

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT THIRTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ALMOST ORDINARY TIME MARCH 27, 2022

# 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. During our phased reopening masks must be worn securely over the nose and mouth at all times. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation, as we strive to keep all members of our community of faith safe and healthy!

<u>Masks</u> must be worn at all times when in the building, including during worship. <u>Visitors</u> are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in attending. <u>Large print bulletins</u> are available upon request. <u>If you need a little help hearing</u>, portable listening devices are available. <u>An All Gender Restroom</u> is located in the Narthex. <u>An infant changing station and Quiet Room</u> for parents with little ones is located off the Narthex. <u>Activity packets</u> are available for children to use during worship. <u>Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!</u>

#### Sunday, March 27

Fourth Sunday in Lent Thirty-Ninth Sunday in Almost Ordinary Time 10:00 am- Worship Pastor François Preaching 11:00 am- Fellowship Hour 11:00 am- Lenten Study (Reception Room) Monday, March 28 10:30 am- Adult Bible Study 2:30 pm- Staff Meeting **Tuesday, March 29** 6:30 pm- WCNS Event Wednesday, March 30 9:00 am- Breakfast Group-Court Diner 10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends 6:30 pm- WCNS Event 7:30 pm- W@W- BookLook

#### Thursday, March 31

6:30 pm- Bell Choir 7:30 pm- Choir Practice 7:30 pm- BSA 277 & 2019 Friday, April 1 6:30 pm- Sprouts Saturday, April 2 Sunday, April 3 Fifth Sunday in Lent Fortieth Sunday in *Almost* Ordinary Time 10:00 am- Worship Pastor Taylor Preaching 11:00 am- Fellowship Hour 11:00 am- Kids Café

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

## Order of Worship

## **GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD**

WORDS OF MEDITATION "Life is grace. Sleep is forgiveness. The night absolves. Darkness wipes the slate clean, not spotless to be sure, but clean enough for another day's chalking." - Frederick Buechner, The Alphabet of Grace

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP Grace and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. Friends in Christ, God will instruct us and teach us the way we should go. As we enter the second half of Lent, let us keep our eve out for the Lord, our ear open to God's call.

**OPENING PRAYER** 

\*Opening Hymn 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (verses 1, 2, and 3)

**AMAZING GRACE** 

SERVICE OF BAPTISM - Brookelyn Nicole George PRESENTATION **PROFESSION OF FAITH** APOSTLES' CREED (Hymnal, Page 35) BAPTISM BAPTISM PRAYER O Lord, uphold Brookelyn by your Holy Spirit. Give her the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME

\*Hymn 487 These Treasured Children (verses 1, 4 and 5)

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting the grace promised to us in Jesus Christ, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways.

Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our home, but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty. You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions.

You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love.

(Silent Confession)

Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance.

Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

As a parent welcomes home a wayward child, so God embraces all who return in true repentance. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.** 

\*RESPONSE 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)
Glory to God whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen (x3)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING (PART 1)	Luke 15:1-3, 11b – 20a	NT 78

#### 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 on the chancel steps or in the chairs provided. After the message, children ages 18mo - 5 years (Young Disciples) and Grades 1 - 5 (Junior Disciples) can go to faith formation or, if parents prefer, return to their pews and worship with their parents (activity packets provided for their use during the worship service.)

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.

MUSICAL MEDITATION	excerpt from Berceuse, op.57	by F. Chopin
Gospel Reading (Part 2)	Luke 15:20b-32	NT 78-79
Sermon	What about Mom?	Pastor François

ANTHEM Choral Reflections on Amazing Grace arr. Roger Ames Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now I see. Through many dangers, toils and snares, we have already come. 'Twas grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home. Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed! When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures. Alleluia! And grace will lead us home; I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see. Was lost, but now am found.

Sharing in Mission and Ministry Call to Stewardship

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

arr. George Shearing

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



\*Response 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 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

O God, all that we have comes from you. Receive this offering and with it the offering of our lives, for we return to you only what you have so graciously given. Use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

*Closing Hymn 649	Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound	Amazing Grace
	(verses 4 and 5)	

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING THE GRACE AND PEACE WE RECEIVED The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. (Please exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation.)

\*Those who are able, please stand. "Words and music printed for the hymns, Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A71731." Thank you to Cyndi Lacroix and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.

*This week's chancel flowers were given to the Glory of God by Sally Clyde in memory of William M. Clyde and Mr. and Mrs. John Bye and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Clyde Jr.* 

**WORSHIP** Just a reminder: If you aren't feeling your best (headache, fever, body ache), please consider staying at home until you feel like your old self again.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET** WPC's 2022 Lenten Devotional Booklet is composed of entries selected by Shirley Rudd and Roger Demos from 16 years of WPC Lenten booklets. Written by members and friends of all ages, they convey their thoughts and prayers, love of God and joy they have found at WPC. Download a week's worth of devotions every Friday in WPC Happenings. Don't use email? Pick up your weekly devotions when you come to church on Sunday!

#### **IN-PERSON STAFF AND OFFICE HOURS**

In an effort to meet everyone's needs and remain mindful of COVID-19, the staff has established in -person office hours. Due to the pandemic, appointments are preferred when possible.

Pastor François	Away this week		
Pastor Taylor	Monday Thursday	11 a.m4:30 p.m. 10 a.m1 p.m.	
Main Office	Monday Tues-Thursday	9:30 a.mnoon 2-4:30 p.m.	

Feel free to call the church office (610-566-1644) or email staff members at other times.

**CALLING FOR TODDLER CLASS VOLUNTEERS!** The Sunday morning Toddler class is looking for volunteers. There is no need for lesson prep, it's all already in closet. Volunteers should contact Pam Mattote.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS 2022** If you would like to sponsor the chancel flowers for a Sunday in 2022, you can sign up in Fellowship Hall, online at https://bit.ly/WPCflowers22, or by scanning the QR Code to the right.



