

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2024  
EIGHTEENTH 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

## GATHERING

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Upon this gathering of your people,

**Pour out your Spirit, O Lord.**

Be near to us and speak to us,

**And we will proclaim your glory.**

Give us eyes to see you and ears to hear you

**Let us worship God!**

OPENING PRAYER

\*OPENING HYMN #174

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

MADELEINE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity.

We often move toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us.

**Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different.**

**Forgive us Lord for all the ways we have strayed from your way of love this week.**

(Silent Confession)

CHORAL PRAYER #469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

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.***

**\*RESPONSE**

Friend in Christ, God's forgiveness is not cheap grace, it requires something from us therefore I ask you, what shall we do in response to God's forgiveness?

**As the beloved of God, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, anything that is excellent and worthy of praise, we will keep trying to do these things as Jesus taught us.**

**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.*

**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.**

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Children's Song Medley

arr. Hayes

**WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

NRSV NT 230

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:17-37

NRSV NT 64

SERMON

ANTHEM

Children of the Light

arr. M. Hayes

We are children of the light and of the day and because we live in the light, let us think clearly. We have put on the body armor of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet, the hope of salvation. For God decided to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ; Not to pour out his anger on us, he died for us so that we can live with him forever and ever and ever. So encourage each other and build up each other just as you are already doing. Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful. For this is God's will for you, who belong to Jesus Christ. We are children of the light!

## MISSION AND MINISTRY

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

All things Bright and Beautiful

arr. M. Shaw



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

**Blessed be the Lord, for God is good, and God's love endures forever. Creator God, help us to mirror your goodness and love through this offering, in the world. Amen.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

There is no favoritism, no privilege, no partiality in the kingdom of God. God chooses the poor to be rich in faith. God fills the hungry with good things. And God calls us to do the same, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

We invite you to join this community as we seek to live out our faith through works of service and love.

### SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

\*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND PEACE

*Thank you to Lisé Meloy , and everyone who assisted with worship this morning.  
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Sara Midwood,  
as we join her in celebration of one year of sobriety.*



**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.

# Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when  
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the  
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who



earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,  
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,  
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,



for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the  
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes  
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -



path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.  
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.  
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

# Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying 469

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a whole chord, followed by a series of eighth notes and quarter notes, and ends with a whole chord. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The top staff features a mix of chords and moving lines, while the bottom staff maintains the harmonic support with chords and bass notes.

pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.


The third system concludes the chorus. The top staff ends with a final chord and a fermata over the last note. The bottom staff also concludes with a final chord and a fermata over the last note.

This chorus from a longer song has become a popular sung prayer for the presence of the Holy Spirit. Easily memorized, it makes a very suitable sung response at appropriate points during a series of prayer concerns or with repeated singing can open or close a time of prayer.

## 450


## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)  
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)  
 Bb Eb Ab Bb



naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)  
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.



### **James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. <sup>4</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

### **Luke 6:17-37**

<sup>17</sup>He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. <sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup>"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup>"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. <sup>24</sup>"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. <sup>25</sup>"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. <sup>26</sup>"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. <sup>27</sup>"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>Do to others as you would have them do to you. <sup>32</sup>"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. <sup>37</sup>"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;



**ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN** Hopefully you have received our 2025 Annual Giving Campaign letter and pledge card. Pledges represent approximately two-thirds of our annual budget and provide the confidence that we will continue to be the exciting, growing church we have become thanks to everyone's helping hand.

Register your pledge using the pledge card or Church Center app.

**ADVOCATING FOR YOURSELF IN THE HEALTHCARE ARENA** WPC member Erin Vaccone, BSN and RN, will share valuable insights on effectively navigating the healthcare system, **today, 11:30am, Sunday, September 22**. Key topics include:

- Vaccines
- Communicating effectively
- Understanding follow-up care
- Benefits of taking a family member or caregiver to medical appointments
- How nursing homes manage patient care and family communication
- Accessing medical results through online portals and involving family members
- Screenings and lab tests
- Organizing health data
- Importance of preventative care

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.**

**ROGER DEMOS PREACHING** Roger, a member of WPC and Commissioned Lay Pastor (CPL) in the PC(USA), will be in the pulpit, **10am, Sunday, September 29**.

**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. Use the QR code to register.

**PULPIT SWAP** Pastor Taylor and her husband, Pastor Doug, head of staff at Paoli Presbyterian, will swap pulpits this fall. She will preach at Paoli on **Sunday, October 13**; WPC will welcome him on **Sunday, November 3**.



**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.



**FALL SHREDDING AND DRUG TAKE BACK EVENT** Safely dispose of documents containing personal information and unneeded medications, **9am-noon, Saturday, October 5**. The event will be held at Northley Middle School (2801 Concord Rd, Aston). Use the QR code for more information.

**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.

**MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS** Join the discussion "From Iona to Edinburgh – what it means to be Reformed," **11:30 am, Sunday, October 6**. Led by Pastor François and illustrated with photos from his sabbatical.



**REGISTER TO VOTE** The last day to register before the November 5 election is **Monday, October 21**. Most of us are registered, but did you know less than 35% of 18 to 25 year-olds are registered to vote in Pennsylvania? If you are in that age bracket, or have children or grandchildren of that age, remind them to register online, in-person or by mail (must be received by Oct 21). Use the QR code for more info.



**BUILDING INDEPENDENCE** WPC member Doug Thomas will portray Patrick Henry and John Dickinson as part of Building Independence, historical scenes exploring the First Continental Congress through the lens of delegates, their families and everyday folk of the period. **Presented weekends through Sunday, October 27**, at Carpenters' Hall (320 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia). Use the QR for more information.

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER** Gather in Fellowship Hall to assemble and package 10,000 meals to be sent to a needy place somewhere around the world, **1pm, Sunday, November 3**. Save the date and watch for details. Sponsored by WPC's Mission and Service Committee.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU** Broad Street Love, formerly Broad Street Ministries, is one of the many missions supported by our church. Here is an excerpt from a thank you letter that we just received: "Thank you for being a part of the Broad Street Love family. Your support sends a powerful message of love and hope to our guests and staff. Whether through prayers, financial contributions, in kind gifts, or volunteer hours, your actions boldly declare that love, community, and Radical Hospitality should be accessible to everyone regardless of their circumstances. Thank you for investing in and being part of this community that recognizes and values every individual's full personhood, giftedness, and worth."

<b>WPC Week at a Glance</b>	
<b>Sunday, September 22</b>	<b>Wednesday, September 25 (cont.)</b>
09.30am- Chancel Choir	06.30pm- Peacemaking & Social Justice
10.00am- Worship	07.30pm- Valley Voices
11.00am- Coffee Hour	<b>Thursday, September 26</b>
11.30am- Abilities Initiative Presentation	04.30pm- Ballet Academy
<b>Monday, September 23</b>	06.30pm- Bell Choir
10.00am- Adult Bible Study	07.30pm- BSA 277/2019
<b>Tuesday, September 24</b>	<b>Friday, September 27</b>
10.00am- Mission and Service	09.00am- Walking with Ease
04.00pm- Flute Lessons	10.00am- Ballet Academy
07.00pm- Ballroom Dancing	<b>Saturday, September 28</b>
07.00pm- Trustees	11.00am- Ballet Academy
<b>Wednesday, September 25</b>	<b>Sunday, September 29</b>
09.00am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	09.30am- Chancel Choir
10.00am- Fellowship of Friends	10.00am- Worship
03.00pm- Flute Lessons	10.00am- Breakfast Club
03.30pm- Brass Lessons	11.00am- Coffee Hour
	04.30pm- Youth Group Urban Air Trip

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