



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2024
SEVENTEENTH 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.



Friendship Pew Pads can be found in each row.

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.



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 OF MEDITATION

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. – Isaiah 53:5

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified.

– 1 Corinthians 1: 18-23a

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The world doesn't want you here this morning.

The world tells us that all is well, and we can fix ourselves!

But we proclaim Christ crucified.

The world proclaims that goodness and beauty is out there,
we just need to chase it more!

But we proclaim Christ crucified.

The world lifts up and glorifies all the things we should worship other than God –
money, power, status, reputation...

But we proclaim Christ crucified.

The world tries to convince us that we can finally be whole - all we have to do is buy the next great thing to solve our problem. The world markets to us the product of our own selves, thinking that will finally fulfill us!

But we proclaim Christ crucified.

So friends, which is it? Which is it for you? We can buy what the world is trying to sell us, and chase and endless conveyor belt of things and idols to fill the emptiness, or we can turn to the only one who can. Which will it be for us this day?

We proclaim Christ crucified.

Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN #634

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

CALL TO CONFESSION

HYMN OF CONFESSION #442 Just as I Am, without One Plea WOODWORTH
Holy Lord, as we approach you and your holiness, we see how far we have fallen from you. We see our sin, our pride, our grudges and hate lingering in our hearts. The hurt we've caused others, the times we've lashed out, and the words of ill-will we have uttered. All of this is on full display in the light of your holiness.

Forgive us we pray.

Verse 1

God of light, only you can bring us out of the miry pit which we have dug for ourselves. In your mercy, open unto us light for our darkness, compassion for our apathy, and hope for our despair.

Forgive us we pray.

Verse 2

Lord, we do not deserve your grace and forgiveness. All we have to offer is the broken and beautiful mess of our lives, so we lay it down before your throne, giving all that we are to you.

Forgive us we pray.

Verse 3

We keep our lives hidden from you to mask our guilt, and we run from you – all the while forgetting that you are the God who accepts the prodigal home with open arms. We come to you, warts and all, trusting in your gracious mercy.

Forgive us we pray.

Verse 4

Amen.

TIME OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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.

442 Just as I Am, without One Plea

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

come to thee,
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
 I be - lieve,
 thine a - lone,

SPANISH

1 *Tal como soy de pecador,
 sin más confianza que tu amor;
 a tu llamada vengo a ti,
 ¡Cordero de Dios, heme aquí!*

KOREAN

1 큰-죄에 빠-진 날 위해
 주보-혈 흘려주시고
 또-나를 오-라 하시니-
 주께로 거-저 갑니다

When illness limited her involvement in a bustling household, the author wrote this hymn that helped her both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth grounded in Christ's self-giving. Its simple, direct, and deeply felt language has made it a source of comfort to many.

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.

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

John 3:13-16

NRSV NT 94

ANTHEM

Day By Day

K. Lee Scott

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day. Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus, for all the benefits which thou hast won for us; for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for us, O merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother. Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 3:10-25a

NRSV NT 154

SERMON

HYMN OF RESPONSE #438

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

TOPLADY

MISSION AND MINISTRY

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

arr. G. Sewell



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**

God of glory, we ask that you receive these humble gifts and use them according to your will, so that they might increase your Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Bless our hands and feet as we go from this place, that they too might be offerings to you to do your will, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN #839**

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

ASSURANCE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*Thank you to Noelle Coker, and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Ken and Polly Sacco Ezzell,
in celebration of their wedding anniversary.*

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory: great things he has done!

438 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de-mands.
 3 Noth-ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
 4 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,

Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound-ed side which flowed
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 na - ked, come to thee for dress, help-less, look to thee for grace;
 when I soar to worlds un-known, see thee on thy judg-ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.
 all for sin could not a - tone. Thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foul, I to the foun-tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Though scholars discredit the story that this hymn was written when the author found shelter under a large rock during a thunderstorm, the popular appeal of that conjecture perhaps lies in the energy of this plea and the vividness of its imagery drawn from many biblical sources.

TEXT: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776, alt.
 MUSIC: Thomas Hastings, 1830, alt.

TOPLADY
 7.7.7.7.7.7

John 3:13-16

¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Romans 3:10-25a

¹⁰as it is written: “There is no one who is righteous, not even one; ¹¹there is no one who has understanding; there is no one who seeks God. ¹²All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; there is no one who shows kindness; there is not even one.” ¹³“Their throats are opened graves; they use their tongues to deceive.” “The venom of vipers is under their lips.” ¹⁴“Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.” ¹⁵“Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ruin and misery are in their paths, ¹⁷and the way of peace they have not known.” ¹⁸“There is no fear of God before their eyes.” ¹⁹Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith.

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!



1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,



pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain


This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

Sometimes this prolific 19th-century hymnwriter wrote texts for others to set, and sometimes she created words for tunes others had composed. This text was of the second kind, and the resulting close fit between words and music has made them both popular and inseparable.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It contains four measures of music: a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a whole rest, a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), and a half note chord (F#, C#, G#). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. It contains four measures: a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a whole rest, a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), and a half note chord (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: "all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my".

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

The second system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It contains four measures of music: a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), and a half note chord (F#, C#, G#). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. It contains four measures: a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), a half note chord (F#, C#, G#), and a half note chord (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: "song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.".

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING Fish banks will be in each Sunday School room for children to bring an offering. For the fall, the money will benefit Giving Tree/Angel Tree (Christmas support for Chester Eastside and City Team/local families and children of incarcerated parents).

