

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 20, 2023

# 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 take a moment to silence your cell phone.**

Face Masks for personal protection are optional for all activities on our campus. If you would like to wear one, we have KN-95 masks available for your use when you come to worship.

Friendship Pew Pads can be found at the end of each pew. Please fill them out and pass along to your neighbors.

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in attending.

Visual Worship Schedules are available upon request.

If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available.

If a Fidget Toy Would Be Helpful For You, they are available at the Narthex entrance.

An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.

An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents with little ones is located off the Narthex.

A Parents' Room Is Available downstairs for those with small children,

Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.

Gluten Free Cookies will now be available during coffee hour. The tray of yummys will be marked – please save them for those with specific dietary restrictions.

Chancel Flowers are sponsored under a suggested donation of \$50. To order, use the Church Center App, the chart in the Fellowship Hall, or visit <https://bit.ly/3Wzyj1l>

WPC Directory Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center. Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with any questions.

## **Sunday, August 20**

10:00 am- Young Disciples Sunday School

10:00 am- Worship

11:00 am- Coffee Hour

## **Monday, August 21**

10:00 am- Staff Meeting

7:30 pm- Education Council

7:30 pm- Steven Ministry

## **Tuesday, August 22**

4:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons

## **Wednesday, August 23**

9:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner

3:00 pm- Private Brass Lessons

3:30 pm- Private Flute Lessons

## **Thursday, August 24**

7:30 pm- Session

## **Friday, August 25**

## **Saturday, August 26**

## **Sunday, August 27**

10:00 am- Young Disciples Sunday School

10:00 am- Worship

11:00 am- Coffee Hour

2:00 pm- Scouts

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"It was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels."  
-Saint Augustine

## GATHERING

WELCOME, RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

This I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

**The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;**

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

**"The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."**

The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

**It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.**

**Let us worship God!**

\*OPENING HYMN #370

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

## 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 front pews. The Young Disciples Room (ages 18 months - 5 years) is open during the duration of worship time. Following A Time with Young Disciples, children are invited to the Reception Room to watch the video series "Friends and Heroes." There are activity packets at each entrance for children to enjoy during worship time.*

## PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN

**God of heaven and earth, we pray for the children of our church. We know that they are your beloved children and that you love them. We ask your hand of blessing be over each one of these children gathered here today, and those who are not here. We ask that your Holy Spirit would rest on each one of them and you guard, protect, guide, and nurture each one of them by your power and grace. We thank you for the light they bring to us through their smiles, laughter, and unique characteristics. Bless their comings and goings and help them to always know your love for them. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we come before you to honestly confess our wrongdoings. We take a moment to call to mind all the times we have hurt others this week, in word, thought, or deed....

We call to mind the times when we put our own desires and needs before the needs of others....

We call to mind the times we judged others too quickly, gossiped, name called, or spoken a harsh word out of anger....

We call to mind the times we built up our own ego, tried to impress others, forced our own way, or made jokes at the expense of others to get a cheap laugh...

We call to mind the times we ignored the plight of the needy, and shut our ears to cry of those who need our time and resources...

We see that our sins are many. **Forgive us Lord. Help us to see each of our sins clearly, so we can turn, repent, and be made new in you. Amen.**

## WORDS OF COMFORT

Friends, hear the Good News! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

\*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.***

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Lamentations 3:19-26

NRSV OT 766

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 17:7-10

NRSV NT 80

SERMON

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

“Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”

As followers of Jesus Christ, we want to welcome you into this community of faith. If you are ready and willing, we are here to receive you.

### INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

#### OFFERTORY

Oh, Rest in the Lord                      F. Mendelssohn, arr. R. M. Neal  
Helene Furlong, Lisé Meloy, François Lacroix and Mike Meloy



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, or give via the Church Center app.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

**Holy Lord, bless these offerings so that they would glorify your work of peace in this world. May they multiply and be fruitful so that your love may spread to all who need it. Thank you for teaching us this practice of giving, as it heals our hearts when we truly open them up to generosity. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

### PRAYER FOR THE WORLD AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN #302                      When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace                      O WALY WALY

**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.**

## SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN #53                      O God, Who Gives Us Life                      NOEL

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*(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 Shirley Rudd, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.  
This week’s flowers were given to the Glory of God by Ken Ezzell  
in loving celebration of Polly Sacco Ezzell’s Birthday*

## This Is My Father's World 370

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis - tening ears all  
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world. O, let me ne'er for - get that

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.  
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of  
 This is my Fa-ther's world. The bat - tle is not done: Je -

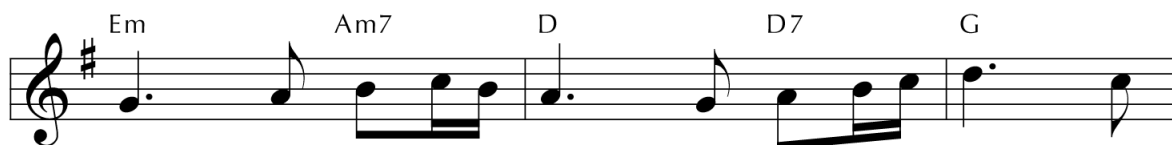
rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the won - ders wrought.  
 sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, and earth and heaven be one.

