

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MARCH 17TH, 2024  
FIFTH 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

WELCOME MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!

Today we welcome Rev. Jeni Pedzinski

Jeni first came to WPC in 2011. After serving a year as the church's youth director, she was ordained and commissioned as a missionary to Thailand, where she lived and worked for seven years. In December 2022, Jeni was invited to lead her mission organization's mission engagement team as director of mission mobilization. WPC continues to support Jeni as she serves God in this way and is delighted to welcome her back to share God's word and a ministry update.

### GATHERING

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 33:1-5, 18-22

THE MESSAGE

CALL TO WORSHIP

All who are righteous, shout with joy to our God!

**Let us sing a new song!**

Praise God and give thanks, with organs, with guitars, with all kinds of instruments!

**Play your best with joy!**

Because our Creator's word is right, and everything God does is done for our good.

**Let your faithful love surround us, O God!**

\*OPENING HYMNS #411

God Is Here Today

DIOS ESTA AQUI

HYMN #406

We Are Standing on Holy Ground

HOLY GROUND

HYMN #398

How Very Good and Pleasant

HOW VERY GOOD

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

God of calling,

**You called Abraham and Sarah and gave them the strength they needed to follow you.**

**You also called a people and cared for and nurtured that people so that they could live life in your abundance.**

**You also call us, but sometimes we prefer to close our eyes and cover our ears, turning our backs to your will.**

**Forgive us, O God, and grant us the confidence and the hope that we need to follow when you call. Amen.**

Jesus was delivered to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. God has poured out love upon us, and we have received forgiveness for our sins. We can now live in peace! **Thanks be to God!**

\*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.***

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 11:31-12:4

NRSV OT 9

SERMON

ANTHEM

Always By Our Side

Burrows/McDonald

Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease our prayer shall be, but for strength that we may ever live our lives courageously. Be our strength in times of weakness, in our wand'rings, be our guide; through each danger and endeavor, be always by our side. Not for ever in green pastures do we ask our way to be, but the steep and rugged pathway, may we walk rejoicingly. Be our strength in times of weakness, in our wand'rings, be our guide; through each danger and endeavor, be always by our side. Not for ever by still waters would we idly rest and stay, but would draw the living fountains from the rocks along our way. Be our strength in times of weakness, in our wand'rings, be our guide; through each danger and endeavor, be always by our side.

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

According to the abundant mercy of the Lord, God has put the law of love within us and has written it on our hearts with the promise to be our God as we are God's People.

We who wish to see Jesus have only to look upon our hearts in communion with the hearts of those around us, for Jesus is seen and known here in the community he is gathering to himself.

In these final days of Lent, join us as we journey with Jesus to the cross, that in dying to sin we may be raised in steadfast love and together bear abundant fruit.

To find out about becoming a member of this congregation in support of our mission and ministry please contact Pastor Francois or Pastor Taylor.

### 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

**Generous God, you call us not just to give us the blessing of being called your people, but also to be a blessing for all people on this earth. Give us the wisdom and the courage to be a blessing to this community and to this world. Through these offerings may we be channels of your compassion and healing to others, for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

### PASTORAL PRAYER

## SENDING

### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

### \*CHORAL AMEN #558

Amen

AMEN

### \*SHARING OF PEACE

*Thank you to Roger Demos, and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.  
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by the Sawyer Family,  
In memory of Loved Ones.*

# God Is Here Today

411

## *Dios está aquí*

Capo 2: (D) (A7) (Bm) (D7) (G)  
 E B7 C#m E7 A



God is here to - day; as cer - tain  
*Dios es - tá a - quí, tan cier - to co - mo el*

(A7) (D) (D7) (G)  
 B7 E E7 A



as the air I breathe, as cer - tain  
*ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan cier - to co - mo*

(A7) (D) (A/C#) (Bm) (D/A)  
 B7 E B/D# C#m E/B



as the morn - ing sun that ris - es, as  
*la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan*

(G) (A7) (D)  
 A B7 E



cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.  
*cier - to co - mo que le can - to y me pue - de o - ír.*

Though it is popular throughout Latin America, the conditions of this song's creation have remained obscure. It was once thought to have originated in a Mexican jail but is now known to have been written by an Argentinian who has also lived in the United States and Colombia.

