

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OCTOBER 27TH, 2024 TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST REFORMATION SUNDAY

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.
- *M* If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available.
- An All Gender, ADA Restroom is located in the Narthex.
- M San Infant Changing Station and Quiet Room for parents is located in the Narthex.
 - <u>Activity Packets</u> 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.
 - <u>Communion</u> 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

MINISTER 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.

Words and music printed for the hymns, Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A71731 *A community where all who seek God are Welcome...*



ORDER OF WORSHIP GATHERING

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

More than five hundred years ago, Martin Luther presented his 95 theses about the church and its need to reform. Five centuries on, it remains worthwhile to reflect on what we bring forward from the past that strengthens us and future generations for the coming 500 years of ministry of the gospel of Christ.

Although the phrase "ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda, secundum verbum Dei" ("the church reformed, always being reformed, according to the word of God") does not originate in the Reformation, we return to it as a watchword because it is accurate to that watershed moment. In times of crisis, challenge, and conflict—then and now—God calls us to be transformed by the Word and Spirit.

As Christians, our faith began with the followers of Jesus. But the beginning of our Christian faith as Presbyterian is in the Reformation. The Reformation marks something significant for us in this part of the universal church: the coalescence of our focus on the Holy Spirit's ongoing reform of us as a church and as individuals. We are called to worship the triune God alone, to claim Jesus Christ as Lord of the church, and to seek the ongoing sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

God's ongoing sanctification of us is a gift for how we live together as the church, responding to God. This is why serious study of scripture for all people is an ongoing practice, in addition to communal worship and celebration of the sacraments. This is why we place such a high value on communal discernment in committees and sessions and decision-making. And while we have so much to learn, it is why our habits of conversation push us to listen to every single voice God brings into our midst.

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathered people of God, let us bless the Lord, now and at all times. **May our souls boast in the Lord! Let the humble hear and be glad.** The Lord has filled our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy. **The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.** Let us worship God.

OPENING MUSICAL MEDITATION	Be Thou My Vision	arr. L. Clark
	Wallingford Winds	

OPENING PRAYER

A LITANY FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY

This litany for Reformation Sunday is composed of excerpts from the Creeds, Catechisms, and Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church, (Nicene Creed) The holy catholic Church; the communion of saints. (Apostles' Creed)

This Kirk is catholic, that is, universal, because it contains the chosen of all ages, of all realms, nations, and tongues, be they of the Jews or be they of the Gentiles, who have communion and society with God the Father, and with the Son, Christ Jesus, through the sanctification of the Holy Spirit. (Scots Confession)

We believe that, from the beginning to the end of the world, and from among the whole human race, the Son of God, by his Spirit and his Word, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself, in the unity of the true faith, a congregation chosen for eternal life. (Heidelberg Catechism)

The Church is an assembly of the faithful called or gathered out of the world; a communion of all saints, namely, of those who truly know and rightly worship and serve the true God in Christ the Savior, by the Word and Holy Spirit, and who by faith are partakers in all the benefits which are freely offered through Christ. (Second Helvetic Confession)

The visible Church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel, consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion, together with their children; and is the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ; the house and family of God. (Westminster Confession of Faith)

The visible church has the privilege of being under God's special care and government; of being protected and preserved in all ages, notwithstanding the opposition of all enemies; and of enjoying the communion of saints, the ordinary means of salvation, and offers of grace by Christ, to all members of it, in the ministry of the gospel, testifying that whosoever believes in him shall be saved, and excluding none that will come unto him. (Larger Catechism)

The church's commission, upon which its freedom is founded, consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people in Christ's stead, and therefore in the ministry of his own Word and work through sermon and Sacrament. (Theological Declaration of Barmen)

The church confesses its faith when it bears a present witness to God's grace in Jesus Christ. The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. (Confession of 1967)

With believers in every time and place we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Brief Statement of Faith)

REFORMATION HYMN

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Baptism

BAPTISM PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore, I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

John Calvin instructed his congregation to never forget the Lord's goodness. We are called to remember God's mercy. May it be ever engraved on our minds. Friends in Christ, hear this good new. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **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	Joel 2:23-24, 26-29	NRSV OT 848
Gospel Reading	Mark 10:46-52	nrsv nt 47

Sermon

ANTHEM Times They Are A-Changin' Dylan, arr. A. Podd Come gather 'round people wherever you roam, and admit that the waters around you have grown, and accept it that soon you'll be drenched to the bone. If your time to you is worth savin', and you better start swimming', or you'll sink like a stone, for the times, they are a-changin'. Come mothers and fathers throughout the land and don't criticize what you can't understand. Your sons and your daughters are beyond your command. Your old road is rapidly aging. Please get out of the new one if you can't lend a hand. For the times, they are a-changin'. The line it is drawn, the curse it is cast. The slow one now will later be fast. As the present now will later be past, the order is rapidly fading. And the first one now will later be last. For the times, they are a-changin'.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms S. Aber and A. Showalter



OFFERTORY

Scan the QR code to give via credit card on 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. INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

We take heart because Christ has called us. Christ has offered us new life and new opportunities, new visions and new dreams. If you are ready to accept Christ's invitation to follow, we are ready to walk with you.

