



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 8, 2020

# 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, March 8**

Second Sunday in Lent

10:00 am- Worship

10:00 am- Nursery Care

10:00 am- Faith Formation

Pastor François Preaching

11:30 am- Faith Exploration

## **Monday, March 9**

9:30 am- Adult Bible Study

6:00 pm- Pilates

6:30 pm- Narcotics Anonymous

7:00 pm- WPC Connections

## **Tuesday, March 10**

9:00 am- Yoga

12:00 pm- PrimeTime

7:00 pm- Peacemaking and Justice

7:30 pm- Worship Council

## **Wednesday, March 11**

8:45 am- Breakfast Group-Court Diner

10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends

4:00 pm- Girl Scouts

6:00 pm- Youth Group

## **Wednesday (Continued)**

7:00 pm- Women of Wallingford

## **Thursday, March 12**

10:00 am- Yoga

2:30 pm- Staff Meeting

6:00 pm- Yoga

7:30 pm- Troops 277 & 2019

## **Friday, March 13**

9:30 am- Mommy and Me

5:30 pm- Sons of Norway

7:00 pm- Adult Social @ The Old Mill

## **Saturday, March 14**

9:30 am- Zumbini

10:00 am- Cubs 228

## **Sunday, March 15**

Third Sunday in Lent

10:00 am- Worship

10:00 am- Nursery Care

10:00 am- Faith Formation

Pastor François Preaching

11:30 am- Faith Exploration

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

# Order of Worship

## GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

### WORDS OF MEDITATION

“It is not necessary that faith and repentance should always precede baptism. They are only required from those whose age makes them capable of both. It will be sufficient, then, if, after infants have grown up, they exhibit the power of their baptism.” -- John Calvin

“The Church does not dispense the sacrament of baptism in order to acquire for herself an increase in membership but in order to consecrate a human being to God and to communicate to that person the divine gift of birth from God.” — Hans Urs von Balthasar, *Unless You Become Like This Child*

### WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

#### OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

God invites us to come home.

**Home to a place of healing.**

Come to God’s embrace.

**We come to let our heart be blessed.**

God invites us to come home this Lent.

**We come to discover a life lived in love.**

#### \*OPENING HYMN 399

God Welcomes All  
(Sing Three Times)

THEMBA AMEN

#### 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, elementary 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 Faith Formation 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.*

### SERVICE OF INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING

#### MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

by Lani Smith

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

We cannot earn God’s grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God’s love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sins in faith.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Awesome and challenging God, hold us close for this moment, so that with your support we might look deep within and let your healing light purify our darkness. Only in your embrace can we face our struggles – our frantic pursuit of busyness; the ease with which we tolerate the troubles and inequities of our divided society; the acceptance of bottom-line thinking as the final word; the fear of differences that keeps us from receiving the gifts of others; our reluctance to get involved.**

*(Silent confession)*

Holy and disturbing God,

**Keep us close to the way of Jesus Christ and let us experience your transforming love. Renew our hearts, refashion our lives and revive our spirits. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus Christ, the living water, washes away all our sins and assures us of the everlasting love and grace of God. Brothers and sisters, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*SUNG RESPONSE

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.***

## \*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

God of signs and wonders, we come to your word again and again, seeking understanding and the new life it offers. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our hearts and minds so that we may believe. In the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior, we pray. **Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:1-4, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

### ANTHEM

Witness

arr. Jack Halloran

Who'll be a witness for my Lord? Oh, I'll be a witness for my Lord. There was a man of the Pharisees, his name was Nicodemus and he didn't believe. The same came to Christ by night, wanted to taught out of human sight. Nicodemus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he is old. Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again." He said, "Marvel not, if you want to be wise, repent, believe and be baptized." Then you'll be a witness for my Lord. You read about Samson, from his birth he was the strongest man that ever lived on earth. Way back yonder in ancient times he killed ten thousand of the Philistines.

Then old Samson went a wandrin' about. Samson's strength was never found out. 'Til his wife sat upon his knee. She said, "Tell me where your strength lies, if you please." Well, old Samson's wife, she talk so fair, Samson said, "Cut off my hair! Shave my head just as clean as your hand, and my strength will come like a natural man." Samson was a witness for my Lord. There's another witness for my Lord.

GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17

SERMON

Dedicated to the One I Love

Pastor François

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life

LAND OF REST

DEDICATION – Annabelle Cornelius

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Sentence of Scripture

Profession of Faith

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Aspersion

Anointing

SHARING IN MISSION AND MINISTRY

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

All that we have is a gift from God. In faith and gratitude, we return now a portion of what we have so abundantly received, as grateful heirs of the promises of God.

OFFERTORY

God Leads Us Along

arr. C. Berry

\*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

**Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in deep gratitude—for your call on our lives, your guidance in the baptismal journey, and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others. Accept what we bring for your own good purposes. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

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.**

BENEDICTION

TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING THE GRACE AND PEACE WE RECEIVED

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

**And also with you.**

*(Please exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation.)*

POSTLUDE

Declaration

by Fenton Groden

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

*“Words and music printed for the hymns, Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A71731.”*

*The chancel flowers are to the Glory of God given by Kirk and Carol Soxman loving memory of our parents Charles & Tess Stecher and Don & Dolores Soxman .*

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

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**FRAUD ALERT:** Just a friendly reminder that pastors, staff, and other church leaders will never email or text you soliciting the “emergency” purchase of gift cards, travelers checks, or to send money of any kind. If you receive any messages of this sort, delete them immediately. Questions? Talk to Kate or François.