# 406 We Are Standing on Holy Ground

## Holy Ground

G D A D G D Em  
 We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground,  
 D G F#m F#m7 B7  
 and I know that there are an - gels all a -  
 E Gm D A7 D G  
 round; let us praise Je - sus  
 D Em F#m7 G D G  
 now; we are stand - ing in his  
 D Em7 D G D  
 pres - ence on ho - ly ground.

The phrase "holy ground" resonates with the experience of Moses at the burning bush, where he had an encounter with God (Exodus 3:5; also quoted in the martyr Stephen's sermon, Acts 7:33). The reference to angels may recall Jacob's vision (Genesis 28:12-17) or Hebrews 12:22.

# 398 How Very Good and Pleasant

(Psalm 133)

GATHERING

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D)  
 F B $\flat$  F

How ver-y good and pleas-ant when we live in u-ni-ty. It is  
 like pre-cious oil, like fresh morn-ing dew. We  
 gath-er here to-geth-er with our hearts and voic-es raised to  
 God, who's the cen-ter of our u-ni-ty and praise!

(A7) (G7) (D)  
 C7 B $\flat$ 7 F

(D) (G) (F $\sharp$ ) (Bm)  
 F B $\flat$  A Dm

(G) (D) (A7) (D)  
 B $\flat$  F C7 F

This paraphrase draws on Psalm 133, one of the Songs of Ascent sung by pilgrims to Jerusalem. It adapts the original theme of national unity through shared worship on Mount Zion into a celebration of the unity God grants to those who come together in one place for worship.

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Boertje, 1997  
 Text and Music © 1997 Barbara Boertje

HOW VERY GOOD  
 Irregular

# 558 Amen

G G7 Am G A9

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men,  
 a - men, a - men, a -  
 men, a - men, a - men.

G D7 G G7 Am

E Am Ddim Am A9 C C/G G

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Leon Roberts, 1981; arr. Hanan Yaqub, 1998  
 Music © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

AMEN (Roberts)



### **Psalm 33:1-5, 18-22 (The Message)**

<sup>1</sup>Good people, cheer God! Right-living people sound best when praising.

<sup>2</sup>Use guitars to reinforce your Hallelujahs! Play his praise on a grand piano!

<sup>3</sup>Invent your own new song to him; give him a trumpet fanfare.

<sup>4</sup>For God's Word is solid to the core; everything he makes is sound inside and out.

<sup>5</sup>He loves it when everything fits, when his world is in plumb-line true. Earth is drenched in God's affectionate satisfaction.

<sup>18</sup>Watch this: God's eye is on those who respect him, the ones who are looking for his love.

<sup>19</sup>He's ready to come to their rescue in bad times; in lean times he keeps body and soul together.

<sup>20</sup>We're depending on God; he's everything we need.

<sup>21</sup>What's more, our hearts brim with joy since we've taken for our own his holy name.

<sup>22</sup>Love us, God, with all you've got - that's what we're depending on.

### **Genesis 11:31 – 12:4**

<sup>31</sup>Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan; but when they came to Haran, they settled there. <sup>32</sup>The days of Terah were two hundred five years; and Terah died in Haran.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." <sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. OGHS supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People - all working in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. **Continues through Sunday, March 31.**



**BEYOND THE TABLE** Join COSA for a Zoom discussion for National Nutrition Month, **11 a.m., Wednesday, March 20**, showcasing the importance of an overall healthful lifestyle, healthful food choices and habits for optimum health and wellbeing. Use the QR code for more info and to register.

**EASTER EGG STUFFING** Like to stuff eggs? Help fill the 3,000+ orbs for the Easter Egg-stravaganza, **4 p.m., Wednesday, March 20**. Can't make it to the church - we'll bring the eggs and candy to you. Call Walt Kaminski (610-334-2025) for details.

**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 superfame”, **7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 20**.



**FAITH, JUSTICE AND DEMOCRACY** A Zoom discussion hosted by PC(USA), **noon, Thursday, March 21**, will delve into the issues shaping the landscape of the 2024 US Presidential Election. The panelists will explore the role of a faithful voice in election participation, clarify the rights of voters and address the pressing equity and access challenges within the framework of American Democracy. Use the QR code to register.

**PALM CROSSES** Help make palm crosses, **Saturday, March 23**, to distribute on Palm Sunday. No experience necessary – lessons on the spot! Join at **9 a.m. for continental breakfast; 9:45 a.m. to make crosses**. Meet in the Reception Room.

**HIDE EASTER EGGS** Helpers of all ages needed to hide eggs, **9 a.m., Saturday, March 23**. Cute bunny ears, yummy donuts just for helpers!

**EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA** Kids – hunt for the 3,000+ eggs hidden around our grounds, **10 a.m., Saturday, March 23**. Start with a short program by Pastor Taylor, then divide into age groups to seek the elusive, candy-filled orbs. Photo ops with the Easter bunny. Rain or shine! Open to children ages 0-11.

**BREAKFAST CLUB** Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10 a.m., Sunday, March 24**, for breakfast, a discussion about the week’s video and games. Open to students grades 6-12.

**EASTER PAGEANT DRESS REHEARSAL** Meet in the Sanctuary, **11:15 a.m., Sunday, March 24**, for the dress rehearsal.


**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** Presbyterians believe membership in the local congregation is a commitment made by every individual old enough to confess their faith in Jesus Christ and share in the fellowship, work and witness of the congregation. Membership is different from baptism or simply attending worship services. The sacrament of baptism unites us with Jesus Christ and makes us members of God's family, the church, but not the local congregation. Attending regularly allows you to see what WPC is like and how we try to follow the teachings of Jesus. Membership at WPC is an opportunity and a commitment to share your time and talent with others while exploring and learning more about your faith in the context of this congregation.


The class, **11:30 a.m., Sunday, March 24**, will offer a chance to hear more about our church and its mission and ask questions. Meet in the Reception Room.

**EASTER HAMS** Have a ham you won't be cooking? Donate it to the Deacons. Mark it "Deacons" and put in the church refrigerator. **Last day to donate – Wednesday, March 27.**

**PAPER SHREDDING EVENT** Reformation Lutheran Church, 102 West Rose Tree Road, Media, is hosting a paper shredding event, **9-11 a.m., Saturday, April 6**. It is free and open to the public and everything shredded will be recycled.

**HISTORY OF WPC WALKING TOUR** Ever wonder how our church began? Church historian Roger Demos will conduct a walking tour, **11:30 a.m., Sunday, April 7**, to see where the church building started and how and why it has grown and changed over the last 144 years. Learn about the way the chapel built on the corner of Brookhaven and Avondale roads became the Wallingford Presbyterian Church of today.

 **PROGRESSIVE DINNER** Appetizers in one location, dinner in another, desserts in a third – a fun way to get to know or reconnect with other WPC adults, **5-9 p.m., Saturday, April 13**. Each person will be assigned an app, side dish or dessert to compliment the meal and asked to contribute \$10 to offset the costs. **Register by 11 a.m., Sunday, April 7** using the Church Center app, QR code or sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Interested in childcare at the church or have questions? Contact Chris Darr or Lisé Meloy.

 **SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES CAREGIVER ACADEMY** Educational and informative programs for those fulfilling the role as family caregivers beginning **Tuesday, April 9**. The sessions are free of charge and held at Good Neighbor Senior Center, 1085 Hook Road, Sharon Hill. Use the QR code for more information.

**NAPKINS** Have any size decorative napkins (cocktail or luncheon, open or unopened packages) you aren't using? Please leave them in the kitchen for coffee hour.

<b>WPC Week at a Glance</b>	
<b>Sunday, March 17</b>	<b>Thursday, March 21</b>
09:30 am- Chancel Choir	06.30 pm- Bell Choir
10:00 am- Worship	07.30 pm- Chancel Choir
11.00 am- Coffee Hour	07:30 pm- BSA 2019/277
11:00 am- Wallingford Winds	<b>Friday, March 22</b>
11:15 am- Easter Pageant Rehearsal	05:30 pm- BSA 228
<b>Monday, March 18</b>	<b>Saturday, March 23</b>
10:00 am- Adult Bible Class	09:00 am- Egg Hiding
07:30 pm- Education Council	10:00 am- Easter Egg-Stravaganza
<b>Tuesday, March 19</b>	02:00 pm- Eagle Scout Court of Honor
04:00 pm- Flute Lessons	<b>Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday</b>
07:30 pm- Deacons	09:30 am- Chancel Choir
<b>Wednesday, March 20</b>	10:00 am- Breakfast Club
09:00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	10:00 am- Worship
10:00 am- Fellowship of Friends	11.00 am- Coffee Hour
03:00 pm- Flute Lessons	11:00 am- Wallingford Winds
03:30 pm- Brass Lessons	11:15 am- Easter Pageant Rehearsal
04:00 pm- Egg Stuffing	11:30 am- New Members Class
07:00 pm- Valley Voices	
07:30 pm- BookLook	

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