



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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.

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

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 questions.

WPC Happenings 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.



An Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents 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.

Communion 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

*Those who are able, please stand.

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



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

"The Cross is the school of love" - St. Maximilian Kolbe

"Christians must lean on the Cross of Christ just as travelers lean on a staff when they begin a long journey" — St. Anthony of Padua

"There will be no crown-bearers in Heaven who were not Cross-bearers on Earth." – Charles Spurgeon

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."
– Galatians 2:20

"Our tendency in the midst of suffering is to turn on God. To get angry and bitter and shake our fist at the sky and say, 'God, you don't know what it's like! You don't understand! You have no idea what I'm going through. You don't have a clue how much this hurts.' The cross is God taking on flesh and blood and saying, 'Me too.'" — Rob Bell

GATHERING

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be;

take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;

Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and calmly every danger brave:

it guides you to abundant life and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Let us worship God!

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalms 22:22-31

THE MESSAGE

*OPENING HYMN #466

Come and Fill Our Hearts

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

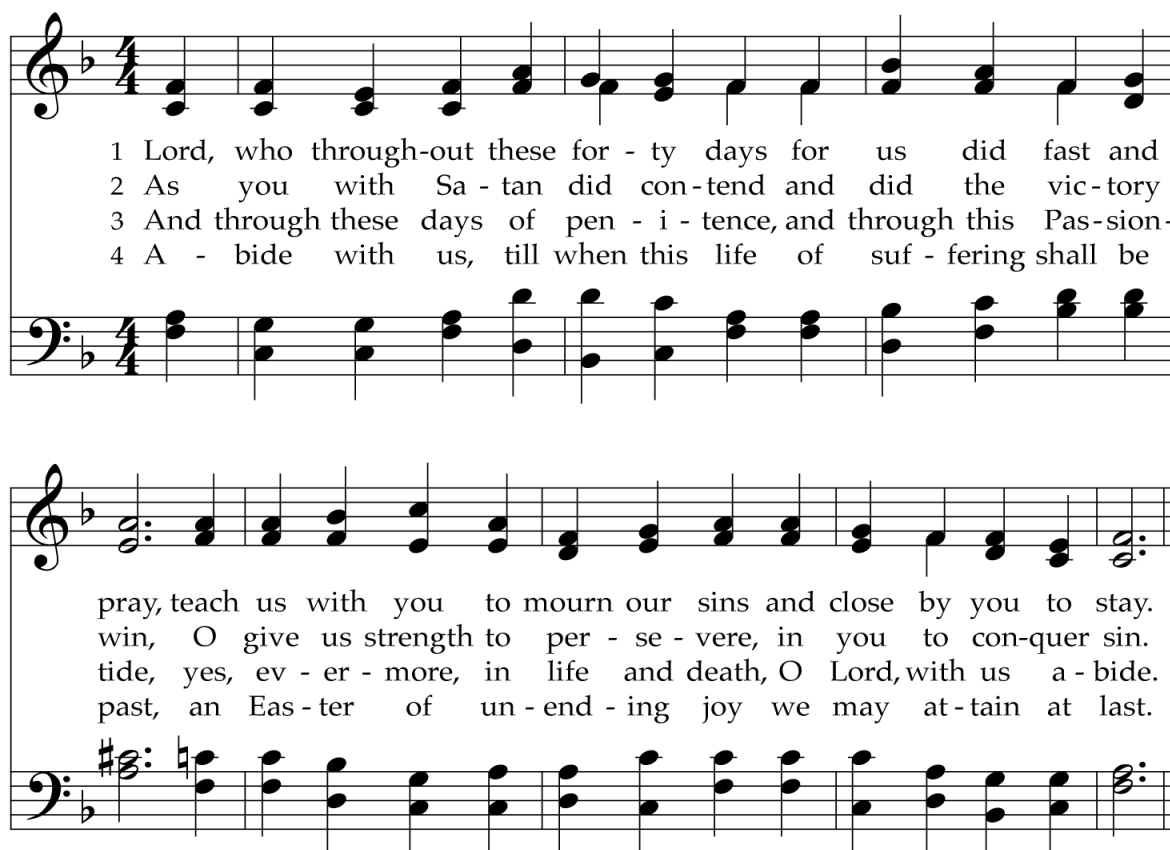
LENTEN LITANY OF CONFESSION

God Almighty – we have failed to serve you faithfully.

Our lives are anything but blameless. We have good intentions, but end up walking away from you if there is even the slightest convenience.... Teach us to repent and follow you.

Hymn #166 verse 1

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days 166



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be

pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas-ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

TEXT: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873, alt.
MUSIC: Day's *Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN
CM

You invite us to see with a new vision, but we continue in our old ways.

You call us to set aside our own desires so that we may embrace *your* desires, but we are stubborn and refuse to let go.....

