

Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

May 2, 2021

5th Sunday of Easter



“God’s Water & Blood”

Rev. David Jones

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A Community of Faith
Growing Together
Sharing the Love of Christ

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

We continue to follow all public health guidelines to love our neighbors and slow the spread of covid. At this time, we will not be singing as a congregation, but will enjoy the music of our soloists and listen carefully to the words and melodies they offer. We will also not be reciting prayers or other liturgy communally, but will join our hearts together with our liturgists and listen as the words are lifted to God

Prelude

"All for the One"
Played & Sung by Dan Holmes

Dan Holmes

Welcome and Sharing

****Call to Worship***

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth in to joyous song and sing praises.
We will sing praises to the Lord with the lyre and the sound of the horn.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it/ the world and those who live in it.
We will sing you a new song, O God, for the marvelous things you have done.
Let us worship God!

**Hymn (rise in spirit and body if you are able, and listen to the words of the hymn)*

No. 510

"We Gather Here in Jesus' Name"

Bryan Jeffery Leech

1 We gather here in Jesus' name
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord
No one is a stranger here,
everyone belongs;
finding our forgiveness here,
we in turn forgive all wrongs.

2 He joins us here He breaks the bread
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead
The One we love the most is now our gracious host
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord
We are now a family
of which the Lord is head;
though unseen he meets us here
in the breaking of the bread.

3 We'll gather soon where angels sing
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord

Litany of Affirmation and Assurance (let's join our hearts only together in this prayer)

Every one who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and every one who loves the parent loves the child.
For this is the love of God, that we keep God's commandments.
By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love the Lord and obey God's commandments.
For this is the love of God, that we keep God's commandments.
For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith.
For this is the love of God, that we keep God's commandments.

A period of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Who overcomes the world? Those who believe that Jesus is the Christ.
For this is the love of God, that we keep God's commandments.
And God's commandments are not burdensome.
For in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Gloria Patri (rise in spirit and body if you are able, and listen to the words of the Gloria Patri)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

**Passing of the peace of Christ*

L: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

INVITATION TO THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

O Lord, fill us with the joy felt by Jesus' disciples as they learned

He no longer called them servants but friends. Amen.

Listen for the word of the Lord

Gospel Reading

John 15:9-17

9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Epistle Reading

1 John 5:1-6

5 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, 4 whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. 5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

(Children are invited to go downstairs for Sunday school).

Sermon

"God's Water and Blood"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (debt/debtors)

Call to Offering

As God has made our joy complete in the gift of God's Son, Christ Jesus our Savior, we worship him with our time, our talents and our treasure in acts of glad adoration. Let us bring our gifts to God.

Offertory

"Take Me to the River"
Played & Sung by Dan Holmes

Dan Holmes

Please use this time for prayer and reflection on how God is moving you to give – of your time, talent and resources. If you feel moved to give to Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, you can mail contributions to the church office, or use the button on our website (WillowCreekPC.org), or use this QR code to give through your smartphone, or you may leave your offering in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary as you leave after worship.



**Doxology (rise in spirit and body if you are able, and listen to the words of the Doxology)*
Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table
Great Thanksgiving

The Sacrament of Participation

The prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.

4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

Charge and Benediction

**Postlude*

"Carry Me On"
Sung & Played by Dan Holmes

Dan Holmes

**if you are able, we invite you to honor God by standing*.*

Thank you to our Liturgist Maren Reid and Recording Director Steve Picken.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session:

Class of 202 Maren Reid; Jeff Cummings; Abby Guthrie

Class of 202 Sandra Bell; Mary Beth Gratz; Mike Landi

Class of 202 Marie Wiersema; Karli Rankin; Jim Ralston

Deaconate:

Class of 2021 JoAnn Buffington; Gyneth Lamoi

Class of 2022 Delores Hall; Jim Hall

Class of 2023 Donna Hamilton

The Ongoing Efforts of the Persons Listed Below Are Greatly Appreciated

Ministers	All Members of the Body of Christ
Pastor	Rev. Lauren Patrus-Betzel
Bookkeeper	Diane VanVleet
Secretary	Peggy Knoepfle
Chairperson of Deacons	Jim Hall
Church Treasurer	Loren Buffington
Clerk of Session	Maren Reid
Organist and Chancel Choir Accompanist	Tom Andrew
Worship Music Director	Elizabeth O'Leary
Co-Financial Secretaries	Penny Picken & Sandra Bell
Head Ushers: Steve Picken, Matt Rankin, John Reid, Ed Rottman, Gene Wheeler, Jim Ralston	
Prayer Chain Coordinators: Delores Hall & Kim Reid	
Youth Sponsors: Lucas Greenlee and Maren Reid	

SPECIAL MISSION PROJECTS OF THE CHURCH

Empower Boone Food Pantry – empowerboone.org & Old Stone Church

Babies Angel Closet – Food & items up to 24 month given to mothers who are referred to us

Habitat for Humanity – boone-il-habitat.org

Kemmerer Village - kemmerervillage.org

Families in Need – funds from our Christmas Cookie Walk helps families in our community in times of crisis

For 2020, Marion Medical Mission – mmmwater.org

Members and friends to remember with prayers, cards or visits:

Home: Lee Pickett, Carolyn Miller, Dave Ensminger,
and Pat & Richard Nortch

Retirement Home: Geralyn Greenlee-N. Woods and Lois McEachran-W. Willows

For our prayer chain, e-mail halldee-jim@att.net, or call the church.

Please pray for those who are visiting and for those who are not yet here.

Please pray for our sister church, LORNE AND LOWLAND in Scotland.

