



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 15, 2018

Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here with us, and hope that you'll feel right at home. Please join us after worship for fellowship and light refreshments in our Fellowship Hall.

Visitors are always welcomed and encouraged to participate in any of our programs, activities and ministry opportunities.

A Nursery is available downstairs for preschool children.

Large print bulletins are available upon request.

If you need a little help hearing, portable listening devices are available.

Restrooms are located in the Narthex and throughout the church building.

An infant changing station and Quiet Room for nursing mothers is located off the Narthex.

Activity books for children are available in the Narthex.

Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!

Sunday, July 15

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

10:00 am- Worship

10:00 am- Nursery Care

10:00 am- Sunday School

Pastor François Preaching

Monday, July 16

6:00 pm- VBC Begins

8:00 pm- Worship Council

Tuesday, July 10

6:00 pm- VBC

Wednesday, July 11

8:45 am- Breakfast Group-Court Diner

6:00 pm- VBC

Thursday, July 12

6:00 pm- VBC

Friday, July 13

6:00 pm- Last day of VBC

Saturday, July 14

Sunday, July 15

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am- Worship

10:00 am- Nursery Care

10:00 am- Sunday School

Pastor François Preaching

A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

Order of Worship

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

WORDS OF MEDITATION

“Jesus from the moment he first appears in Galilee is a sign of contradiction, fomenting revolution through telling the truth about the state of the world, the reality of evil, and the eye of God, who judges in a different vein altogether than courts of law, whether they be religious canons, the ecclesiastical courts, or government legal systems.”

— Megan McKenna, *The New Stations of the Cross: The Way of the Cross According to Scripture*

“The state is concerned with the promotion of outward righteousness arising from the individual being constrained to keep the law. The Gospel alters human nature, whereas the state merely restrains human greed and evil, having no positive power to alter human motivation.”

— Alister E. McGrath, *Reformation Thought*

“Our present system is unique in world history, because over and above its physical and economic constraints, it demands of us total surrender of our souls, continuous and active participation in the general, conscious lie. To this putrefaction of the soul, this spiritual enslavement, human beings who wish to be human cannot consent. When Caesar, having exacted what is Caesar's, demands still more insistently that we render him what is God's — that is a sacrifice we dare not make!”

— Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *From Under the Rubble*

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

TIME OF GREETING AND “PEACE”

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In a world that often causes us to be afraid...

During a time in history that often seems uncertain...

Living in the midst of great change and challenge...

And trying to cope with the everyday stresses of modern life...

We gather in the promise of God’s peace. We come to be renewed by Christ’s love. We open ourselves to the encouragement of the Holy Spirit.

*OPENING HYMN 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
(verses 1, 3 and 5)

TOULON

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward at this time. Parents are encouraged to accompany their younger children and sit with them. After the message, Sunday School age children will be excused with their teachers. Visiting parents with children are welcome to escort their children along with the teachers to the Sunday School classes or the church nursery. On the first & third Sundays of the month, MS/HS Students are invited to sit together near the front of the sanctuary during the service.

MUSICAL OFFERING

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are so often given over to fear, O God.

Like the disciples at Pentecost we huddle together, crippled in spirit by life. For it is not as though there is nothing to be afraid of. *(silent reflection)*

And we need not pretend that faith puts an end to all doubt.

It is simply that in those difficult and very human moments we do not reach out to you.

We do not seek the reassurance and calm that you are so willing to give. We do not accept your peace. *(silent reflection)*

Hear then our cry for healing;

Hear in our hearts our longing for calming peace. *(silent reflection)*

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“Peace, I give to you” says our Christ. Friends, in and through Christ, love has overcome.

Love is victorious. We arise forgiven as with the dawning of a new day. **Thanks be to God.**

Amen!

*SUNG RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Glorify 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.

*RESPONSE

People of God, body of Christ, sisters and brothers, what shall we do in response to God’s forgiveness?

As God’s own people we will be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven us. And, above everything else we will be loving and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for us. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13:1-10

ANTHEM

Soloist Robert Phillips

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON

Caesar, Jesus and Paul

Pastor François

RESPONSIVE HYMN 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SHARING IN MISSION AND MINISTRY

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

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

We return to you, O God, the gifts you have given, that this money, and our lives, might bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT 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. Amen.

AFFIRMATION (*from the Iona Community*)

**We believe in God, Who has created and is creating.
Who has come in Jesus to reconcile and to make all things new.
We trust God, who calls us to be the church;
To love and serve others, to seek justice and to resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified, dead and risen; Our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us:
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

*CLOSING HYMN 765

May the God of Hope Go with Us
(sung twice through)

ARGENTINA

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*

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The chancel flowers are to the Glory of God given by John and Darleen Stauffer in honor of their 40th anniversary. Their wedding was celebrated here at WPC in 1978.

Thank you to Helen Picher and all who assisted with the worship service this morning, those volunteering to usher, and to those assisting with fellowship time today.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP begins tomorrow! Register online or at the door. VBC will run from 6-8 pm this Monday through Friday.

THE NEXT BOOKLOOK will be held on Wednesday, August 22 at 7:30 pm. The book chosen is "Commonwealth" by Ann Patchett. Here is an abbreviated summary from Amazon:
"One Sunday afternoon in Southern California, Bert Cousins shows up at Franny Keating's christening party uninvited. Before evening falls, he has kissed Franny's mother, Beverly—thus setting in motion the dissolution of their marriages and the joining of two families. Spanning five decades, Commonwealth explores how this chance encounter reverberates through the lives of the four parents and six children involved... When, in her twenties, Franny begins an affair with the legendary author Leon Posen and tells him about her family, the story of her siblings is no longer hers to control. Their childhood becomes the basis for his wildly successful book, ultimately forcing them to come to terms with their losses, their guilt, and the deeply loyal connection they feel for one another." Commonwealth is a meditation on inspiration, interpretation, and the ownership of stories. It is a brilliant and tender tale of the far-reaching ties of love and responsibility that bind us together. If anyone wants to order a copy they can contact Walt Kaminski. Cost is approximately \$5.50.

WE THANK JOHN CONAHAN, our substitute organist who will be covering for Liz, as she is on vacation for the month of July.

STAFF

Rev. François Lacroix, Pastor
Rev. Taylor Cornelius, Associate Pastor
Elizabeth Braden, Director of Music
Kate Callahan, Church Administrator
Judith Kenworthy, Clerk of Session
Andy Yost, Treasurer

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