



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MARCH 8TH, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
GIFTS OF WOMEN 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.



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

CHURCH OFFICE

- Monday-Friday, 9:00am-3:00pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR, ACTING HEAD OF STAFF: Rev. Taylor Cornelius

- pastortaylor@wallingfordpres.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Lee Hagon

- music@wallingfordpres.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Nathan Gibson

- office@wallingfordpres.org

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR: Leslie Krowchenko

CLERK OF SESSION: Christine Darr

TREASURER: Todd Darr

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Michelle Hall

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

This Week

USHERS: Pat LaBorie

Phil LaBorie

LITURGIST: Jenny Montague

COFFEE HOUR: Deacons

Next Week

USHERS: Bowe Hansen

Thomas Hansen

LITURGIST: Lin Floyd

COFFEE HOUR: Worship Council

*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

"In every Gospel story where a woman is being shamed, Jesus moves. He doesn't just offer a 'nice' word from the sidelines. He puts his own reputation and his own body between the woman and the stones. He doesn't just save her soul; he saves her life from the men who think they own the truth." —Rachel Held Evans

"If Jesus was a misogynist because he chose twelve men, then he was also a failure because those twelve men ran away when things got real. The 'Apostles' were hiding behind locked doors, but the women were standing at the foot of the cross and the mouth of the tomb. Jesus didn't need to 'appoint' them; he had already empowered them by being the only man who ever truly saw them." — Anonymous / Contemporary Theological thought

"Jesus didn't give women the title of 'Apostle' in the way the world understands titles. He gave them something much more dangerous: He gave them the first word. He made the entire validity of the Resurrection depend on the testimony of people who, in that culture, weren't even allowed to testify in court. If that isn't a divine defense of women, I don't know what is." —N.T. Wright

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who have been sidelined or silenced.

Come, you who have carried the weight of the world alone.

We meet today in the shadow of our Lead Advocate

The One who stands between the crowd and the stone.

Here, titles fall away and our true names are heard.

He looks into our eyes and calls us "daughter," "son," and "friend."

The world is turning, and Love is standing its ground.

Let us worship our God, the champion of the lowly!

*OPENING HYMN #692

Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Lord, this week we have sinned by what we've done, and what we've left undone. Though we know that we should bridle our tongues, we still say a harsh word. Though we know we should share with those in need, we hesitate. Though we know we should allow you to be the judge, we still judge others. Tame our pride, and humble our hearts, so that we could let you be the Lord of our lives. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, we all carry burdens that weren't meant for us to hold. But grace is not something we earn; it is a gift already given. Take a deep breath and know this truth: your mistakes do not define you, and you are fully loved. You are forgiven, and you are free. **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.

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. After the lesson, children grades K-6 are invited to Sunday School classes or to stay with us in worship. The Nursery is open to children between 12 months and pre-K 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.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story
ft. Lisa Higgins, flute

arr. B. Olstad

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7:36-39, 44-50

NRSV NT 66

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. ³⁷And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner."

⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." ⁴⁸Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

ANTHEM

And Miriam Sang

Z. Highben

Shiru l'Adonai. Shiru ki ga'oh ga'ah. Shiru l'Hashem. Sus verochevov ramah vaiyam. Shiru l'Adonai. Shiru ki ga'oh ga'ah.

Translation: Sing to the Lord. Sing for the Lord is highly exalted. Sing to the Lord. The horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea. Sing to the Lord. Sing for the Lord is highly exalted.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 9:20-22

NRSV NT 9

²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment.

SERMON

Taking the Hit: *How Jesus Stood Between Women and the World*

HYMN OF RESPONSE #630

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADERS' HYMN

MISSION AND MINISTRY

MOMENT FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY

There is a Line of Women

John Bell



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.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we offer you more than just our words today; we offer You our lives. Take our hands to serve, our hearts to love, and our resources to help others. May the work of our week reflect the worship of this hour. Amen.

