

# *Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church*

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Website: [www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG](http://www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG)

Rev. Lukata A. Mjumbe, Designated Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Brian Blount, Guest Preacher  
Jeffrey Yuan, Lector

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

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September 27, 2020

10:00 a.m.

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## **17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

PRELUDE

*Give Me a Clean Heart*

HYMN OF PRAISE

*Come, Thou Fount*

**Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.**

**Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.**

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

READING OF THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Psalm 103:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits –

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
    who heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the Pit,  
    who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
    so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup> The LORD works vindication  
    and justice for all who are oppressed.  
<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
    his acts to the people of Israel.  
<sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
    slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse,  
    nor will he keep his anger forever.  
<sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
    nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
    so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
    so far he removes our transgressions from us.

## SECOND READING

Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.  
<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'  
<sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not

have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’<sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.<sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

SERMON

*Extravagant Grace*

Rev. Dr. Brian Blount

## 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.**

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Elder Tondelayo (Missy) Gillespie, Elder Courtney Matlock, Deacon Bernadine Hines and Deacon Leslie Young

Leader: There are different gifts,

**People: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

Leader: There are different ways of serving God,

**People: But it is the same Lord who is served.**

Leader: God works through different people in different ways,

**People: But it is the same God who achieves God’s purpose through them all.**

Leader: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

**People: To use it for the common good.**

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ,

**People: And individually members of him.**

Leader: Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make God’s church useful in the world, and we call men and women to faith, so that, in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God.

Within our common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the word, ruling elders, or deacons. In ordination, we recognize these special ministries, remembering that our Lord Jesus said: *Whoever among you wants to be great must become the servant of all.*

**People: Just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free.**

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Laura Docter, Cameron Stout, Todd Evans, LaVetta Hall, McKaya Hall, Myles Hall, Wyatt Linde

OFFERTORY / STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

OFFERTORY SELECTION

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine  
Leaning on the everlasting arms  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine  
Leaning on the everlasting arms**

**O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way  
Leaning on the everlasting arms  
O how bright the path grows from day to day  
Leaning on the everlasting arms**

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear?  
Leaning on the everlasting arms  
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near  
Leaning on the everlasting arms**

**Refrain**

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms  
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms**

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS / CLOSING PRAYER

SENDING HYMN

*Over and Over Again*

**When you've been lied on, forgive  
When you've been mistreated, forgive**

**When you've been hurt, forgive  
When you've been offended, forgive**

**Chorus**

**Forgive over and over again  
Forgive over and over again  
Just as God has forgiven you over and over again**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*We Are One in the Spirit*

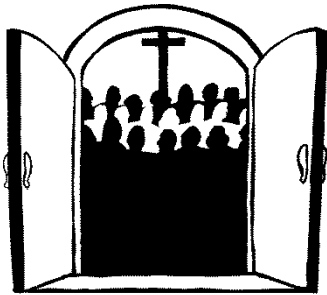
## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**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).



### **Congregational MEETING**

#### **CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**

The Session is calling for a *Congregational Meeting* **next Sunday, October 4**, immediately following the Worship Service (via Zoom). This meeting was originally scheduled to be held on March 22, 2020, and was cancelled due to the pandemic.

The purpose of the meeting is for the congregation to vote on the recommendation of the Session to change Rev. Lukata Mjumba from Designated Pastor to “permanent” pastor.

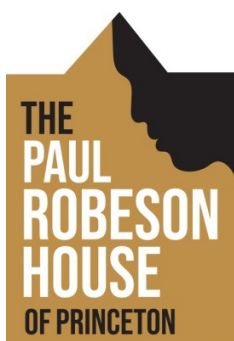
Everyone is urged to attend. If you need assistance with using Zoom, on your computer, iPad, tablet or by phone, please let your Deacon know or contact Sharon Campbell (313-657-2914), before the day of the meeting. We will do our best to assist you. The meeting is open to anyone who is interested, however, only members of Witherspoon will be able to vote.

**Princeton's Civil Rights Commission**  
invites you to join a  
**Community Conversation**  
With the Witherspoon Street  
Presbyterian Church Congregation and  
the Reverend Lukata Mjumbe

All Are Welcome. Make Statements and Speak to Your Experiences.  
Submit Questions Here: <https://bit.ly/35Fhj2T>

**Sunday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm via Zoom**

Online: <https://zoom.us/j/93904710394>  
Meeting ID: 939 0471 0394  
Dial In: +1 646-558-8656 (PIN: 93904710394#)



**A CONVERSATION ABOUT ECONOMICS AND AMERICA  
NEXT 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 **next 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://thepaulrobersonhouseofprinceton.org/>). **SAVE THE DATE...MARK YOUR CALENDAR...PLAN TO ATTEND!**



**Online Giving**

**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!



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**

Laura Docter and Cameron Stout  
Curtis and Pamela Johnson  
Audiway and Michelle Peal  
Norbert Wetzel and Hinda Winawer

## ***This Week at Witherspoon***

Today	Chancel Committee	Following Worship
	<b><i>Community Conversation</i></b> (via Zoom)	3:00 p.m.
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.
	WC-NC Joint Committee	12:00 p.m.
Friday	Daily Morning Prayer (via Zoom)	7:00 a.m.
Saturday	Adult Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 a.m.
	Deacon Board (conference call)	11:00 a.m.
Next Sunday	Worship – Rev. Lukata Mjumbe to Preach	10:00 a.m.
	Communion	
	<b>Called Congregational Meeting</b> (via Zoom)	Following Worship
	Junior Usher Meeting	Following Worship
	Robeson House Event with Paul Krugman and Eduardo Porter	3:00 p.m.





# 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, Antonette Stephen, Deborah, Tanksley, Germama Terrero, Jenny, Tran, Arisha Vaughn, Yvonne Walker, Regina Wallace, Natasha White