**ADULT SOCIAL AT THE ROSE VALLEY VARIETY SHOW, FRIDAY, MARCH 13** The Old Mill will be alive as “Rose Valley Gets Animated” for the annual variety show. Bring an appetizer to share; beer, wine and soda are complimentary with the \$5 admission at the door. Meet at the the Old Mill at 7 p.m. to socialize before the show begins at 8. For more information, contact Walt Kaminski (610-334-2025).

**EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA IS COMING!** Starting this week, there are bins in Fellowship Hall and the Narthex to collect candy donations for what has become one of our biggest events of the year! Candy must be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in the plastic eggs. Also, mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 26th at 4:30 pm: we’ll need lots of volunteers to help stuff eggs ahead of the big event. Come hungry: we’ll celebrate the stuffing of a few thousand eggs with pizza for dinner!

**BLOOD DRIVE** WPC will hold a Red Cross blood drive 2-7 p.m., Wednesday, March 18. Someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds and one donation can potentially save up to three lives. It’s easy to register and potential donors can sign up anytime.

- Go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org>
- Find “Find a Blood Drive” (upper right-hand corner and enter Sponsor Code WPC)
- Make sure you have Wallingford Presbyterian Church for the date above.

- Select your Appointment Time and Donation Type.
- Enter Donor Login info if you already have it or click on Register Now under New User. Need help booking your appointment or want someone to do it for you? Contact Tom Erickson at (610) 565-8458 or [railcents@comcast.net](mailto:railcents@comcast.net).

**THE PEACEMAKING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE PRESENTS: WHY PALESTINE MATTERS-** A four part educational series about what Palestine can teach us about American injustice. March 22, March 29, April 19, and May 3 at 11:30 am Injustice occurs throughout the world, whether in Israel/Palestine or other areas of conflict, and all social justice issues are intertwined. What can we do as individuals and groups when we encounter injustice? The course will be taught by Christian/Jewish Allies using the PC (USA) book “Why Palestine Matters” as the starting point for the presentation/discussion format. Each session will include a reading assignment for the next meeting. Class size limited to 25 and our friends at Swarthmore Presbyterian Church and St. John Chrysostom Roman Catholic Church have been invited to join us. The \$25 fee covers the cost of the book and teachers (less if you have a copy of the book). Registration is required by contacting Walt (610-334-2025) or on the Church Center App.

**PROGRESSIVE DINNER** Saturday April 4, 2020, 5:00 – 9:30 PM All adults are invited to the annual Progressive Dinner at Wallingford Presbyterian Church. We are providing childcare at the church and have moved the time up to better accommodate people with young children. If you haven’t attended the dinner, we meet at the church for appetizers as a group, then break up into small groups (8-12 people) at “Host Family” homes, then gather again for dessert as a group. Previous attendees have said, “It’s a great way to get to know more people at the church”. “It’s the best church social event of the year!” You are welcome to attend all or part of the dinner (we’ve had people come just for appetizers, or appetizers and dinner). Each person is asked to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert and we request a donation of \$10 per person to help defray costs. If you have any questions, feel free to email Lise Meloy or Chris Darr Sign up in Fellowship Hall, in the Church Center app.

**KEEP ON FILLING THE RED WAGONS** You all have been wonderfully generous and while winter will end soon (according to Punxsutawney Phil) hunger does not. Our Red Wagon ministry supplies many families in this area with much needed food and personal care products. Each month, the food banks we use give us a list of those item they need to keep the shelves full and balanced. Please keep on filling the Red Wagons as you have been. Thank you. The requests for February and early March include Soups - pull-top preferred, Chicken and Beef Broth, Microwaveable Pouches of Rice, Regular and Decaf Coffee and Tea, Hot Chocolate – Any Type (Individual Packs are Best), Maple Syrup – Individual or Small Containers, Ketchup, Mustard, and other Condiments, Cereal, Canned Fruit – Peaches, Pineapples, Pears, Spam, Sardines, Pickles, Toilet Paper, and Toiletries. Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated. One Red Wagon is always in the Office entry to the Church. Another other Red Wagon is in the Narthex and the third one is on the lower level by the entry door on that level.

## STAFF

Rev. François Lacroix, Pastor  
Rev. Taylor Cornelius, Associate Pastor  
Lee Hagon-Kerr, Director of Music  
Kate Callahan, Church Administrator  
Zoe Andrews, Youth Ministry Assistant  
Leslie Krowchenko, Communications Coordinator  
Judith Kenworthy, Clerk of Session  
Andy Yost, Treasurer  
Michelle Hall, Financial Secretary

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If you wish to give electronically from your smartphone or tablet, please scan the box at the left to go to the website where you can give to WPC via credit card

