



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 29, 2023
REFORMATION SUNDAY

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, and hope that you'll feel right at home.

Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.

Face Masks for are optional for all activities on our campus, and are available upon request.

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 of little ones is located in the Narthex.

Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.

Gluten Free Cookies will now be available during coffee hour.

The tray will be marked – please save them for those with specific dietary restrictions.

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.

WPC Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.

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

Sunday, October 29

9:00 am- Wallingford Winds

9:30 am- Chancel Choir

10:00 am- Breakfast Club

10:00 am- Worship

11:00 am- Coffee Hour

3:00 pm- Trunk-or-Treat

Monday, October 30

10:00 am- Staff Meeting

10:00 am- Adult Bible Class

Tuesday, October 31

4:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons

Wednesday, November 1

9:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner

10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends

3:00 pm- Private Brass Lessons

3:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons

7:00 pm- Valley Voices

Thursday, November 2

6:30 pm- Bell Choir

7:30 pm- Chancel Choir

7:30 pm- BSA 277/2019

Friday, November 3

6:00 pm- Sprouts

Saturday, November 4

Sunday, November 5

9:30 am- Chancel Choir

10:00 am- Worship

11:00 am- Coffee Hour

11:00 am- Kids Café

12:00 pm- Rise Against Hunger

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

It's true that we take a great deal of our own upbringing on into our adult lives and our lives as parents; but it's true too, that we can change some of the things that we would like to change. It can be hard, but it can be done. – Fred Rogers

GATHERING

WELCOME, RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING WORDS

In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said: "Let there be light."

And there was light.

[The sign of light and the presence of the Holy Spirit—a lighted candle—is placed on a central table.]

In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the Word was with God.

And the Word was God.

[The sign of the Word—an open Bible—is placed on the table.]

When the time was right, God sent his Son.

He came among us and was one of us.

[The sign of the Son—a cross—is placed on the table.]

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:18-21

NRSV OT 672

REFORMATION MOMENT

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

A Might Fortress Is Our God
Wallingford Winds

Luther, arr. Bill Holcombe

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward at this time. Parents are encouraged to accompany younger children and sit with them on the chancel steps or in the front seats. Then, children (18 months –11 years) are invited to Sunday School classes or to stay with us in worship. If this is your child's first time going to Sunday School, please accompany them downstairs in order to register your child.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

REFORMATION MOMENT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Interrupt us, O God, disturb our set patterns and rigid responses. Shake us loose from thinking we know the only way. Free us from opinions that are held in tight grips, from holier-than-thou attitudes. Teach us the art of looking at the world new and fresh, ready to be surprised by joy, astonished by grace, overcome with gratitude; keep us reasonably humble so we may see the new thing that you are doing through other people around us. Open us to your word, your touch, your Spirit. Help us see you at work, even in the interruptions of life. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through grace, God turns us around, opens our eyes, renews our faith, God forgive. We are truly blessed. **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN 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.

REFORMATION MOMENT

ANTHEM

Rejoice

Craig Courtney

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say rejoice. Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing; Your festive banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing. Be anxious for nothing; but in ev'rything by pray'r and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say rejoice. Go on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go; from youth to age, by night and day, in the gladness and in woe; Rejoice, rejoice give thanks and sing.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

NRSV NT 203

SERMON

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Paul wrote to the church of the Thessalonians, "Grace to you and peace." He called them to remember that God had chosen them and that, through the Holy Spirit, their work had made a difference.

As a community of faith, we are called to support each other as Paul supported the Thessalonians. We strive to lift up and call out the gifts we see in each other, to encourage each other in our faith, and to walk the journey of faith together.

If you are seeking to live out your faith in a supportive community, please join us.

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

arr. M. Hayes



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.

*DOXOLOGY

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

Generous and life-giving God, we thank you for the ability to give for the sake of others. We ask your blessing on these offerings that through them the needs of this world can be met. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER

God of new beginnings, this day we remember and celebrate those who challenge us to see things in new ways, to expand and explore our sense of what it means to be the body of Jesus Christ. We give you thanks for the many people whose words, images, music, sermons, writings, questions, ideas and laughter have helped to shape us as a church.