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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

O Lord, come to me and use my bread, silver and gold. How very well they are spent if I spend them in your service. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PASTORAL MOMENT, A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Sending

*Closing hymn #656

We've Come This Far by Faith

FAR BY FAITH

CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND PEACE

Thank you to Cyndi Lacroix and everyone who assisted with worship this morning. This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by François and Cyndi Lacroix , in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 27



Writings of Argula von Grumbach

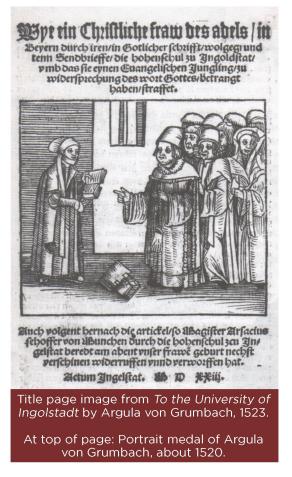
Argula von Grumbach (1492-c.1554) wrote forcefully in defense of the Reformation, becoming the first published author among Protestant women. Born into the noble von Stauff family in Bavaria, Argula was encouraged to read the Bible at a young age. Having lost her parents to the plague and then her uncle to a political execution, she married Friedrich von Grumbach in 1516.

Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses in 1517, and both he and fellow Reformer Philip Melanchthon published works in the early 1520s laying out their Reformed teachings. Argula von Grumbach read all these works, and she began corresponding with Luther in 1522. A scant year later, von Grumbach gained notoriety when she wrote a letter challenging the arrest of a former student at the University of Ingolstadt for teaching Lutheran views. Her published letter cited over 80 scripture passages, and she directly challenged the University theologians to a public debate on the legitimacy of their conduct.

To have a woman call out eminent theologians and challenge them to a debate was unheard of. Critics slandered von Grumbach, calling her a "shameless whore" and a neglectful wife and mother. The Ingolstadt theologians wanted the "silly bag" punished, and von Grumbach's husband, who remained a Catholic, lost his administrative post for not properly controlling his wife. In the end, University authorities ignored her challenge, and no public debate occurred.

Von Grumbach's voice lives on through her writings. As she concluded toward the end of the letter, "What I have written to you is no woman's chit-chat, but the word of God."





For more Reformation Sunday resources visit www.history.pcusa.org/rs

REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 27, 2024 Sanctuary Geneba

Not long after Roman Catholic Mary Tudor rose to the English throne in 1553, the outspoken Scottish reformer John Knox felt compelled to leave the British Isles. After a spell in Frankfurt, Knox joined a fellowship of religious refugees from across Europe who had thronged to Geneva.

The Swiss city's most famous resident, the French lawyer and humanist John Calvin, was himself a Geneva immigrant. His first prolonged stay in the city came years before, when war in Germany prevented him from traveling to Strasbourg.

Calvin helped create an atmosphere in Geneva welcoming to outsiders. A hospital was established for refugees, as well as an academy for their education. Knox ministered to a congregation of English-speaking



refugees that met in the same auditorium where Calvin lectured, the Calvin Auditory, a building still in use today for English worship. The bustling mid-sixteenth century city reverberated with the polyglot theological and political ideas of the Reformation. Knox marveled at his time in Geneva, calling it "the most perfect school of Christ that ever was in the earth since the days of the apostles."

Calvin's emphasis on placing full trust in God, as opposed to any earthly ruler, aimed to infuse Genevan life with gratitude and faith. He hoped that the doctrine of salvation through election would ease the anxieties of a people living in an age of plague, war, and dislocation. For Calvin and for Knox, growing in trust of God and love for God enlarged a community's ability to respond to God's call to love and service, no matter where its residents came from.

A longer version of this history by PHS Executive Director Beth S. Hessel can be found in Presbyterians Today, October 2017. Pictured: Geneva's Saint-Pierre Cathedral, adjacent to the Calvin Auditory.

Reformation Sunday materials are provided by the Presbyterian Historical Society. For more on the Reformation and PHS, visit <u>www.history.pcusa.org/rs</u>



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EBENEZER 8.7.8.7 D

Conflict and Courage



THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

THANKSGIVING



This refrain from a longer hymn could well be understood as a black gospel reflection on several biblical passages: 2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Samuel 7:12, and 1 Chronicles 17:16. All these texts bear witness to God's faithfulness toward all who are engaged in the pilgrimage of faith.

Joel 2:23-24, 26-29

²³O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁸Then afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

Mark 10:46-52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way. **PASTOR FRANCOIS ANNOUNCEMENT** As part of this morning's service, Pastor François will share his plans to retire in October 2025.



ANNUAL GIVING Through the fifth week, we have received 56 pledges totaling \$250,244. 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 the Church Center app.



HURRICANE ASSISTANCE Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is on the ground responding to the many urgent needs following the destruction Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Use the QR code to donate.