When pastor of a Presbyterian church in Lockport, New York, the author of this text referred to his morning walks as "going out to see my Father's world." The tune created for these words is based on an English melody the composer learned from his mother when he was a boy.

# When Hands Reach Out and 302 Fingers Trace



1 When hands reach out and fin - gers trace the beau - ty  
 2 When fin - gers spell and signs ex - press our prayer and  
 3 When bro - ken bod - ies will not mend, we thank you,  
 4 And when the ways we learn and grow are not the  
 5 Your Spir - it gives us dif - fer - ing ways to serve you



of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that  
 praise and thank - ful - ness, we thank you, God, that  
 God, for Christ our friend. In him, our heal - ing  
 ways that oth - ers know, we thank you, God, that  
 well and of - fer praise. When all are joined as



love re - lies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.  
 hands can sing; you bless the si - lent songs we bring.  
 can be - gin: he wel - comes all the wound - ed in.  
 we have learned your love's a gift, and nev - er earned.  
 one, we'll be your a - ble, strong com - mu - ni - ty.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This hymn celebrates the breadth of human diversity and the variety of gifts and abilities through which God's people serve the church and world. Incorporating such diversity provides a vital witness to the hospitality of Christian community and to the inclusive nature of love.

# 53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
 2 O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,  
 3 O God of covenant and law, re-vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
 to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there:  
 your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de-liver us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
 when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies,  
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove,

Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.  
 re-fresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.  
 as on our hearts you write a new covenant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).



### **Lamentations 3:19-26**

<sup>19</sup>The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! <sup>20</sup>My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. <sup>21</sup>But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: <sup>22</sup>The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; <sup>23</sup>they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. <sup>24</sup>"The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." <sup>25</sup>The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. <sup>26</sup>It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

### **Luke 17:7-10**

<sup>7</sup>“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

**CHANCEL CHOIR** New and returning singers – come to the first rehearsal of the season, **7:30 p.m., Thursday, September 7.** No experience necessary.

**SPROUTS BOWLING NIGHT** Kids – meet **6 p.m., Friday, September 8,** at Sproul Lanes (745 West Sproul Road, Springfield) for strikes, spares and pizza. Open to children grades K-5.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** The group will begin the season, **10 a.m., Monday, September 11,** with a study of First, Second and Third John. All are welcome – no Bible knowledge required. Meets weekly.

**FELLOWSHIP OF FRIENDS** Discuss a variety of topics, some political, in a non-threatening atmosphere, beginning **10 a.m., Wednesday, September 13.** Meets weekly.

**W.O.W. (WOMEN OF WALLINGFORD)** Meet, greet and eat, **7 p.m., Wednesday, September 13.** All women of our community of faith are welcome to participate in this ministry – we all have something to contribute to this amazing gathering.

**PARKINSON'S DISEASE** Did you know Parkinson's disease is the fastest growing neurological disorder and will soon surpass Alzheimer's disease in prevalence? WPC member Gwyn M. Vernon, MSN, RN, CRNP, a co-founder of the Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorder Center at the University of Pennsylvania, will describe Parkinson's disease (PD) and briefly address treatments, **11:30 p.m., Sunday, September 17.** Her talk will highlight how we as a community can help those in our church and neighborhoods who suffer with PD. **Presented as part of WPC's Disabilities Initiative.**

**BELL CHOIR** Join the ringers, **6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 21,** for the first rehearsal of the season. No experience necessary.

**YOUTH GROUP URBAN AIR** YGs – meet **4:30 p.m., Sunday, September 24,** at Urban Air Adventure Park (1260 East Woodland Avenue, Springfield) to kick off the season. Open to youth grades 6-12.

**BOOKLOOK** Join the discussion, **7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 27,** about "The Soul of America" by Jon Meacham. The #1 New York Times bestseller helps readers understand the present moment in American politics and life by looking back at critical times in our history when hope overcame division and fear. Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is \$6.

**FINDING GOD IN EVERY SEASON** Many of us appreciated this year's Lenten Reflections, especially the writings by those in the congregation, and additional entries will make the 2024 edition even more meaningful.

Why wait until next year to put pen to paper (or keyboard to screen). How does God communicate with you in every season?

Use the link in this week's WPC Happenings or scan the QR code to learn more:



# RALLY DAY

**Kick off an exciting year at WPC!**  
**Sunday, September 10, 10 a.m.**

## **Congregational Meeting**

Elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees



**Bibles**

For kids of all ages

## **First Day of Sunday School**

Toddler Room (18 months – pre-K)  
Early Elementary (grades K-2)  
Older Elementary (grades 3-5)



## **Sunday School Registration**

Register before worship in the Narthex or Sunday School hallway

## **Blessing of the Backpacks**

Kids – bring your backpack or receive one from Pastor Taylor



**Food Truck**  
Yummy lunch!

## **Red Wagon**

Please bring non-perishables for the Red Wagon