God of our past, our present, and our future, thank you for those who have gone before us and who share the wisdom of the ages with us all. We thank you for those who are young or new to our community, who bring a freshness and new way of understanding, whose new questions invite us to reflect on the past and plan for the future.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us. Give us courage to let our future be guided by the Spirit's wind. We put our trust in you, O God, trusting that, through all the changes, the seasons, and the re-formations of our lives, you are ever with us. **Amen.**

*BENEDICTION AND PEACE

(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 Lin Floyd, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning.
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Francois and Cyndi Lacroix
in celebration of their 38th wedding anniversary*

Isaiah 43: 18-21

¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

¹You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art 624

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re-deem-er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer-cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a-lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per-fect gen-tle-ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth-er save in thee;

my on-ly trust and Sav-ior of my heart,
 reign-ing om-ni-po-tent in ev-ery place;
 and all our sub-stance and our strength re-ceive;
 no harsh-ness hast thou and no bit-ter-ness.
 our faith is built up-on thy prom-ise free;

who pain didst un-der-go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be-ing sway;
 sus-tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev-ery try-ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per-fect u-ni-ty.
 that in thy strength we ev-er-more en-dure.

The original French text, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for him. Yet this text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.



Trunk or Treat

3-4 p.m.

Sunday, October 29

Upper Parking Lot



Bring the Kids
Decorated cars/trucks/SUVs
Treats galore

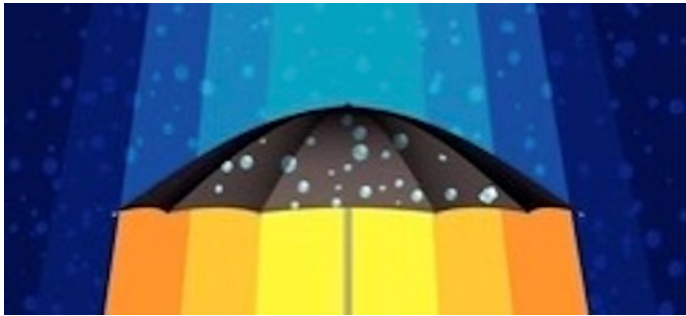
Host a Trunk

Prizes for best decorated!

Church lot opens at 2 p.m.

for set up





Rain or Shine
(Fellowship Hall
if raining)

Please bring
canned goods
for our local food banks



Donate Candy
Leave wrapped candy
in the bins in the Narthex
or Fellowship Hall

Youth Group/Young Adults
Help decorate
the YG/YA trunk





ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN Through the fifth week, we have received 55 pledges totaling \$254,406. Pledges represent approximately two-thirds of our annual budget and provide the confidence that we as a church will be like a beehive – always humming with activity.

Register your pledge using the pledge card, Church Center app or QR code.

BREAKFAST CLUB Students grades 6-12 – take a break from normal worship and share fellowship in the Youth Room. Enjoy breakfast, discussion about the week's "Nooma" video and games. Meets the LAST Sunday of the month beginning **10 a.m., October 29.**

POP-UP CLOTHING DRIVE Drop fall/winter-weight clean clothing for men and women, including winter jackets (no children's), **Sunday, October 29**, in the Reception Room. Please fold the items in bags (rather than hanging). Benefits Savage Sisters in Kensington.

TRUNK OR TREAT CANDY Place donations of wrapped candy for Trunk or Treat in the tubs in the narthex and Fellowship Hall. **The event will be held 3 p.m., Sunday, October 29.**

TRUNK OR TREAT The upper parking lot will be filled with cars/trucks/SUVs, **3 p.m., Sunday, October 29**, decked out for Halloween and treats galore. Plan to bring your kids to this spooky fun event!