PRAYER 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 glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.
This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Polly Sacco Ezzell
In celebration of Ken's birthday.*

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
 Refrain F B^b F B^b C7



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
 Dm F/C B^b C7 Dm F/C Gm



liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
 F B^b Gm7 F B^b F



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
 F B^b F B^b



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
 C7 Dm F/C B^b C7



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
 Dm Gm7 F B^b2 B^b



to Refrain
 fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

630

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

THIS WEEK AT WPC



HEARING THE SERVICE With our new AV equipment, we now have the capability to broadcast the worship service directly to hearing aids if they are Bluetooth enabled. Use the QR code for instructions or speak to Walt Kaminski.

BREAKFAST CLUB Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10am, Sunday, March 8**, for breakfast, games, discussion and fellowship. Open to grades 6-12.

PALM SUNDAY PAGEANT PRACTICE Readers-only rehearsals will be held **11am Sunday, March 8 and March 15**.

THE DANGER AND HERESY OF CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM IN HISTORICAL AND BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE Attend part two of the series led by Dr. Manfred Brauch, **11:30am today, Sunday, March 8**. The session will be an exploration of Christian Nationalism across the centuries and its tragic consequences: from the Roman emperor Constantine (323 CE) to its most recent manifestations in sectors of American Protestantism.

Continues next Sunday, March 15. Childcare will be available.

PRIME TIME Delaware County historian Keith Lockhart, well known for his weekly column in the Delaware County Times, will present “Delco Then and Now” using pictures he has accumulated through the years, **Tuesday, March 10. Lunch begins at noon; the talk, 12:30pm.**

W.O.W. Join for refreshments, **7pm, Wednesday, March 11**, and a lesson led by Shirley Rudd.



SPROUTS MOVIE NIGHT Watch “Moana” with popcorn, **5pm, Friday, March 13**. Play games, eat dinner and end with a devotional Bible story and song. Open to children grades K-5. Use the QR code to register (and send the link to friends).

LOOKING AHEAD

FUSE SPRING COMMUNITY DINNER Enjoy an evening of food, games, conversation and fellowship, **6:30-8:30pm, Monday, March 16**, at Chester Eastside (301 East 9th Street, Chester). Sponsored by FUSE (Fellowship of Urban Suburban Engagement), a partnership between houses of worship (including WPC), community groups and non-profit organizations in Delaware County and the City of Chester. FUSE members are Christian, Jewish and Muslim; come from different racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds and bring a range of cultural traditions to the table to connect with ourselves and our neighbors through our common humanity.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE If you are an eligible type O, B- or A- donor, consider making a Power Red donation (donate two units of red blood cells during one donation), **2-7pm, Wednesday, March 18**. To schedule an appointment, use the QR code or call 1-800-REDCROSS.

BOOKLOOK Discuss “I Was Anastasia” by Ariel Lawhon, **7:30pm, Wednesday, March 18**, “an enthralling feat of historical suspense that unravels the extraordinary twists and turns in Anna Anderson's 50-year battle to be recognized as Anastasia Romanov. Is she the Russian Grand Duchess or the thief of another woman's legacy? (Amazon). Contact Walt Kaminski to order – the cost is approximately \$6.

ROSE VALLEY FOLK VARIETY SHOW Bring a munchie to share (beer, wine and snacks included) and sit at the table saved for WPC, **8pm, Friday, March 20**. The cost is \$5. Meet at the Old Mill – **doors open at 7pm**.

PALM SUNDAY PAGEANT PRACTICE An all-cast rehearsal (readers and chorus) will be held **11am, Sunday, March 22**.

DAY OF SERVICE INTEREST MEETING Like to help plan next year’s Day of Service? Join **11:15 am, Sunday, March 22**, to offer your ideas and involvement to make the event even more meaningful. The session will involve recruiting volunteers and table leaders, brainstorming about organizations WPC could support and discussing items and service projects for 2027. Thanks for everyone’s time for this year’s successful event – join us as we begin dreaming and planning together for next year!

EASTER EGG STUFFING Like to stuff eggs? Help fill the 3,000+ orbs for the Easter Egg-stravaganza, **4 pm, Wednesday, March 25**.

