



WESLEY
EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Weems, Virginia

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

Matthew 28:19 NIV

August 16, 2026

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Hymn #171 Come into His Presence

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: The earth has yielded its increase; God has blessed us.

All: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Opening Prayer

We come from busy days and restless nights, from unanswered prayers and lingering doubts. We bring our joys and our burdens, our hopes and our fears, seeking your presence in this moment. Open our hearts to your guidance, quiet our minds from distractions, and help us to listen for your voice. May this time of worship renew our spirits, strengthen our faith, and inspire us to live in your love and truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Hymn #11 Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. You promise to bring all people joyfully together in a house of prayer on your holy mountain. We find ways to stay apart. Bring us together, O Lord.

Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us live lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Forgive us when we fall short and continue to transform your world, leading us to your promised kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

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.

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer 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 and ever. Amen.

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

3¢/Meal Sunday

Doxology

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

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, you tell us that "offerings will be accepted on your altar, for your house shall be called a house of prayer." Thank you for all that you have given us. Continue to guide us as we dedicate these offerings and our lives to you. In Jesus' Holy name we pray. Amen.

Hymn #389 Spirit of the Living God**Prayer for Illumination**

God of every time and place, may your Spirit move among us so that the words we hear and the words we speak will be to your glory, will lead towards justice, and will reveal to us your salvation and deliverance. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture Reading:

Acts 7:58-8:4

Acts 9:1-31

Sermon: We usually know not . . . (Michelle Munger)**Hymn #372 Our God Reigns****Benediction****Sending Song:** May the Lord, Mighty God Bless and keep you forever;

Grant you peace, perfect peace Courage in every endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see his face Full of grace forever;

May the Lord, Mighty God Bless and keep you forever.