SIXTH ANNUAL SOCKTOBER Place new wrapped (original packaging) men's and women's socks (for Savage Sisters) and children's socks (for Chester Eastside) in the Sock Drive containers in the Narthex and near the main office. Sponsored by the Education Council and Mission and Service Committee. **Continues through October 31.**



PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP Share your story and thoughts on how you are living with Parkinson's, **1:30 p.m., November 1**, as part of a group forming at St. John's Episcopal Church, Concord (576 Concord Road, Glen Mills). Each person's story will help support others in your journey to live well. Continues first Wednesdays of the month. Scan the code for more information.

SPROUTS LEARN ABOUT COMMUNION Go on a scavenger hunt throughout the church, **6 p.m., Friday, November 3**, then hear about some of the items you find (baptismal font, communion table, lectern, windows). Learn about the significance of communion, then take it with your parents on All Saints' Sunday (November 5). Dinner included. Open to children grades K-5.

KIDS CAFÉ Kids – meet Pastor Taylor and Miss Lee in the choir room, **11 a.m., Sunday, November 5**, for songs, games and refreshments. Open to kids 4-11.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER Join with Scout Troops 277 and 2019 for Rise Against Hunger, **Sunday, November 5**, to help package 10,000 meals to ship to those in need throughout the world. **Lunch will be available at noon, followed by the pack out starting at 12:30 p.m.** The event is co-sponsored by the Mission and Service Committee and WPC Scouts. Sign up using the poster in the Narthex.

MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS Join Pastor François and Pastor Taylor as they host a series of monthly conversations on various topics. Begin with Pastor Taylor, **11 a.m., Sunday, November 12**, to discuss “Tackling Theodicy: If God is good, why is there evil in the world?” Meets in the Reception Room.

PHILADELPHIA BOYS CHOIR The choir, with our own Carter Zeszut, will perform **3 p.m., Sunday, November 13**, at Springfield High School. Tickets will be available at the door.

BOOKLOOK Discuss “The Midnight Library,” **7:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 15**, the #1 New York Times which tells the story of a woman faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one. She must search within herself to decide what is truly fulfilling in life and what makes it worth living. Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is \$11.50



HANDEL'S MESSIAH Enjoy a performance, **3 p.m., Sunday, December 10**, of Part I and “Hallelujah Chorus” with professional soloists and a choir of local singers. The event is part of Concerts for a Cause and will benefit Chester Eastside. Like to sing in the choir? Use the QR code for details.

BLOOD DRIVE Thank you! We had excellent results from our Red Cross blood drive last Wednesday, October 15th. Wallingford Presbyterian collected 52 pints of blood, helping up to 156 hospital patients! We have already scheduled our next drive for **March 13, 2024**, continuing our 8 decade relationship with the Red Cross’ life saving program.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UP Kids – dress in costumes, perform and sing songs to tell the story of Jesus’ birth! Practices will be after church – **Sundays, Nov. 19 and 26, Dec. 3 and 10**; the pageant will be presented during the **Sunday, Dec. 17** service. Scan the QR code to register.



WATCH THIS SPACE! Halloween and Thanksgiving are still front of mind, but steel yourself: Christmas is coming! Christmas Pageant sign-ups are live, and soon we’ll have news



of Angel Tree, Christ Market and Advent Open House. It’s never too early to get ready - Christmas is only 57 days away!

STAFF & HOURS

- REV. FRANÇOIS LACROIX, PASTOR
Tuesday, 11:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday, 10:00am-2:00pm
- REV. TAYLOR CORNELIUS, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
Monday, 11:00am-4:430pm
Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm
- LEE HAGON-KERR, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
- NATHAN GIBSON, CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR
Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm
- LESLIE KROWCHENKO, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
 - CHRISTINE DARR, CLERK OF SESSION
- ED MATTOTE AND TODD DARR, CO-TREASURERS
 - MICHELLE HALL, FINANCIAL SECRETARY

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
110 E. BROOKHAVEN RD, WALLINGFORD, PENNSYLVANIA 19086
WEBSITE: www.wallingfordpres.org PHONE: 610-566-1644
EMAIL: OFFICE@WALLINGFORDPRES.ORG