

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH JANUARY 12TH, 2024 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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.

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-4:30pm

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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

This Week

LITURGIST: BARB DEMOS **USHERS: JENNY MILLER**

RICK MILLER

COFFEE HOUR: DEACONS

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A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



^{*}Those who are able, please stand.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

WORDS FOR MEDITATION
Christmas is not over.
We're just beginning
to follow the One
who calls us now to
Live in the Light of Love.
Christmas is not over.

It's just beginning

and this is January's song!! - Ann Weems, From Advent's Alleluia to Easter's Morning Light

He who was without sin was baptized in the River Jordan to avoid the sin of standing apart from us. - Barbara Brown Taylor

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"

Beloved children of God, give glory to God.

Let us rejoice and worship God.

OPENING SCRIPTURE PSalm 29 THE MESSAGE

OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMNS #705
OPENING HYMNS #408
OPENING HYMNS #710

You are Holy
There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit
We Lift Our Voice
YOU ARE HOLY
SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
OFFERING

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

I Feel the Spirit Tyler Gibson & Francois Lacroix

arr. D. Besig

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant. We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world. We are sorry and we want to change. Create in us a clean heart, strengthen our resolve, reconcile us one to another, and bless us with your peace. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*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

EPISTLE READING Acts 8:14-17 NRSV NT 126

GOSPEL READING Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 NRSV NT 60

SERMON

MISSION AND MINISTRY

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

God's wandering Spirit calls us – even through the chaos – to the hard road of discipleship and the difficult work of community.

If you are ready to live into the promise of baptism, God is calling you; do not fear.

If you are willing to respond, we are an imperfect community here seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Will you join us?

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 François.

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gifts unbound, sign mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold. Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, "I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do." Then from heaven a double sign - dove-like spirit, voice divine - hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son". Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest, where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

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.

SENDING

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.

*CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND PEACE

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.

This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Mary Lou Day, in loving memory of Jim's birthday.

^{*}PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Psalm 29 (The Message)

1-2 Bravo, God, bravo!

Gods and all angels shout, "Encore!"

In awe before the glory,

in awe before God's visible power.

Stand at attention!

Dress your best to honor him!

3 God thunders across the waters,

Brilliant, his voice and his face, streaming brightness—

God, across the flood waters.

4 God's thunder tympanic,

God's thunder symphonic.

5 God's thunder smashes cedars,

God topples the northern cedars.

6 The mountain ranges skip like spring colts,

The high ridges jump like wild kid goats.

7-8 God's thunder spits fire.

God thunders, the wilderness quakes;

He makes the desert of Kadesh shake.

9 God's thunder sets the oak trees dancing

A wild dance, whirling; the pelting rain strips their branches.

We fall to our knees—we call out, "Glory!"

10 Above the floodwaters is God's throne

from which his power flows,

from which he rules the world.

11 God makes his people strong.

God gives his people peace.

You Are Holy Prince of Peace Part 1 G ho ly; You are you are Part 2 You are ho ly; C2 Am might - y; you are thy, wor you are might you are D I will wor - thy of praise. thy, wor - thy of praise. wor G C2 fol low; I will lis ten; I will fol I will low; Am D G I will love you all of my I will love you lis ten;

Songs of personal devotion to Christ have long formed part of congregational song, a tradition continued in this contemporary praise and worship song. The two parts suggest the voices of heart and mind, the latter being distinguished by familiarity with many scriptural images.



continued



408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit



This gospel hymn grew out of this African American author and composer's intense experience of prayer with her interracial choir in Los Angeles one Sunday morning before worship. She recalled that sense of "a sweet, sweet Spirit" when she sat down at her piano the next day.



We Lift Our Voices





This praise and worship song can best be understood as reflecting on and expanding 1 Chronicles 29:14b: "For all things come of you, [O Lord,] and of your own have we given you." There are also echoes of Paul's appeal for Christians to be living sacrifices (Romans 12:1).

Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

PRIME TIME Listen to and sing along with the Legends Band (with Bud Fury on banjo), **Tuesday, January 14**. The 20+ piece ensemble performs traditional Big Band to contemporary favorites. **Lunch begins at noon; the music, 12:30pm.**

BookLook Discuss "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander, **7:30pm, Wednesday, January 15.** The book "has spawned a whole generation of criminal justice reform activists and organizations and spent nearly 250 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list." (Amazon). Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$6.50.

