

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Lukata A. Mjumbe, Designated Pastor
Hailey Hawes, Lector

Michael Gittens, Music Director
Phyllis Rich, Administrative Assistant
Edin Orellana, Sexton

September 13, 2020

10:00 a.m.

15th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

God Is My Strong Salvation

GATHERING SONG

The Lord Is My Light

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.
Whom shall I fear?**

**In the time of trouble, He shall hide me.
Whom shall I fear?**

**Wait on the Lord and be of good courage.
He shall strengthen thine heart**

Chorus

**Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life.
Whom shall I fear?**

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

READING OF THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrel-
ing over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat
only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and
those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has
welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld,
for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:7b-10

⁷ Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸ Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹ but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

SERMON

*Welcome the Weak...
and Don't Judge Them*

Rev. Lukata Mjumbe

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.

OFFERTORY / STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

OFFERTORY SELECTION

I Am Redeemed

**I am redeemed; bought with a price
Jesus has changed my whole life
If anybody asks you just who I am
Tell them I am redeemed**

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS / CLOSING PRAYER

SENDING SELECTION

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

**I am weak but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.**

**Thro' this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.**

**When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.**

Refrain

**Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, if You please,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus



ANNOUNCEMENTS

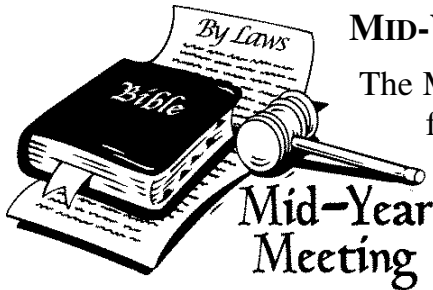


WELCOME – The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-

mail distribution list (witherspoon@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 (witherspoon@verizon.net).



MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - TODAY

The Mid-Year Congregational Meeting will immediately follow today’s service. Everyone is urged to attend (via Zoom after the worship service).

Committee chairs and group leaders will provide updates on the work they have been doing since our last meeting. The plans for being church in 2020 were obviously changed due to COVID-19. Our church leaders have continued to lead us in doing God’s work and being and having “church” in the midst of it all. You will also hear about the work in progress as we think about being able to worship together in the Sanctuary.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work seeking to fill vacancies on the Deacon Board and on the Session. Elections to fill these vacancies will be held, as well as election of Nominating Committee Members.

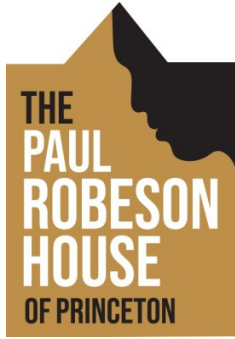


MATTHEW 25 KICKOFF

NEXT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, AT 1:00 P.M.

Please join the WSPC Christian Education and Outreach Committees in a Virtual Event **next Saturday, September 26**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. to introduce the concept and bold vision of the Matthew 25 Church, *Where Christ Is: WSPC Matthew 25 Witness*. This program will highlight and review the work by WSPC groups and individuals which presently reflect the goals, mission, ministry and service to others, as Christians, especially in the time of COVID-19.

The Matthew 25 program is a challenge issued by the PC(USA) nationally to churches, synods and presbyteries of our denomination to fully reaffirm and live out the call of Jesus in Matthew 25. For additional information please contact Barbara Flythe (barbflythe@gmail.com or 609-323-7433).



**A CONVERSATION ABOUT ECONOMICS AND AMERICA
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, AT 3:00 P.M.**

The Paul Robeson House of Princeton will sponsor a special virtual event featuring the Nobel Prize recipient, Paul Krugman and his New York Times colleague, Eduardo Porter on **Sunday, October 4**, at 3:00 p.m. As authors of new books, they will converse about the economic political affairs that are relevant to the national election. Preregistration will be required at \$50. Proceeds will be used to support the Robeson House renovations and other social service programming. Detailed information can be found on the website (<https://thepaulrobesonhouseofprinceton.org/>). **SAVE THE DATE...MARK YOUR CALENDAR...PLAN TO ATTEND!**



ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE AT

WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

Forget your checkbook? Missed a church service or two? Worshipping from home today? Now you can support our mission anytime using your credit or debit card without having to write a check for the offering plate. Just visit our church website and look for the *Give Now* button. Thank you for your generous support of Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Even though we are unable to gather together in person, we give thanks for the lives of the Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church family and friends. Please reach out to our beloved and wish them a Happy Birthday and/or Happy Anniversary!!

Birthdays in September

Pauline Brown
Earl Buggs
Monica Burch
Gordon Byard
Lois Craig
Gerald Delk
Tracy Eskridge
Seth Jennings
Geraldine Lockhart

Audrey Mack
Mary McGriff
Aubrey Peart, Jr.
Eleanor Pinkett
Norbert Wetzel

Anniversaries in September

Curtis and Pamela Johnson
Audiway and Michelle Peal
Norbert Wetzel and Hinda Winawer

Monica Burch



Eleanor Pinkett



**Norbert Wetzel and
Hinda Winawer**



This Week at Witherspoon

Today	Mid-Year Congregational Meeting (Zoom)	Following Worship
Monday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
Tuesday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
	Verse Speaking Choir (via Zoom)	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
	Mid-Week Bible Study (via Zoom)	12:30 p.m.
	Worship Sub-Committee (via Zoom)	5:00 p.m.
Thursday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
Friday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
Saturday	Adult Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 a.m.
Next Sunday	Worship – Rev. Lukata Mjumbe to Preach	10:00 a.m.
	Presbyterian Women	12:00 noon



Prayer List



If you would like to be added or removed from the Prayer List,
please let your Deacon or the church secretary (609-924-1666) know.