PONY RIDES Kids – invite your friends to Sunday School and to stay for a ride around the parking lot, **11:15am-12:15pm, today, Sunday, September 15**. The rides will be provided by Pony World Adventure. Weight limit – 80 lbs. The rain date is Sunday, September 22.

WALK WITH EASE WPC will host Walk with Ease, developed by the Arthritis Foundation for people 60+ to safely make physical activity part of your everyday life and improve overall health. The program **begins 9am, Wednesday, September 18** and continues Friday, Sept. 27 and Wednesdays, Oct. 2, 9, 16 and 23.



<- Use this QR code for more info.

Use this QR code to register ->



BOOKLOOK Discuss To Offer Compassion – A History of the Clergy Consultation Service on Abortion by Doris Andrea Dirks and Patricia A. Reif, **7:30pm, Wednesday, September 18**. The book is “a detailed history of this unique and largely forgotten movement, which by 1973, when the Roe v. Wade court decision made abortion legal nationwide, had referred hundreds of thousands of women for safe abortions without a single fatality, become a medical consumer advocacy group and opened its own clinic in New York City.” (Amazon). Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$14.

SENIOR EXPO Health screenings; assistance with financial planning, obtaining a senior Septa Key card and navigating other local, state and federal issues will be available at the Senior Expo, **11am-1pm, Thursday, September 19**. The event will be held at the Brookhaven Municipal Center (2 Cambridge Road). Call 610-534-6880 to register.

ADVOCATING FOR YOURSELF IN THE HEALTHCARE ARENA WPC member Erin Vaccone, BSN and RN, will share valuable insights on effectively navigating the healthcare system, **11:30am, Sunday, September 22**. Key topics include: Importance of preventative care: vaccines, screenings and lab tests, Communicating effectively, Benefits of taking a family member or caregiver to medical appointments, Organizing health data, Understanding follow-up care, How nursing homes manage patient care and family communication, Accessing medical results through online portals and involving family members
Join us for an informative session as part of the Abilities Initiative’s Aging series.



FUSE COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS Come together for a meal and discussion with Ken Park and Laura Boyce of the Nether Providence Police Accountability Committee, **6:30pm, Tuesday, September 24**. The program will be held at N8rds Family Kitchen (301 Edgmont Avenue, Chester).

Use the QR code for more info and to register.

PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE: BANNED BOOKS Join the conversation, **Wednesday, September 25**, about the increase in attempts to ban books in conjunction with the American Library Association's annual Banned Books Week, which works to stimulate discussions and bring readers together to support the freedom to read. A local high school librarian will answer questions on the who, what and why books are banned and effective ways to respond. **The potluck supper begins at 6:30pm; talk, 7:15pm.**

BREAKFAST CLUB Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10 am, Sunday, September 29**, for breakfast, a discussion about the week's video and games. Open to students grades 6-12. Meets last Sunday of the month.

YOUTH GROUP URBAN AIR Meet at Urban Air Adventure Park (1260 East Woodland Avenue, Springfield), **4:30pm, Sunday, September 29**, for trampoline fun. Open to youth grades 6-12. Watch for the link to register.

SOCKTOBER Bring new, wrapped (original packaging) men's, women's and children's socks for our seventh annual Soctober, beginning **Sunday, October 6**. Look for the Sock Drive containers in the Narthex and near the main office. Adult socks benefit Savage Sisters; kids' socks benefit Chester Eastside. Continues through Sunday, October 27.



FALL PREVENTION Are you concerned about falling? A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. Held at Brookhaven Municipal Building (2 Cambridge Road), **9:30-11:30am, Thursdays beginning October 3**. Use the QR code for more information and to register.



CONFIRMATION WPC will be offering Confirmation Class this year for all those who wish to become members of the church. It is a time when students can grow in their faith, explore what it means to be a Christian and have the opportunity to join WPC as an official member! Lessons will be held monthly October-May, typically over a meal after church. Open to all high school students – use the QR for more info .

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| -Pancake mix/syrup | -Hot cereals (oatmeal, Cream of Wheat) |
| -Dry breakfast cereal | -Peanut butter/jelly |
| -Canned meats (chicken) | -Canned fish (tuna, salmon, mackerel) |
| -Canned vegetables | -Canned soup (condensed, ready to serve) |
| -Dried beans | -Dry pasta/pasta sauce |
| -Canned pasta/chili | -Boxed mac & cheese/side dishes |
| -Stuffing/rice/mashed potatoes | -Salad dressing |
| -Packaged cookies and snacks | -Pampers/pull-ups /baby wipes |
| -Adult wipes | -Water |

WPC Week at a Glance	
Sunday, September 15	Wednesday, September 18 (cont.)
09.30am- Chancel Choir	03.00pm- Flute Lessons
10.00am- Worship	03.30pm- Brass Lessons
11.00am- Coffee Hour	05.00pm- WCNS Chili Cook Off
11.15am- Pony Rides	07.00pm- BookLook
Monday, September 16	07.30pm- Valley Voices
10.00am- Adult Bible Study	Thursday, September 19
10.00am- Staff Meeting	06.30pm- Bell Choir
07.00pm- Sanctuary Committee	07.30pm- Chancel Choir
07.00pm- WPC Connections	07.30pm- BSA 277/2019
Tuesday, September 17	Friday, September 20
04.00pm- Flute Lessons	Saturday, September 21
07.00pm- Ballroom Dancing	Sunday, September 22
07.30pm- Deacons	09.30am- Chancel Choir
Wednesday, September 18	10.00am- Worship
09.00am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	11.00am- Coffee Hour
09.00am- Walking with Ease	11.30am- Abilities Initiative Presentation

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