CHILI COOK-OFF Taste test and vote for your faves with \$, **Saturday**, **January 18**. All money raised will be donated to the Red Wagon. Non-chili eaters — enjoy chicken nuggets, mac and cheese and salad. Not entering your chili? Please bring an appetizer (last names A-H), salad (J-Q) or dessert (R-Z). There will also be a moon bounce for the kids. Feel free to bring beer/wine. **Appetizers — 5pm; dinner — 5:45pm**. Questions? Contact Walt Kaminski.

MOON BOUNCE A moon bounce will be available for the kids to enjoy during the Chili Cookoff, **5pm**, **Saturday**, **January 18** (whether or not your family is staying for the event) and coffee hour, **11am**, **Sunday**, **January 19**.

KIDS SING Kids — meet in the choir room, **9am, Sunday, January 19**, to learn "We Shall Overcome/This Little Light of Mine" in honor of MLK Sunday, then perform the song during the 10am service

NEW MEMBERS CLASS Join with Pastor François, **11:30am, Sunday, January 19**, for a chance to hear more about our church and its mission/ask questions about being a Presbyterian. Meet in the Reception Room.

ANNUAL MEETING Receive reports, review financial and benevolence statements, receive the 2025 budget and elect members of the Nominating Committee. Held at the close of worship, **Sunday, January 26.**

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT WPC member Michael Meloy, who recently retired from an environmental law practice, will discuss the state of our environment in 2025, including climate change, emerging contaminants, the health of our rivers and streams and the intersection of energy policy with environmental protection, **Wednesday**, **January 29**. He will touch on future policy directions from the new Administration and what individuals can do to help the planet. **Potluck supper – 6:30pm**; **presentation – 7:15pm**.

CONCERT FOR A CAUSE On Sunday, February 16 at 3pm Wallingford Presbyterian Church will host a "Concert for a Cause" featuring a performance of the Brahms "Liebeslieder Walzer", or "love song waltzes" with soprano Sue Gerace, alto Kerry Ann Erickson-Felps, tenor Bryan Hoyos and bass Josef Samargia. Accompanying them on four-hand piano is Lee Hagon-Kerr and Gina Giachero. Not only will we have a delightful afternoon of classical love songs right on time for Valentine's Day, but all proceeds from the concert will benefit PFLAG Media, an organization that advocates for LGBTQIA+ people and those who love them. Suggested donation is \$15. Come celebrate great music and make a difference in our community!

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

- -Cereal
- -Canned fruit
- -Canned meat/seafood (chicken, tuna, salmon)
- -Canned vegetables
- -Broth
- -Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo)
- -Salad dressing
- -Cooking oil, vinegar
- -Sugar, flour
- -Snacks (crackers, chips, cookies)
- -Beverages (coffee, tea, hot chocolate, juice, juice boxes, shelf-stable milk)
- -Baby items (baby food, diapers, pull-ups, wipes)
- -Feminine hygiene products
- -Personal care items (deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrushes/toothpaste)
- -Household essentials (toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, dish detergent)
- -Pet food (dog/cat; wet/dry)
- -Empty egg cartons

WPC Week at a Glance	
Sunday, January 12	Wednesday, January 15 (cont.)
09.30am-Chancel Choir	07.30pm- BookLook
10.00am- Worship	07.30pm- Valley Voices
11.00am- Coffee Hour	Thursday, January 16
11.30am- Confirmation Class	04.30pm- Ballet Academy
Monday, January 13	07.30pm- Chancel Choir
10.00am- Adult Bible Class	07.30pm- BSA 277/2019
03.00pm- Flute Lessons	Friday, January 17
07.30pm- Session	Saturday, January 18
Tuesday, January 14	11.15am- Ballet Academy
12.00pm- Prime Time	05.00pm- Chili Cook-Off
Wednesday, January 15	Sunday, January 19
10.00am- Fellowship of Friends	09.00am- Chapel Choir
03.00pm- Flute Lessons	09.30am-Chancel Choir
03.30pm- Brass Lessons	10.00am- Worship
04.00pm- Stewardship Council	11.00am- Coffee Hour
	11.30am- New Members Class

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