



SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 Happenings Stay informed! Physical copies available out in the Narthex.

 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.

 If You Need a Little Help Hearing, portable listening devices are available, or sync your Bluetooth enabled hearing aids to our sound system. Scan the QR code for instructions.



 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

PASTOR: Rev. David Hanna

·pastordavid@wallingfordpres.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: 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: Carol Freidinger

Roger Freidinger

LITURGIST: Jenny Miller

COFFEE HOUR: Trustees

Next Week

LITURGIST: Helen Picher

COFFEE HOUR: Deacons

*Those who are able, please stand. *A community where all who seek God are Welcome...*

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A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

Read the ancient stories of the Bible slowly enough to be interrupted by God. Listen closely enough to be handed something from the Spirit. – from The Lasagna Gospel

Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace. – from Frederick Buechner

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR MISSION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come carrying stories of grace received and love remembered.

We come to give thanks for the people through whom God has loved us.

The story of God's faithfulness is not finished.

There are voices still to hear and stories still to tell.

The living Word calls us beyond promises into practice.

Open our ears to listen, our hearts to notice, and our hands to serve.

Come, people of every generation, let us worship God.

May the love we receive become the love we share.

*OPENING HYMN #634

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*GATHERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, we have said "yes" with our lips and "not today" with our lives. We have treasured stories of faith without telling them, studied your sacred stories without listening, and noticed our neighbors' needs without responding. We have remembered the past as perfect instead of naming your grace within its brokenness. Forgive us, we pray. Turn us toward your living Word, give us courage to change our minds, and make our love visible in what we do. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silence for personal confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news: our failures do not have the final word. In Jesus Christ, God meets us with forgiveness and opens the way to new life. By grace we turn, begin again, and serve. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen!

***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 please accompany them so that we may register your family.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 78:1–7, 12–16

NRSV OT 537

¹Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. ²I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, ³things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. ⁴We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might and the wonders that he has done. ⁵He established a decree in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children, ⁶that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, ⁷so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

¹²In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

¹³He divided the sea and let them pass through it and made the waters stand like a heap.

¹⁴In the daytime he led them with a cloud and all night long with a fiery light. ¹⁵He split rocks open in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep. ¹⁶He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

ANTHEM

Behold How Good

Michael J. Trotta

Behold, how good, behold how wonderful, behold how pleasant to dwell in harmony, together all as one. From one he made all nations to live on all the earth. In one we move and have our being, our life, our strength. Behold how good, behold how wonderful, behold how pleasant for all of us to dwell in harmony, together as one.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 21:23–32

NRSV NT 23

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell

me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

SERMON

The Lasagna Gospel

Rev. David Hanna

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

L. Mason



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

Generous God, receive these gifts and our lives. Let them feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, and welcome those facing barriers. Make this offering more than a promise: a living story of your love, shared from neighbor to neighbor and generation to generation. In Jesus' name. 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 #66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

PENTECOST

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

SERMON COMPANION: HOLY LISTENING THIS WEEK

Psalm 78:1–7

1. Read it slowly, aloud.
2. Notice the word or phrase that takes you by the heart.
3. Ask God why that one, today.
4. Sit still. No conclusion required. Pray.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with worship this morning.

*This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God by Helen and Ver Picher,
in celebration of their 40th anniversary.*

THIS WEEK AT WPC

WHAT DID THAT JUST SAY? A CRASH COURSE IN BIBLE READING Have you ever tried to read the Bible and felt like it was so confusing you just closed it and moved on with your day? We've all been there. Discover some key concepts, **11:15am, Sunday, September 27**, to help you unlock Scripture and glean from its pages the insights we are all seeking. We will walk the journey and find lenses through which to view difficult passages that will help shed light on some of the most confusing texts, allowing us to experience God's Word with new eyes together! **Continues Sunday, October 4.**

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL Join the ringers for the first rehearsal of the season, **6:30pm, Thursday, October 1.** No experience necessary!

WALLINGFORD WINDS REHEARSAL Brass and wind players – join for the first rehearsal of the season, **7:15pm, Thursday, October 1.** No experience necessary!

LAMB ROAST Feast on lamb cooked in an outside fire pit, **4:30pm, Saturday, October 3.** Please bring an appetizer (last names A-F), salad (G-L), side (M-R) or dessert (S-Z). Pita, tzatziki and beverages provided. Not a lamb eater – enjoy chicken fingers. Bring a chair.



