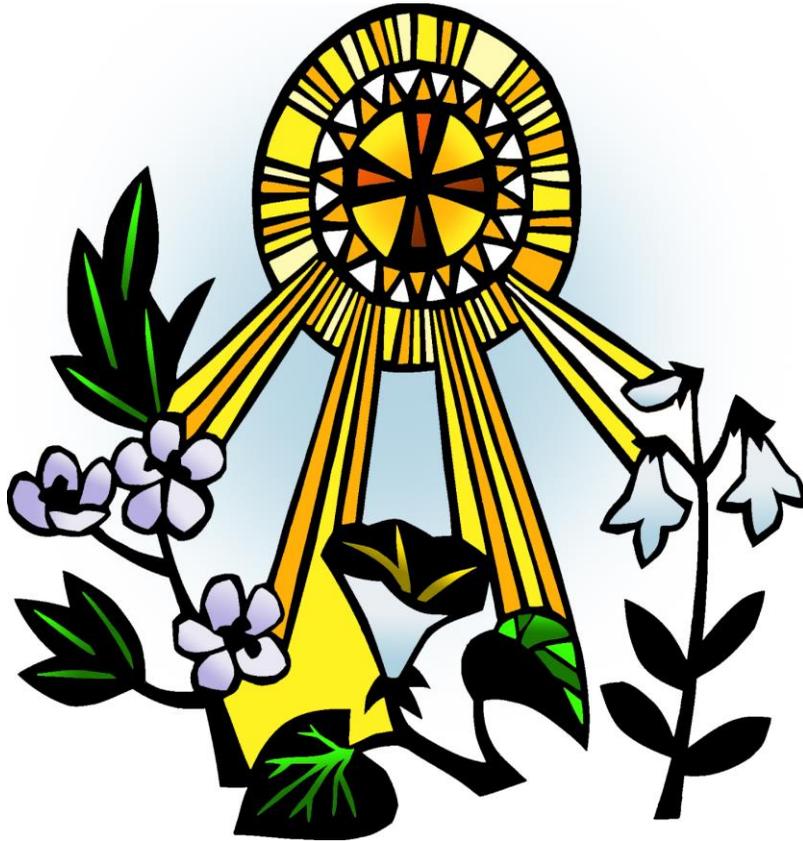


Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle

May 9, 2021

6th Sunday of Easter



“What the World Needs Now”

Rev. David Jones

7300 Belvidere Road
Caledonia, Illinois 61011

Phone (815) 885-3455
Email: willowcreekchrch@aol.com
Website: www.willowcreekpc.org



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

"M-O-T-H-E-R"

Theodore Morse

Sung by Monroe Family Singers: Katie, Kylie & Emily

Welcome and Sharing

***Call to Worship**

From you, O God, comes my praise in the great congregation.

My vows I will pay before those who fear the Lord.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

And all the families of the nations shall worship you, O God, our Lord and our Redeemer.

Let us worship God!

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

No. 450

"Be Thou My Vision"

Slane

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

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

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and whoever loves is born of God and knows God. If we love one another, God abides in us.

In this the love of God was made manifest among us that God sent Jesus Christ into the world. If we love one another, God abides in us.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent Jesus to be the expiation for our sins.

If we love one another, God abides in us.

A period of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

If we love one another, God abides in us and God's love is perfected in us.

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.

INVITATION TO THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

To bear fruit is both a gift and a responsibility. Nourishment flows through the vine, bringing gifts of beauty as leaves and buds appear. Cultivation and care coax the fruit to maturity in time for the harvest.

Let us pray: Open our hearts and minds O God to Christ's holy words. Amen

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Epistle Reading

1 John 4:7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Sermon

"What the World Needs Now"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

"Youth Recognition"

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

Call to Offering

As God's wisdom led our fathers and mothers throughout the ages, God makes us receptive to the testimony of his love, Let us express thanksgiving for this love with our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

"It is No Secret"

Stuart Hamblen

Sung by Monroe Family Singers: Katie, Kylie & Emily

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.*

Prayer of Dedication.

Your love, O God, is perfected in us through the gift of your chosen one, Christ Jesus. All that we have reflects a measure of his atoning sacrifice poured out on behalf of us all. Accept what we give to you as we respond to Christ's loving-kindness, and enhance what we do, so that others may experience your tenderness. Cultivate us to bear more fruit to the glory of your name. Amen.

Hymn # 732

"Rejoice in God's Saints"

Fred Pratt Green

1 Rejoice in God's saints today and all days
A world without saints forgets how to praise
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer
Their depth of adoring Lord help us to share

2 Some march with events to turn them God's way
Some need to withdraw the better to pray
Some carry the gospel through fire and through flood
Our world is their parish their purpose is God

3 Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown
Who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own
They share our complaining, our comforts, our cares
What patience in caring, what courage, is theirs

4 Rejoice in God's saints today and all days
A world without saints forgets how to praise
In loving in living they prove it is true
Their way of self-giving Lord leads us to you

Charge and Benediction

**Postlude*

*"Jesus Loves Me"
Played on Organ by Tom Andrew*

Bradbury

**If you are able, we invite you to honor God by standing. Song Permission One License # 117797, CCLI # 4392338*

Thank you to our Liturgist April Rottman and Recording Director Steve Picken.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session:

Class of 2021 Maren Reid; Jeff Cummings; Abby Guthrie
Class of 2022 Sandra Bell; Mary Beth Gratz; Mike Landi
Class of 2023 Marie Wiersema; Karli Rankin; Jim Ralston

Deaconate:

Class of 2021 JoAnn Buffington; Gyneth Lamont
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	

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Christian Education Committee has decided to have Sunday school throughout the summer. It will be for toddlers through 5th graders. They can go downstairs after the scripture reading and our Middle School/High School Youth will be leading it. The dates for Sunday school are:

May 16, 23, & 30

June 6, 13, & 27

July 11, 18, & 25

August 8, 15, & 22

Bed Build!

Saturday, June 19 2021 from 9:00-12:00ish will be our first Bed Build, planned in coordination with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Help us provide beds to children in our area who are in need. Below are the ways you can help:

- donate single size sheets, blankets, pillows, or mattress protectors (we need enough for 10 beds)
- sign up to help build beds on June 19 (from sanding to sawing to nailing, all are welcome)
- sign up to help make lunches for the work crew (lunch crew will wear gloves and masks, and package everything individually)
- sign up to help make tie blankets to give to the children receiving the beds



Many hands make light work! This should be a fun way to work together as a church family to help those in our community. All ages and abilities are welcome! We'll provide a picnic lunch for all those who volunteer.

Session Summary:

Session is excited to announce our first Bed Build on Saturday, June 19! See the Streamer and bulletins for more information. Summer Parking Lot worship is back!! Mark your calendars for June 20, July 18, and August 15 for enjoying worship in our parking lot. Sitting socially distanced on lawn chairs is welcomed. Session also approved a plan to pay for much needed repairs to our beloved Rose Window. Keep an eye out for ways you might be able to help with this necessary endeavor. Many thanks to our Building & Grounds folks for the work they've put into scheduling the repairs. Finally we wish to express our deep appreciation for Pastor Dave as he acted as the moderator of Session.