**LENTEN DISCIPLINE STUDY** Following Jesus is a lifelong journey where we learn and do what Jesus said and did. It takes more than the head, checking off boxes of belief. It even takes more than the heart, feeling deeply about another person or a cause. Following Jesus is about these things and more. It is also about doing. And it takes practice. And practice. And more practice. We are not practicing for perfection, however, but practicing to put faith and love in action. As we explore faith practices, we are diving into the essence of what makes us Christian, those who follow the one who practiced what he preached!

**LOOKING FOR COVID-19 TESTS? GET YOUR FREE SUPPLY!** The federal website is up and running! Sign up for yours at covidtests.gov to receive four free tests per household. Need help? Contact our Congregational Wellness Nurse, Cyndi!

**NEED A BETTER MASK?** WPC Has KN-95 masks available for those who have not been able to get them. Pick one up for your personal use when you come to worship!

**NEED HELP GETTING YOUR BOOSTER?** Reach out to Parish Wellness Nurse Cyndi Lacroix, and she will help you schedule and find transportation for your booster shot.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR UKRAINE: https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/ukraine/

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA IS BACK!** We are welcoming families and neighbors to our annual **Easter Eggstravaganza at 10 am on Saturday, April 9**! The Easter egg hunt will feature a short program by Pastor Taylor before we set off on a hut for the colorful, candy filled eggs! Want to help out ahead of time? We are looking for donations of individually wrapped candy (nutfree is a bonus!) to fill our 3000+ eggs. Drop your donation off in the marked bins in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall between now and April 5!

Wednesday, April 6 at 4pm we will be gathering to stuff our eggs with goodies! Volunteers of all ages are welcome!

**WCNS FLOWER SALE** The Wallingford Co-op Nursery School is currently hosting their annual flower sale! Proceeds go to benefit the schools programs. This year, they are excited to offer a wide selection of flowers, vegetables, herbs, ornamental grasses, and hanging baskets! Order forms are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Checks can be made out to Wallingford Co-op Nursery school, and orders can be turned in to the WPC office. Deadline for orders is April 6th!

# **Emergency response to Ukraine war**



As the violence in Ukraine continues, the number of people being displaced internally and fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day. And in the midst of the chaos, there are sibling churches and ecumenical partners who are already providing assistance with basic items for survival. Our first priority is to provide funding to these partners on the ground. While the scale of this crisis is new, receiving refugees from Ukraine and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe is not, which means we have trusted, established partners with the knowledge and expertise to carry out this important work. Our response will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead.

- GIVE: To support emergency relief for those fleeing Ukraine, designate gifts to DR000156. You can also text PDAUKR to 41444 to donate. Gifts can be made online at pcusa.org/UK22, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check using the below reply device.
- ACT: Urge the U.S. government to support generous aid for refugees and civilians suffering in Ukraine, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.



**PRAY:** May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help. May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly. May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy.

May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace. And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace. -Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus. Director. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

-Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director, Fresbyterian Disaster Assistance

O \$500	O \$125	O \$50	O \$25	O Other \$_		
Name			Ao	ddress		
City			State	Zip	Congregation/PIN	

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church; or enclose it in an envelope with your check and mail it to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.





# **Easter Flowers are Here!**

Spring bulbs and lilies will be used to decorate the church sanctuary for Easter tide. Every effort will be made to minimize the allergens of these lovely flowers to be welcoming and not overwhelming.

## Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils

In honor or in memory or share a gift
To take home after service Easter Sunday or donate the flowers



Lilies in 6 inch pots with 6-9 blooms- \$9 Tulips in 6 inch pots - assorted colors- \$8 Daffodils in 6 inch pots- \$8



Detach and return this form to the office or order online by April 3, 2022!

### **EVERYONE WELCOME – WELCOME EVERYONE**

In a joint effort by our Education and Worship Council and approved by Session, we have discussed how we can make our church more welcoming to all: young; old; able bodied and those with disabilities.

We want everyone to feel included and comfortable in worship and to that end two members of our Education Council have met with those in other churches which have adapted to the changing needs of all church members and friends. They have done extensive research about inclusion and understanding the needs of both individuals with disabilities and those dealing with family members with disabilities.

One such person was a young man who attended our worship service recently. He was injured in an industrial accident and is confined to a wheelchair. He said that he preferred to sit in the back of the church where he was not "on display" but he could not see when everyone stood up to pray and sing. This is also often an issue for some of our older congregants who have had knee and hip replacements, and for our children. To alleviate some of this we have recently asked the congregation to only stand during the singing of hymns.

After speaking with those in other churches we have learned that by replacing pews with chairs – both chairs with and chairs without arms -- people are more comfortable. The flexibility of chairs, which can be rearranged, offers more opportunities for special worship experiences and choral programs. We have borrowed a few chairs from a local church and placed them for the next two Sundays at various locations in the sanctuary. Actually seeing and using the chairs will help us decide if this is an idea we want to pursue.

In one added move to help the congregation feel more comfortable in worship the Trustees are adding a "grip strip" along the steps to the chancel and soon will be adding handrails to the steps.

We are aware that these are all innovative ideas and changes to our old habits - but we feel it is important to *Welcome Everyone and make Everyone Welcome*.

#### STAFF

Rev. François Lacroix, Pastor Rev. Taylor Cornelius, Associate Pastor Lee Hagon-Kerr, Director of Music Kate Callahan, Church Administrator Leslie Krowchenko, Communications Coordinator Judith Kenworthy, Clerk of Session Ed Mattote and Todd Darr, Co-Treasurers Michelle Hall, Financial Secretary

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