WPC DIRECTORY Are you in the WPC Church Center Directory? Does your picture need to be updated? Download the Church Center app from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Use the QR code for instructions.

NAME TAGS Having trouble remembering the names of those sitting near you in church? Name tags can help! Visit one of the name tag stations (in the narthex and Fellowship Hall) for a temporary, self-adhesive tag or a holder for a more permanent one you can bring to church each week. If you previously had a permanent name tag, check the file box in the narthex. If you would like one, contact Mary Lou Day.

LOOKING AHEAD



DELCO 10 MILER The race, from Rose Tree Park to Subaru Park, raises funds for non-profits and community programs based in the county. It requires road closures along the route (including Providence Road) beginning **7:30am, Sunday, October 4**. Use the QR code for info on affected streets.

CHAPEL CHOIR Kids – meet in the choir room to practice the song, **9am, Sunday, October 4**, then sing it during the 10am service. Open to children age four and older.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY Celebrate our oneness in Christ with our siblings throughout the world, **10am, Sunday, October 4**. Pastor David preaching.

KIDS CAFÉ Kids – meet Pastor Taylor in the choir room for songs, games and refreshments, **11-11:15am, Sunday, October 4**. Open to kids four and older.



SPROUTS CAMPFIRE NIGHT AND S'MORES Enjoy a pizza party and fun outdoor games, then close with praise songs around the campfire while you roast marshmallows and make s'mores, **5-7pm, Friday, October 9**. Open to kids grades K-5. Use the QR code to register.

BREAKFAST CLUB Tweens and teens – meet in the youth room, **10am, Sunday, October 11**, for breakfast, games, a Bible lesson and fellowship. Open to grades 6-12. Meet in the Youth Room.

TRUNK OR TREAT Bring the kids – the upper parking lot will be filled with cars/trucks/SUVs decked out for Halloween with treats galore, **3-4pm, Sunday, October 25**. Plan to host a trunk – sign up to include your trunk and treats (prizes for best decorated!). Watch for details.

GIVING AND SERVICE



ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN Hopefully you have received our 2027 Annual Giving Campaign letter and pledge card. Pledges represent approximately two-thirds of our annual budget and ensure the church's foundation is solid and ready for growth. Your generosity makes an impact: consistent giving is a tangible way to welcome Pastor David – it says “we are with you on the new journey.” Register your pledge using the pledge card or use the QR code.

NINTH ANNUAL SOCKTOBER Donate new, wrapped (original packaging) men's, women's and children's socks **beginning Thursday, October 1**. Look for Sock Drive containers in the Narthex and near the main office. Adult socks benefit Savage Sisters Delco; kids' socks benefit Chester Eastside. Continues through Sunday, November 1.

DONATE TREATS FOR TRUNK OR TREAT Leave individually-wrapped candy, non-sugary snacks (fruit roll-ups, gummies, raisins, popcorn), stickers or other non-edible treats in the tubs in the narthex/Fellowship Hall **beginning Sunday, October 4**. Continues through Sunday, October 18.

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

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

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| -Cereal/oatmeal/Cream of Wheat | -Pancake mix/pancake syrup |
| -Peanut butter/grape jelly | -Apple sauce |
| -Canned soup | -Ramen noodles/cup of noodles |
| -Canned chicken/salmon/tuna | -Knorr side dishes |
| -Canned fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple, fruit cocktail) | |
| -Canned vegetables (corn, carrots, peas, green beans, collard greens) | |
| -Sides (rice, mac and cheese, stuffing, mashed potatoes) | |
| -Pasta (spaghetti, macaroni, egg noodles) | |

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.

