provided around \$2,350, leaving \$2,370.**

We ask each member to give **\$40 per family member**. Those who can provide another **\$40** or more for those who cannot, please do so.

Your generosity will be appreciated. The Presbytery tracks and reports Per Capita Collections quarterly starting **at the beginning of the fiscal year**, so making your contribution **Today** would be appreciated.

Those who want more information can consult the [Presbytery of the Coastlands 2023 Report on Per Capita](#), which presents contributions collected to date by the congregation. [Find more descriptive information at this LINK](#)



## **CHOIRS CONTINUE WITH A NEW SCHEDULE!!**

We are continuing all Choirs rehearsing and singing at Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church during Worship Service with a new schedule!!

Both **CHOIR MEMBERS** and **NEW SINGING AND VERSE SPEAKING VOICES** are invited to join in fellowship in our **MUSIC MINISTRY** to meet, greet and work with Fumi Korodan our Music Director and Cecelia Hodges our Verse Speaking Choir Director to sing, speak in verse and review planned rehearsals, repertoire, scripts and upcoming music and verse speaking events. All are welcome to audition.

All are welcome to join us in rehearsal to prepare to perform at any time that you are inspired to begin membership in our Music Ministry! Please look forward to upcoming announcements about the new choir rehearsal schedule.

All Choir rehearsals will begin promptly at their designated rehearsal times.

Our **MENS CHORUS** will rehearse on **Sundays starting next week** following Chancel Choir Rehearsal. The estimated starting time for Men's Choir rehearsal is 12:30 p.m. **Everyone is invited to sing.**

### **VERSE SPEAKING CHOIR**

If you've been thinking about joining the Verse Speaking Choir, but haven't gotten around to it, now is the time! We'll be performing every third Sunday in church and participating in the Robeson House 125th Anniversary program on October 15. The Choir meets at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays, in the sanctuary. Come and raise your voice in biblical, secular, and sometimes even fun selections. **EVERYONE** is invited.

Our **CHANCEL CHOIR** will rehearse on **Sundays at 11:30 a.m.** and will perform Anthems and Hymns on Sundays to be determined. Everyone is invited to sing.



## **This Week at Witherspoon**

Today	Worship - Guest Preacher Yedea Walker	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM
	Men's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:30 PM
	<b>Presbyterian Women</b> Follow-Up Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	11:00 AM
Monday	Personnel Committee (via Zoom)	7:30 PM
Tuesday	Verse Speaking Choir (Sanctuary)	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Sunday Worship Planning Group (via Zoom)	5:30 PM
Thursday	Deacon Board Meeting (via Zoom)	7:30 PM
Friday		
Saturday	Saturday Morning Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 AM
Next Sunday	Worship - Guest Preacher Emily Roth	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM
	Men's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:30 PM
	<b>Partners in Faith: Our Journey Together</b> (Nassau Presbyterian Church)	1:30 PM