YOUTH GROUP EGG STUFFING AFTER PARTY Help fill eggs for the Easter Egg-stravaganza, then stay after for a pizza party, **4-6:30pm, Wednesday, March 25**. Contact Pastor Taylor to RSVP.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT Michael Meloy will discuss the current state of our environment, including climate change, the intersection of energy policy with environmental protection, important regulatory and policy developments that have occurred in the past year and market dynamics such as the proliferation of data centers that are having profound environmental impacts, **Wednesday, March 25**. Michael recently retired from full-time practice as an environmental lawyer in which he was able to combine his engineering training and legal skills to assist clients in a broad range of environmental matters. He is a Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers and remains engaged in a number of matters on a pro bono basis. **Dessert and coffee – 7pm; presentation – 7:15pm**.

HIDE EASTER EGGS Enjoy donuts, bagels and beverages, then hide the orbs, **8:30am, Saturday, March 28**. Helpers of all ages needed! Rain date – 11:30am, Sunday, March 29.

PALM CROSSES Help make palm crosses to distribute on Palm Sunday, **9am, Saturday, March 28**. No experience necessary – lessons on the spot! Enjoy a continental breakfast at 9am, followed by cross making at 9:45am. Meet in the Reception Room.

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA Kids – hunt for the 3,000+ eggs hidden around our grounds, **10am, Saturday, March 28.** Start with a short program by Pastor Taylor, then divide into age groups to seek the elusive orbs. Photo ops with the Easter bunny. Open to children ages 0-11. Rain date – 1pm, Sunday, March 29. Please bring canned goods/non-perishable items for the Red Wagon.

CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE On **Sunday, March 29th at 3pm** the "Concerts for a Cause" series at Wallingford Presbyterian Church continues with an afternoon of music for voice, flute and piano. Featuring "The Deepest Desire" by Jake Heggie, and other works ranging from Mozart to Brahms to Mouquet, the program offers something for everyone! The beneficiary of this concert is Project W, part of The Community Foundation, where they believe that through collective compassion, dedication and thoughtful giving, we can help women and families in our community thrive.

GIVING AND SERVICE

LANDSCAPING VOLUNTEERS Bob and Diane Gerlach are “retiring” after 15 years of keeping the WPC grounds in tip-top shape. Thanks doesn’t even begin to cover our appreciation. Their tasks will now fall to contractors and volunteers. Contractors will handle the leaves and pruning; Louise Rowland will assume responsibility for the flower beds. Polly Sacco Ezzell has graciously agreed to help, but a few more hands would be most welcome on an “as needed basis.” Like to pitch in – call/text Louise (925-270-9418). If you are downsizing and no longer in need of your gardening equipment, let her know!

EASTER TREAT COLLECTION Drop individually-wrapped candy, non-sugary snacks (fruit roll-ups, gummies), stickers or other non-edible treats for Easter Egg-stravaganza (Saturday, March 28) in the tubs in the narthex/Fellowship Hall. **Continues through Sunday, March 22.**

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| -Cereal/oatmeal | -Peanut butter/grape jelly |
| -Canned fruit/applesauce | -Canned chicken |
| -Canned fish | -Canned vegetables |
| -Rice | -Side dishes (Lipton, Knorr) |
| -Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) and wipes | -Male and female personal hygiene products |



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Millions of people around the world lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education and opportunity. The work done through causes supported by OGHS – disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change and immigration/migration and refugees – serves individuals and communities in need, providing people with safety, sustenance and hope. Use the pew envelopes or QR code. **Continues through Sunday, April 5.**

WPC Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 8	Wednesday, March 11
09.30am- Chancel Choir	01.30pm- Stephen Ministry
10.00am- Breakfast Club	07.00pm- WOW
10.00am- Worship	Thursday, March 12
11.00am- Coffee Hour	Friday, March 13
11.30am- Pageant Rehearsal	0500pm- Sprouts
11.30am- Christian Nationalism part 2	Saturday, March 14
12.00pm- Chapel Ringers	Sunday, March 15
Monday, March 9	09.30am- Chancel Choir
10.00am- Bible Study	10.00am- Worship
10.00am- Staff Meeting	11.00am- Coffee Hour
07.30pm- Session	11.30am- Pageant Rehearsal
Tuesday, March 10	11.30am- Christian Nationalism part 3
12.00pm- Prime Time	12.00pm- Chapel Ringers

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