- Sundiata Acoli (freedom and health)
- Family of Doris Aikens
- Imam Jamil Al-Amin (legal hearing, May 2020)
- AOP immigrant families
- Families of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Breonna Taylor
- Rev. Darrell Armstrong and Shiloh Baptist Church
- Mary Frances Banks (aunt of S. & B. Campbell)
- Family of Agnes Benjamin
- Isa Blyden and family
- Deloris Brooks
- Pauline Brown
- Rev. Muriel Burrows
- Barbara and Gordon Byard
- Ben Colbert and the Colbert family following the transition of his brother, Gene Colbert
- Coronavirus victims (45+ inmates and guards who died from COVID-19 in NJ prison system)
- Lois Craig
- Walter Daniels
- Harold M. Delhagen (passing of his father)
- First Baptist Church of Princeton
- Jamal Frasier (M. Gittens' cousin)
- Ava Gabrielle-Wise (friend of Rev. Mjumbe mourning loss of daughter, Jennica, from COVID-19)
- Kevin Gift (in-laws, Richard and Kathryn Steitz; friends, Keller, Mike, Robin) impacted by COVID-19
- Tondelayo Gillespie and Kurt Koiner (boyfriend hospitalized for COVID-19)
- Family of Min. La'Vetta Ross-Hall (loss of brother, James D. Bishop, Sr.)
- Bruce Harrison and family
- Debbie Harrison
- Sandra Hill (J. Tomlin's sister)
- Cecelia Hodges
- Rev. Debra Ivory-Chandler (M. Jackson's mother)
- Monika Jackson and family
- Oni Jackson
- Seth Jennings
- Simon Jackson (J. Tomlin's brother-in-law)
- Mumia Abu Jamal (freedom and health)
- Cheryl Jones
- Taneisha Nash Laird
- Denyse Leslie and family
- James and Audrey Mack
- Winston and Sheila Maddox and family
- Elaine Walker Marsh's mother
- Condolence to family of Carson Mascoll
- Rev. David McAlpin
- Rev. Wayne Meisel
- Michele Minter and family
- Aya Mjumbe
- Mjumbe family
- Jedeka Zai Mjumbe (brother of Rev. Mjumbe)
- Mariamu Eyay Mjumbe (recovery from surgery)
- Eugenia Moore
- Condolence to family of Joseph Moore
- William Moore
- Sharon Mootoo (R. Sosa's sister)
- Jamil Muntaqim (freedom and health)
- Anne Nosnitsky (recovering in rehab facility)
- Talitha-Koumi Oluwafemi (and her daughter)
- Family of Charles Osei-Fosu
- Family and Friends of Beverly Owens
- Sheila Pannell (B. Brown's niece)
- Nancy Pelosi
- Family of John Pogroszewski (Lawrence Middle School classmate of Leah Schmelter)
- Mildred Poncé
- Alejandro Portes (P. Fernández-Kelly husband)
- Princeton Seminary Association of Black Seminarians and Allies
- Mary Ann Raikes (D. Raikes-Colbert's mother)
- Tim Reagan and family
- Phyllis Rich
- Abdul Haqq Salaam (incarcerated friend of Rev. McAlpin)
- Valerie Smith
- Imam Sohaib Sultan, Princeton University, diagnosed with aggressive bile duct cancer
- Family of Carl Theobald (J. Tomlin's brother-in-law)
- Mildred Trotman
- Donald Trump
- Joyce Watson (mother-in-law of Lynette Campbell)
- Norma Wilson
- Leslie Wingard
- WSPC Young People in College
- Leslie Young and Family (mother, Betty Henderson, transitioned in St. Louis)
- Women of Edna Mahan Correctional Facility: Lillian Allen, Maureen Andre, Gloria Arroyo, Ashley Bailey, Latonia Bellamy, Tanya Black, Debra Boucher, Anne Castagna, Jennie Cullum, Myrna Diaz, Ella Eng, Sarena Espinal, Robin Grimes, Johnette Hawthorne, Taheira Hickmond, Lori Hummel, Michelle Hurley, Carlina, Inginae, Monique Kendall, Kim Kuchler, Briann Lindsey, Tina Linney, Ashley McLaughlin, Maria Montalvo, Cynthia Myers, Janvier, Myriam, Renee Nicesy, Plesie Nichols, Markita Norris, Jasmine Pearson, Rithea Randall, Tammie Shipp, Beth Smallwood, Antionette Stephen, Deborah, Tanksley, Germama Terrero, Jenny, Tran, Arisha Vaughn, Yvonne Walker, Regina Wallace, Natasha White