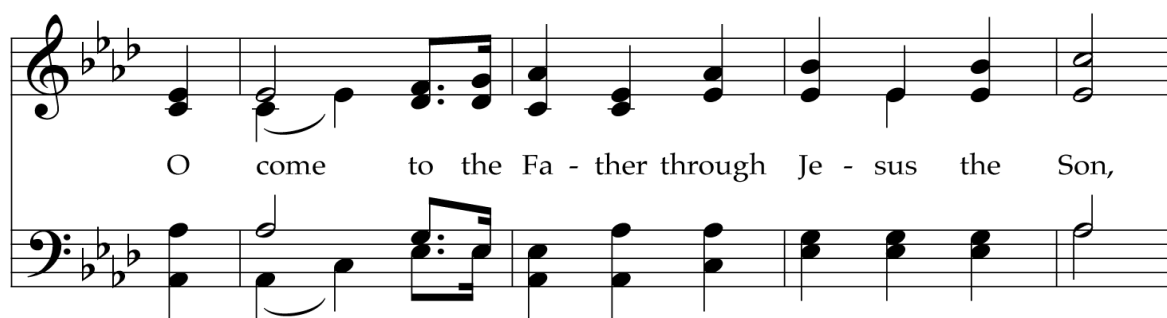
ADORATION

Refrain

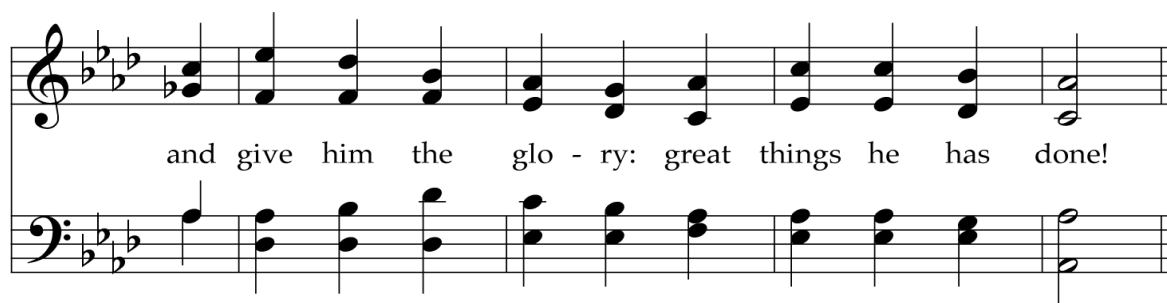
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!



O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,



and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

The first line of the refrain is written on two staves. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. It provides a harmonic accompaniment using chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes.

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

The second line of the refrain continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. It also consists of two staves with the same key signature. The lyrics are aligned with the notes. The line ends with a double bar line.

66 Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Fine
Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's
2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so
bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

to Refrain
fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
track. It runs to heav - en and then right back.

Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.

LETTER TO CALVARY CHURCH Read the letter the WPC Session sent to the congregation of Calvary Presbyterian Church about the ministry of Pastor David and Brenda.

Dear Congregation of Calvary Presbyterian Church,

It is with great joy that our congregation has welcomed Pastor David and Brenda Hanna to our midst. Throughout the last six weeks, as we have become more and more acquainted with them, we feel that we are also becoming acquainted with the ministry of Calvary Presbyterian Church. We know that you have shaped David and Brenda through the past two decades, while their ministry has left its imprint on your lives. And so, as we continue to journey with David and Brenda, we are also journeying with you as your ministry and theirs – and now ours – are intertwined.

We have felt God's presence in the way that David and Brenda have stepped into our lives by answering God's call to serve at Wallingford Presbyterian Church. We realize that our joy comes with some sorrow for you and can empathize as we likewise lost a beloved pastor and his wife a year ago when he retired. We feel assured that God has a plan for you and the next minister you call. Our prayers are with Calvary during your pastor search process and we trust that God will continue to bless you as he has blessed us.

If your travels bring you to the Philadelphia area, we would love to meet you personally, for as part of the Hanna spiritual family, you are now part of ours.

Faithfully,

Christine Darr, Clerk of Session, on behalf of the Session of Wallingford Presbyterian Church

WPC Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 27	Thursday, October 1
09.30am- Chancel Choir	06.30pm- Bell Choir
10.00am- Worship	07.15pm- Wallingford Winds
11.00am- Coffee Hour	07.45pm- Chancel Choir
11.15am- Bible Basics	Friday, October 2
Monday, September 28	Saturday, October 3
10.00am- Adult Bible Study	04.00pm- Lamb Roast
Tuesday, September 29	Sunday, October 4
10.00am- Staff Meeting	09.00am- Chapel Choir
07.30pm-Church Leader/Volunteer Training	09.30am- Chancel Choir
Wednesday, September 30	10.00am- Worship
	11.00am- Coffee Hour
	11.00am- Kid's Café
	11.15am- Wallingford Winds
	11.30am- Bible Basics

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