Hymn #166 verse 2

Lord, prune away anything in our lives that is not from you. Guide us to find our place, directly behind Christ.

Teach us to take up our crosses and follow wherever you lead, we pray.

Hymn #166 verse 3

Help us to see the ways in which we wrong one another,

Make us aware of even the smallest sins, so that we can turn from them into the light of love. Give us hope, even in this season of repentance, that we may look toward the daylight of your redemption.

Hymn #166 verse 4

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia, Amen!

*RESPONSE 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (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

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:31-38

NRSV NT 44

SERMON

ANTHEM

Elijah Rock

arr. J. Hairston

Elijah rock shout, shout! Elijah rock, comin' up, Lord. Elijah! Elijah! Satan's a liar an' a conjur, too, if you don't mind out, he'll conjur you. If I could, I surely would just stand on the rock where Moses stood. Rocka Elijah rock, shout, shout about Elijah, Elijah, Elijah rock!

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

As we walk the journey of Lent together, consider how God is moving in your life. Is it time to make the next step in your faith journey?

If you are attending, is it time for you to be a member?

If you are a member, is it time for you to pledge?

If you are an active member is time for you to volunteer to be part of a council or committee?

God is always calling us to go deeper into our faith, and as we continue throughout the service, take time to reflect on how God might be calling YOU to take the next step – knowing that he lovingly guides us!

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY



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 Lord, we recognize that the greatest gift is the gift of love. May our offerings distribute this love to the world, and may they assist in bringing life where there is pain, and joy where there is sorrow – all for the glory of your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

SENDING

PASTORAL PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN #313

Lord, Make Us More Holy

LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Thank you to Jenny Montague, and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Jenny and Rick Miller,
in loving memory of Moms and Grandmoms.*

Psalm 22:22-31

²²⁻²⁴ Here's the story I'll tell my friends when they come to worship, and punctuate it with Hallelujahs: Shout Hallelujah, you God-worshippers; give glory, you sons of Jacob; adore him, you daughters of Israel. He has never let you down, never looked the other way when you were being kicked around. He has never wandered off to do his own thing; he has been right there, listening. ²⁵⁻²⁶ Here in this great gathering for worship I have discovered this praise-life. And I'll do what I promised right here in front of the God-worshippers. Down-and-outers sit at GOD's table and eat their fill. Everyone on the hunt for God is here, praising him. "Live it up, from head to toe. Don't ever quit!" ²⁷⁻²⁸ From the four corners of the earth people are coming to their senses, are running back to GOD. Long-lost families are falling on their faces before him. GOD has taken charge; from now on he has the last word. ²⁹ All the power-mongers are before him—worshiping! All the poor and powerless, too—worshiping! Along with those who never got it together—worshiping! ³⁰⁻³¹ Our children and their children will get in on this As the word is passed along from parent to child. Babies not yet conceived will hear the good news—that God does what he says.

Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Come and Fill Our Hearts 466

Confitemini Domino

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!

This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

313 Lord, Make Us More Holy



1 Lord, make us more ho - ly; Lord, make us more ho - ly;
 2 Lord, make us more lov - ing; Lord, make us more lov - ing;
 3 Lord, make us more pa - tient; Lord, make us more pa - tient;
 4 Lord, make us more faith - ful; Lord, make us more faith - ful;



Lord, make us more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain:
 Lord, make us more lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain:
 Lord, make us more pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain:
 Lord, make us more faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain:



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.
 lov - ing, lov - ing, lov - ing, un - til we meet a - gain.
 pa - tient, pa - tient, pa - tient, un - til we meet a - gain.
 faith - ful, faith - ful, faith - ful, un - til we meet a - gain.

Like many African American spirituals, this one creates a framework for almost endless expansion beyond the four stanzas given here. This sung prayer is notable as an affirmation of God's active care for the once-gathered community while dispersed and of hope to be reunited.



EASTER PAGEANT REGISTRATION The last day to register is **TODAY**. Practices are after church – Sundays in March (beginning March 3). Use the QR code to register.

EASTER CANDY COLLECTION Beginning Today, Sunday, February 25, drop individually-wrapped candy for Easter Egg-stravaganza in the marked tubs in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall to fill our 3,000+ eggs for the Saturday, March 23 event.

BREAKFAST CLUB Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10 a.m., today, Sunday, February 25**, for breakfast, a discussion about the week's video and games. Open to students grades 6-12.

CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE A romantic cabaret atmosphere and all your favorite love songs, from classic Tony Bennett to beloved Broadway songs to contemporary R&B, **3 p.m., today, Sunday, February 25**. Enjoy listening, dancing and light refreshments, with performers including baritone crooner Billy Baskinger, tenor duo Tyler & Nathan Gibson and R&B diva Sione Brown-Alexander. Suggested donation – \$15, benefitting PFLAG Media, an organization dedicated to supporting, educating and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

YOUTH GROUP Come for Quizzo and a campfire with s'mores, **4:30 p.m., today, Sunday, February 25**. Open to students grades 6-12.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES Mike Meloy will discuss the complexities of federal and state environmental justice initiatives, **Wednesday, February 28**, focusing in particular on the history of issues in Chester, including the decision to build the largest trash to steam plant in the United States within the city. **Potluck starts at 6:30 p.m.; the program, 7:15 p.m.**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The church office will be closed **Friday, March 1** – Nathan is taking a personal day.

SPROUTS SPEND, SAVE, SHARE Kids – use Sprouts “dollars” and see how to SSS, **6 p.m., Friday, March 1**. Dinner included. Open to children grades K-5

EASTER PAGEANT PRACTICE The first practice to assign parts and read and sing through the script, **11:15 a.m., Sunday, March 3**.

BOARD GAME NIGHT Bring your favorite board game to share and play, **Wednesday, March 6**. **Potluck – 6:30 p.m.; games, 7:15 p.m.**

WEATHER ALERT In the event of a potential storm which could affect worship or other church activities, please check our Facebook page or website for updates.

UNDERSTANDING THE LAST THIRD OF LIFE To launch the Aging Series, WPC members Shirley Rudd and Michelle George will delve into its multifaceted aspects, **11:30 a.m., Sunday, March 10**, exploring various stages, types and discernible signs of aging. The dialogue will spotlight ageism – its definition, prevailing research and, most importantly, our collective efforts at WPC to combat it. The session aims to equip you with invaluable insights into not only your personal aging journey but also that of your loved ones. The program, presented as part of WPC’s Abilities Initiative, will be held in the Reception Room.

PRIME TIME February’s snowed-out speakers have been rescheduled for **Tuesday, March 12**. Detectives from Delaware County CID will talk about current trends in fraud and ways to avoid being victimized. **Lunch begins at noon; the talk, 12:30 p.m.**

ROSE VALLEY FOLK VARIETY SHOW Laugh along with your WPC members and friends on the stage and in the audience, **8 p.m., Friday, March 15**. Bring a snack to share (chips, pretzels, wine and beer included) and sit at the table saved for WPC. The cost is \$5. Meet at the Old Mill (doors open at 7 p.m.)



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Sign up to give blood, **2-7 p.m., Wednesday, March 13**. If you are an eligible type O, B- or A- donor, consider making a Power Red donation (donate two units of red blood cells during one donation). To schedule an appointment – scan the QR code or call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767)

BOOKLOOK Discuss *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* by Michael Chabon, a *New York Times* bestseller described as “an excellent, hyperliterate, genre-pantsing detective novel that deserves every inch of its...blockbuster super fame” (New York), **7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 20**. Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is \$5.50.

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

Cereal (kid and whole grain adult favorites)

Broth (beef, bone),

Soups- Condensed (any kind), Chunky: Beef (any combo with potatoes and veggies), Chicken (any with noodles), Sausage (any type), Chowder (New England, corn), Italian Wedding, Minestrone, Lentil.

Crackers (Ritz, Triscuits, Wheat Thins, Nut Thins, graham)

Canned vegetables, stewed tomatoes, tomato paste

Salad dressing (any variety)

Condiments (ketchup, mustard, BBQ sauce)

Household cleaning products (multi-purpose spray/disinfectant, laundry detergent, dish soap, sponges/wipes)

Paper goods (tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins)

Skin care products (body lotion, hand cream, Chapstick/lip gloss)

Feminine hygiene products (tampons, mini-pads, maxi-pads, overnight)

Bladder control products (medium, heavy, long pads)

WPC Week at a Glance	
Sunday, February 25	Wednesday, February 28 (cont.)
09:00 am- Bell Choir	03:30 pm- Brass Lessons
09:30 am- Chancel Choir	05:00 pm- Scout Pack Carnival
10:00 am- Breakfast Club	06:30 pm- Peacemaking & Social Justice
10:00 am- Worship	07:00 pm- Valley Voices
11.00 am- Coffee Hour	Thursday, February 29
03:00 pm- Concert for a Cause	06.30 pm- Bell Choir
04.30 pm- Youth Group: Smores & Quizzo	07.30 pm- Chancel Choir
Monday, February 26	07:30 pm- BSA 2019/277
10:00 am- Adult Bible Class	Friday, March 01 - Church Office Closed
Tuesday, February 27	06:00 pm- Sprouts
04:00 pm- Flute Lessons	Saturday, March 02
07:00 pm- Ballroom Dancing	Sunday, March 03
07:30 pm- Trustees	09:30 am- Chancel Choir
Wednesday, February 28	10:00 am- Worship
09:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	11.00 am- Coffee Hour
10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends	11:00 am- Kids Café
03:00 pm- Flute Lessons	11:15 am- Easter Pageant Rehearsal

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