

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 26TH, 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, and hope that you'll feel right at home.



Please take a moment to silence your cell phone.

Face Masks are optional for all activities 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.

<u>Visitors</u> are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in. <u>WPC Directory</u> Our church uses the online directory feature of Planning Center. Find it online or on the Church Center app. Contact the church office with questions. <u>WPC Happenings</u> Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.

Visual Worship Schedules are available upon request.

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

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



Activity Packets are available for children to use during worship.

Fidget Toys for children (and adults) are available at the Narthex entrance.

Gluten Free Cookies are labeled and available during coffee hour.

191 <u>Communion</u> is served the first Sunday of the month.

WPC uses bread that is gluten free and made without tree nuts or peanuts.

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

STAFF & HOURS

PASTOR: Rev. François Lacroix

- Tuesday, 11:00am-4:00pm
- Wednesday, 10:00am-2:00pm Associate Pastor: Rev. Taylor Cornelius
- Monday, 11:00am-4.430pm
- Thursday, 10:00am-1:00pm DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon-Kerr CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson
- Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm
 COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko
 CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr
 CO-TREASURERS: Ed Mattote and Todd Darr
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

A community where all who seek God are Welcome... A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

At the conclusion of the Christian year, the church gives thanks and praise for the sovereignty of Christ, who is Lord of all creation and is coming again in glory. On this day, as on every day, we give honor and glory to the Lord of heaven and earth and watch and pray for the coming of God's realm of righteousness, justice, and peace. Above all earthly powers, the crucified and risen Lord alone claims our adoration and allegiance. We proclaim that Jesus Christ is first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega. Christ the King Sunday is celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year, a week before the season of Advent begins.

GATHERING

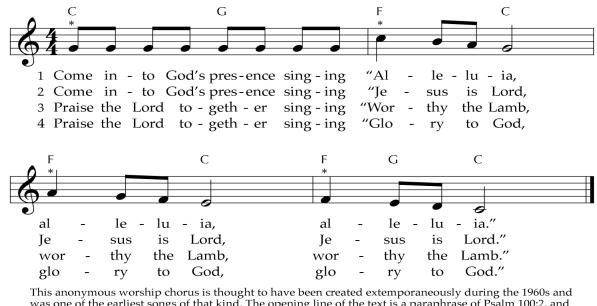
WELCOME, RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!

Christ will reign for ever and ever!

RESPONSIVE HYMN #413 - Come into God's Presence (verse 1)



was one of the earliest songs of that kind. The opening line of the text is a paraphrase of Psalm 100:2, and the very act of singing this song fulfills that verse's invitation.

TEXT and MUSIC: Anon.

COME INTO HIS PRESENCE 8.4.4.4

The Lord is robed in majesty and girded in strength.

Christ will reign for ever and ever! (verse 2)

God has established the world, and God's realm will never be shaken.

Christ will reign for ever and ever! (verse 3)

God will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Christ will reign for ever and ever! (verse 4)

The kingdom of this world has become the kin-dom of our Lord

Christ will reign for ever and ever! (verse 1)

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, Judge of the nations: We confess that we have not seen your face among our neighbors in need.

We have not shared our food with the hungry; we have not offered clothes to the destitute or shelter to the homeless. We have not welcomed the stranger, nor have we visited prisoners. We have not paid attention to these, your sisters and brothers, and in our neglect we have failed to serve you.

(Silent Confession)

Lord, forgive us;

Open our eyes to recognize your beloved family and give us the blessing of sincere repentance that we may know the joy of eternal life with you and all the saints in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

However long we wander, however far we stray, God's steadfast love endures forever. Sisters and brothers, siblings in the Risen Christ, be assured: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. We give thanks to the Lord; God's steadfast love endures forever.

*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.

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 PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION	O Lord Thou Art My God and King	E. Broughton	
SCRIPTURE READING	Ephesians 1:15-21	NRSV NT 191	

Sermon

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

The One who holds the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains holds you in strong hands and wraps you in compassionate arms. The One who reigns above all power and dominion longs to walk with you.

We invite you to join us as together we discover the hope to which this One is calling

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY Now Thank We All Our God arr. Michael Rosewall Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today. Oh, may this bounteous God through all our lives be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all harm in this world and the next. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven, the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore!



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

Holy God, use us, and these gifts, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and honor your presence in all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

PASTORAL PRAYER, INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Through Jesus Christ, God has shown us the sovereignty of divine love in compassion for the least, the lost, and the lonely. Therefore, we pray, saying, Compassionate Lord, **receive our prayer.**

... For the poor, the benevolent, and the hard-of-heart, Compassionate Lord, **receive our prayer.**

For the stranger, for those who minister to them, and for those who would refuse them, Compassionate Lord, **receive our prayer.**

. . .

