

# WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH JUNE 16TH, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

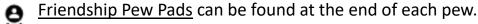
### **Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church**

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.





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.

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

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

Mrs. 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

"There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice." — John Calvin

#### **GATHERING**

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP
This is the day the LORD has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
With joy we worship.
Giving thanks to God.
Let us worship God.

OPENING SCRIPTURE Genesis 3:8-15 NRSV OT 3

<sup>8</sup>They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

**OPENING PRAYER** 

\*OPENING HYMN #409

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

#### TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward at this time. After the lesson, children grades K-5 are invited to Sunday School in the Reception Room, or to stay with us in worship. The Nursery is open downstairs to children between 18 months and 4 years old for the duration of worship. If this is your child's first time going to Sunday School or the Nursery, please accompany them so that we may register your child.

(Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but among all who seek liberation and freedom from oppression.)

Juneteenth Day (June 19th of every year) marks Major General Gordon Granger's announcement of the abolition of slavery in Galveston, Texas on June 19th, 1865. His arrival came two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation, but was big news to those still enslaved in the state. However, freedom has never been a straight forward process. For many, proclamations and amendments were simply words.

Practices like sharecropping, lynching, and targeted law enforcement allowed the peculiar institution to continue on in many forms well past the ratification of the 13th Amendment. It has taken many years of social and intellectual activism by major figures like Octavius V. Catto , James W.C. Pennington (both ordained Presbyterian ministers), W.E.B. Du Bois, and so many more to further the evolution of what it means to be free in the United States. Juneteenth is a way to celebrate, not just emancipation, but the many battles that have been won while also reminding us that there are yet many to fight.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and nurturing God, in the words of scripture and the rituals of community, we know your desire for us.

You yearn for us to make a home in the shelter of your love, but we often hide from you, resist and push you away.

We find ourselves in soul-less places, merely existing in the chaos of our scattered lives.

In still moments, when we become aware of our deepest selves again, we come to know our own longings to be enfolded in the wings of your love.

You birthed us from the heart of your imagination and sustain us with your constant presence.

Surround us now as we pray and draw near to you.

(Silent reflection)

Hear our prayer. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sisters and brothers, siblings in the risen Lord, hear this good news: Do not lose heart. We are being renewed day by day through the grace of Christ extended to us.

#### 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.

#### \*RESPONSE

People of God, body of Christ, what shall we do in response to God's forgiveness?

As God's own people we will be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven us. And, above everything else we will be loving and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for us. Amen.

#### **WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**EPISTLE READING** 

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

NRSV NT 181

<sup>6</sup>So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— <sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. <sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GOSPEL READING Mark 4:26-34 NRSV NT 38

<sup>26</sup>He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." <sup>30</sup>He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." <sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

**SERMON** 

#### **MISSION AND MINISTRY**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Whoever does the will of God is welcomed into the family of Jesus Christ. Even when you turn from God, God still waits for you. If you long to be more faithful, to be part of the family of Jesus or to return to the fold, come. Christ waits with open arms.

If you would like to become a member of this congregation or to find out more about WPC please reach out to Pastor Taylor or Pastor Francois.

We are holding a class for anyone interested in becoming a member of the church next Sunday, June 23rd in the reception room after coffee hour.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** 

Faith of Our Fathers

H. Hemy, arr. G. Hazard



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 THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Holy God, your love overflows in the gift of your Spirit. Bless these gifts that we offer that they may spread your blessing in a world of hurt and need; in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

\*BENEDICTION AND PEACE

Thank you to Ver Picher, and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.

This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Julie Winton,

in loving memory of Elizabeth M. Burrow.

## Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.



Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.





This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

TEXT: Doris Akers, 1953

MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; arr. Richard Smallwood

Text and Music © 1953, ren. Doris Akers (admin. Chappell & Co., Inc./Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)



**VACATION BIBLE CAMP** WPC members and friends – register your children now for a fun week at VBC! This year's theme is Scuba - Dive into Friendship with God, featuring fun, faith-filled programming; storytelling, games, crafts, fellowship; end-of-week celebration and mission (Red Wagon). Use the QR code to register.

Held 6-7:30pm, Monday, July 8 – Friday, July 12. Open to kids ages 4-11.

The cost is \$15/child; \$20/family.

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** Join with Pastor François **11:30 a.m., Sunday, June 23**, for a chance to hear more about our church and its mission and ask questions. Meet in the Reception Room.



ROSE TREE PARK SUMMER FESTIVAL The Rose Tree Summer Festival, free concerts featuring all types of entertainment, runs 7:30pm, Wednesday-Sunday, June 12-4 August 11. This year will also include three special morning concerts for children, beginning 10:00am, June 14, June 27 and July 3. Use the QR code for more info.

PICK-UP CHOIR Meet in the choir room, 9:30am, Sunday, June 30, to rehearse an easy four-part hymn, then perform it for worship. All are welcome! Sings again Sunday, July 28 and August 25.

**BOOKLOOK** Discuss City of Thieves by David Benioff, "by turns insightful and funny, thrilling and terrifying, the New York Times bestseller is a gripping, cinematic World War II adventure and an intimate coming-of-age story with an utterly contemporary feel for how boys become men." (Amazon), **7:30pm, Wednesday, July 17**. Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$6.



CONTAINER WATERING Pick a week from mid-May to mid-September to water the containers at the Narthex doors. It just takes 10 minutes, twice a week (unless there is rain). Use the Church Center app or the QR code.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS** Summer Sunday School runs June 2 – September 1 and teachers are still needed for a few dates:



Grades K-5 (VeggieTales)



Nursery (18 month – pre-K)

Use the QR code to volunteer or sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

**VBC SHEPHERDS** Tweens and teens – volunteer with VBC (6-7:30pm, July 8-12) by shepherding the classes from station to station, helping with crafts and games. . . . Contact Pastor Taylor to volunteer.

**CONGRATS LIZ** Liz Braden, who served as WPC's Director of Music for nearly 20 years, has been named the Director of Music at Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church. She is no stranger to the church, as she filled in for current music director Tom Faracco during Sunday worship. Liz will continue as the Chorus Master at Opera Philadelphia and conducting the Penn Chorale, an SATB chorus at the University of Pennsylvania. She begins at Old Pine on June 23.



**ELECTRONIC SIGN SUPPORT** Email Maureen Feyes, Nether Providence zoning officer and assistant township manager, supporting WPC's proposed electronic sign in advance of the June 17 zoning hearing. Let neighbors know WPC is an active part of the community. Use the QR code for more information.

WPC Week at a Glance	
Sunday, June 16	Wednesday, June 19 (cont.)
10.00 am- Worship	03.00 pm- Flute Lessons
11.00 am- Coffee Hour	03.30 pm- Brass Lessons
Monday, June 17	Thursday, June 20
07.30 pm- Zoning Board Hearing	Friday, June 21
Tuesday, June 18	Saturday, June 22
04.00 pm- Flute Lessons	Sunday, June 23
07.30 pm- Deacons	10.00 am- Worship
Wednesday, June 19 - Juneteenth	11.00 am- Coffee Hour
09.00 am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	11.30 am- New Members Class

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