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE Sign up to volunteer to help at the Advent Open House, Sunday, **December 1, 4.30pm**. Find the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, email Pastor Taylor with any questions.

SOCKTOBER Bring new, wrapped (original packaging) men's, women's and children's socks for our seventh annual Soctober. 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.

TRUNK OR TREAT CANDY We are still accepting donations of wrapped candy or fruit snacks for Trunk or Treat. Please place donations in the tubs in the narthex and Fellowship Hall. Because some children do not eat sugar-added snacks, consider providing fruit roll-ups or gummies, raisins, popcorn, or even stickers or other non-food alternatives. The event will be held today, Sunday, October 27 at 3pm.

TRUNK OR TREAT The upper parking lot will be filled with cars/trucks/SUVs decked out for Halloween and treats galore today, Sunday, October 27 at 3pm. Plan to bring your kids and invite your neighbors to this spooky fun event!



EXAMPLE SPROUTS VBC NIGHT Kids – relive this summer's VBC – dance to the songs, watch video skits, play games and make a craft, **6pm, Friday, November 1**. Didn't attend VBC? No worries! Come for a fun night together. Dinner is included. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register – deadline is Thursday, October 31.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING AND SHREDDING EVENT Recycle almost anything with a plug for free (older or larger items may require a recycling fee) and safely dispose of documents containing personal information, 9am-1pm, Saturday, November 2. Held at Strath Haven Middle School. Use the QR code for more info.

PULPIT SWAP Rev. Doug Cornelius, head of staff at Paoli Pres (and Pastor Taylor's husband), will complete the pulpit swap, **10am, Sunday, November 3**, by preaching at WPC on All Saints' Sunday.

KIDS CAFÉ Kids – meet Pastor Taylor and Miss Lee in the choir room, 11am, Sunday, **November 3**, for songs, games and refreshments. Open to kids ages 4-11. Please bring an offering to benefit the Giving Tree.

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. Co-sponsored by the Mission and Service Committee and WPC Scouts. Sign up using the poster in Fellowship Hall.

MIND THE GAP A trivia game where everyone can flex their knowledge! Team up with folks of all ages, Wednesday, November 6, to answer pop culture questions from Boomer, Gen X, Millennial and Gen Z generations. Potluck supper at 6:30pm; game, 7:15pm.

DEDICATION SUNDAY Dedicate the 2025 pledges as part of the service, **10am**, Sunday, November 10.

MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS Watch the video and join the discussion on "Searching for the Historical Jesus," 11:30am, Sunday, November 10, exploring the history, context and character of a humble rabbi who changed the world. Led by Pastor Taylor.

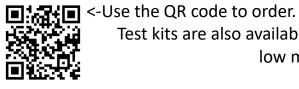
DOUG AND TAYLOR IN CONCERT Enjoy an afternoon of Pastors Doug and Taylor playing guitar and singing bluegrass and southern spirituals, 3pm, Sunday, November 10. The concert will be held at Paoli Pres (225 South Valley Road, Paoli) and donations will benefit the church's Wonder of Christmas, which provides gifts for missionary families and children in need in local school districts.

BOOKLOOK Discuss "The Lost Girls of Paris" by Pam Jenoff, "a riveting story inspired by true events of World War II, [it] weaves a tale of courage, sisterhood and the great strength of women to survive in the hardest of circumstances." (Amazon), 7:30pm, Wednesday, **November 20.** Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$5.50.



PA YELLOW DOT Placing the PA Yellow Dot decal in your vehicle's rear window alerts first responders to check the glove compartment for vital information to ensure you receive the medical attention you need. Packets are available in the Narthex or use the OR code.

COVID TESTS Free at-home COVID tests are available which detect the currently circulating COVID-19 variants. Each package contains four tests for use through the end of the year.



Test kits are also available for those who are blind, have low vision or low manual dexterity. Use the QR code to order ->



WPC Week at a Glance		
Sunday, October 27	Wednesday, October 30 (cont.)	
09.00am- Wallingford Winds	06.30pm- Bell Choir	
09.30am- Chancel Choir	07.30pm- Chancel Choir	
10.00am- Breakfast Club	07.30pm- Valley Voices	
10.00am- Worship	Thursday, October 31	
11.00am- Coffee Hour	Friday, November 01	
03.00pm- Trunk or Treat	10.00am- Ballet Academy	
Monday, October 28	06.00pm- Sprouts	
10.00am- Adult Bible Class	Saturday, November 02	
10.00am- Staff Meeting	11.00am- Ballet Academy	
Tuesday, October 29	Sunday, November 03	
04.00pm- Flute Lessons	09.00am- Bell Choir	
07.15pm- Giving Tree/Angel Tree Meeting	09.30am- Chancel Choir	
Wednesday, October 30	10.00am- Worship	
09.00am- Breakfast Group - Court Diner	11.00am- Coffee Hour	
10.00am- Fellowship of Friends	11.00am- Kids Cafe	
03.00pm- Flute Lessons	11.15am- Ed Council	
03.30pm- Brass Lessons	12.00pm- Rise Against Hunger	