For the sick and those in distress, for those who care for them and those who are afraid to offer fellowship to them,

Compassionate Lord, receive our 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.

*CLOSING HYMN #363 Rejoice, the Lord Is King DARWALL'S 148TH

*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 Shirley Rudd, and all who assisted with the worship service this morning. This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Anthony Tolomeo In loving memory of Angela Tolomeo



Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

Ephesians 1:15-21

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Christmas Poinsettias

A distinctive way to decorate the sanctuary for the holiday season



In honor or memory of a loved one or as a free will gift

6-inch pots with 6-9 blooms

Color options – red or white

Cost – \$9 per pot

Place this form in the offering plate, return to the office or order through Planning Center

Order Deadline – Monday, December 11

 Name	
Phone	Email
# of Red Poinsettias x \$9	# White Poinsettias x \$9
Free Will Gift	Total \$
Dedication: In Honor/In Memory of (cir	cle one)

Make check payable to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Memo line – Christmas Poinsettias



2023 Giving Tree and Angel Tree

Giving Tree – gift certificates and wrapped toys to families at Chester Eastside, City Team and within the Wallingford Swarthmore School District

Angel Tree (through Prison Fellowship) – children of incarcerated parents receive a gift with a note from the parent expressing their love, helping to build a bond and learn about the love God has for them

Chester Eastside, City Team and WSSD families \$25 Walmart and Target cards

Toy Suggestions

Barbies of color and accessories (clothes, cars, etc.)
Baby dolls of color and accessories (strollers, clothes, bottles, etc.)
Full-size dolls (18") Racetrack, Matchbox cars Remote control cars Arts and crafts kits Infant/toddler toys (6, 12, 18 and 24 months)

Angel Tree – specific gift suggestions for each child

Look for the Giving Trees in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall

Tags will be available Sundays November 19, November 26 and December 3 Return unwrapped gifts and gift cards before or by December 10

Thank you for your continued generosity and support Carol Freidinger Don Killian Cathy Kilpatrick Tracy Moran

Wallingford Presbyterian Church ChristMarket 2023



WPC supports several charitable groups throughout the year, missions near and far, such as **Chester Eastside** (https://ceichester.org/), **The America Team for Displaced Eritreans** (https://eritreanrefugees.org/), and **New Life Center** (https:// newlifecenterfoundation.org).

You may choose specific groups or (NEW) choose to give a lump sum to be distributed among all of the groups. We will still have printed cards available should you want to send them to loved ones informing them that you have contributed in their honor as an alternative gift.

We are sorting these as International, National, and Local efforts. Website URLs are included so you can learn more and we will speak about these organizations leading up to Advent so we can be better informed.

Physical order forms available soon!

INTERNATIONAL:

Malala Fund https://malala.org/

Malala Fund's Education Champion Network supports the work of educators and advocates and helps bolster girls' secondary education around the world.

Heifer International https://www.heifer.org/

Works In 19 countries with local farmers and business owners. Support farmers and their communities as they mobilize and envision their futures, provide training so they can improve the quantity and quality of the goods they produce, and connections to market to increase sales and incomes.

The America Team for Displaced Eritreans www.EritreanRefugees.org

Assisting Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers around the world who have fled acute oppression in their homeland in Northeast Africa.

New Life Center https://newlifecenterfoundation.org/

Based in Thailand, tribal women who are survivors of abuse and exploitation receive educational and residential services, gaining skills to become self-sufficient.

NATIONAL:

4 Paws for Ability https://www.4pawsforability.org/

Works to enrich the lives of children and veterans with disabilities by breeding, training and placing life-changing service dogs.

Arbor Day Foundation https://www.arborday.org

Facilitating trees to fight climate issues. Will plant 500 million trees by 2027 where most. Has a network of global partners, a science- based approach, and more than 50 years of planting trees.

LOCAL:

Spring Garden Soup Society https://springgardensoupsociety.org/

Provides financial aid to selected Philadelphia institutions which provide food for those in need. For 150 years the Society has been feeding the hungry in Philadelphia.

City Team - Chester cityteam.org

Helping Chester residents through faith-based assistance with homelessness, hunger, poverty and addiction.

Chester Eastside <u>https://ceichester.org</u>

Works to help children and families in Chester by providing access to hunger safety net programs and a safe environment for adult and youth education and exploration.

Crum Creek Watershed Association https://www.crcwatersheds.org/

Supports, encourages and promotes the enjoyment, restoration, conservation, protection and prudent management of the natural resources of the Chester, Ridley, and Crum Creek Watersheds.



ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN Through the ninth week, we have received 76 pledges totaling \$333,716. Pledges will be received through the end of the year using the pledge card, Church Center app or QR code.

BREAKFAST CLUB Students grades 6-12 – take a break from normal worship, **10 a.m., Sunday, November 26**, and share fellowship in the Youth Room. Enjoy breakfast, discussion about the week's "Nooma" video and games.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN DELAWARE COUNTY – WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR? Hear about Delaware County's new Health Department (DCHD), the differences between public health and health care, population health and its effect on our community, **Wednesday, November 29**. The speakers will be Melissa Lyon, MPH, CPH (Director, DCHD) and James E Plummer, DMgt, MBA, MHL (Population Health Administrator). **Potluck supper – 6:30 p.m.; talk – 7:15 p.m.** Sponsored by the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee.

FALL CLEAN-UP Help tidy up our grounds, **9 a.m., Saturday, December 2**. The main task will be raking leaves and we welcome all hands. Please bring your own tools.

CHILD-FRIENDLY COMMUNION SERVICE The children learned about communion in November at Sprouts – now they are invited to receive it during the **Sunday, December 3** service. Sunday School will open after communion.

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE An event for all ages! Start the season, **4:30-6 p.m., Sunday, December 3**, with crafts, carols and a cup of (age-appropriate) cheer.

**Kids – make Advent/Christmas decorations, listen to a holiday story and munch on snacks.
**Adults – chat with (old and new) friends while enjoying a glass of wine or beer (or non-alcoholic beverage) and hors d'oeuvres, learn how to make Moravian stars and peek periodically the Eagles/49ers game on the large screen TV.

**Everyone – end the evening singing holiday songs and carols.

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE APPS Have a family favorite appetizer or snack you'd like to share? Bring it for the nosh table.

WHAT IS ANGEL TREE? It's part of our Giving Tree mission. Angel Tree was started by a formerly incarcerated parent who saw how hard it was for parents like her to reach out to their children from prison to let them know that they were thought about, loved and missed. Prison Fellowship Angel Tree assigned us 10 children in Chester whose parents have asked us to provide a gift in their name. In addition to a gift or gift card, each child receives a note from the parent expressing their love, a Christmas story booklet and the opportunity to receive an age appropriate Bible for the home. It's an opportunity to help build a bond between parent and child and to learn about the love God has for them.



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.

MESSIAH HELPERS Are you available to assist for the Sunday, December 10 Messiah concert? Folks are needed for set-up (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) and welcome/guide/receive donations (beginning 2:30 p.m.). Email Lee (music@wallingfordpres.org) if you can help.

W.O.W. CHRISTMAS DINNER Women of Wallingford - join 6 p.m., Wednesday, December 13, for our annual holiday event. We will provide the main course and beverages – please bring an appetizer, salad, side or dessert.



回燃 品 泡 Voice Lessons For Seniors Learn to read music/practice your skills with Kara Goodrich. Have fun and flex your brain singing new songs and your old favorites. Beginner to experienced welcomed. Scan the QR code more info; email (karaelizabethgoodrich@gmail.com) or call (484-802-6965) her.

RED WAGON WPC supports 3 food pantries – Chester Eastside, LifeWerks & Media Food Bank. Chester Eastside is requesting:

- Pancake mix/syrup
- Oatmeal •
- Peanut butter •
- Canned fruit/applesauce ٠
- Soup (condensed or ready to serve) •
- Tuna/salmon/chicken •
- Sides (mac and cheese) •
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, beans) •
- Dry Pasta/Spaghetti Sauce •
- Canned pasta/chili •

Sunday, November 26

9:30 am- Chancel Choir 10:00 am- Breakfast Club 10:00 am- Worship 11:00 am- Coffee Hour 11:15 am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Monday, November 27 10:00 am- Staff Meeting 10:00 am- Adult Bible Class **Tuesday, November 28** 4:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons 7:00 pm- Ballroom Dancing 7:30 pm- Trustees Wednesday, November 29 9:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner 10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends 3:00 pm- Private Brass Lessons

Wednesday, November 29 (cont.) 3:00 pm- Private Flute Lessons 6:30 pm- Peacemaking & Social Justice 7:00 pm- Valley Voices **Thursday, November 30** 6:30 pm- Bell Choir 7:30 pm- Chancel Choir 7:30 pm- BSA 227/2019 Friday, December 01 Saturday, December 02 9:00 am- WPC Fall Clean-Up Sunday, December 03 9:30 am- Chancel Choir 10:00 am- Worship 11:00 am- Coffee Hour 11:15 am- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 4:30 pm- Advent Open House

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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