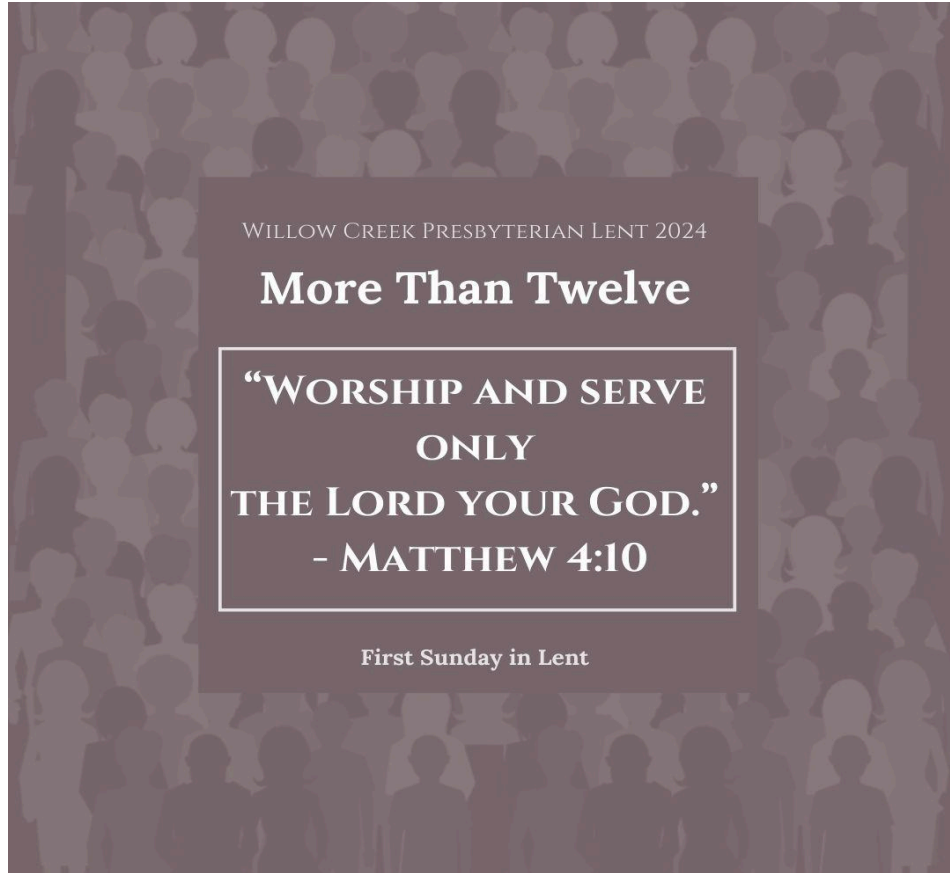


WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024 | FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT | 10:00AM



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Come, celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ with us! All are invited to sing, pray and participate in liturgy.

IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO STAND.

PRELUDE

THE GLORY OF THESE FORTY DAYS
Tom Andrew, Organ

BACH

WELCOME AND SHARING

PASTOR LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP: LITANY FOR LENT

ED ROTTMAN

For forty days and nights the rain fell,

and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ,
so give us the grace of repentance

that we may pass through the grave with Christ and be born again to eternal life.

For Christ is the One who lived, was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us. Amen!

Come, let us worship God!

IF HYMN #164

DOWN GALILEE'S SLOW ROADWAYS

DUNSTAN, 1991 & HORMAN, 1998

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy, Eternal, Everlasting God, forgive us for all that we think we know. We think we know our weaknesses. We think we know our vulnerabilities. And we think we know how to hide those things. Forgive us for forgetting that we are not asked to hide our humanity, but to embrace it. Forgive us for forgetting how deep your love truly is. Forgive us for doubting that you go with us into the wilderness - even the wilderness of our own souls - and you do not leave us there. Forgive us for not noticing when you are closer than our next breath, and for giving into the temptation of believing we are alone, and must take care of all of these things on our own.

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM ROMANS 5:5

God's love has been poured into your hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit!
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

I 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.

I PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the Peace of Christ be with you; **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING DEUTERONOMY 6:1 - 9 & 13
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PAGE 284

SPECIAL MUSIC

STEAL AWAY TO HEAVEN
Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL MELODY ARR. MARK HAYES

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

At this time, children are invited to go downstairs for Sunday School.

GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 4:1 - 11
The Gospel of our Risen Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PAGES 1499 - 1500

SERMON

"NOT TODAY, SATAN"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #167

FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

SMYTTAN, 1856 & HERBST, 1676

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - AN EXCERPT FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

MY SAVIOR AND MY GOD

JAY ALTHOUSE

I 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.

I PRAYER OF DEDICATION

I HYMN #509

ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY

DUNSTAN, 1990 & MOORE, 1825

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION

You are invited to come forward down the center aisles.

You may choose to pull a piece from the common loaf or select a pre-cut piece of gluten free bread from the tray on the communion table.

You may dip your bread into the common cup or choose an individual cup from the tray on the communion table. If you need communion brought to you, we will gladly do so.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION 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, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and glory forever. Amen.

I HYMN #465

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

SCRIVEN, 1855 & CONVERSE, 1868

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

JESUS, TEMPTED IN THE DESERT

HERMAN G. STUEMPFLE JR.

SONG PERMISSIONS CCLI COPYRIGHT LICENSE 1207686, SIZE A/ONE LICENSE A-725962.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: ED ROTTMAN

USHERS: BRENDA BENNING, CURT GREENLEE, DON GREENLEE AND JACK GREENLEE

This year's **Lenten theme** is "**More Than Twelve**". Each week we will read a story about Jesus interacting with someone other than the Twelve Disciples. Each story will teach us something about how Jesus lived, served and loved during his time on earth.

Each Wednesday, we will dig a little deeper into the characters of Sunday's story at our **Lenten Soup Study** where we'll share a simple meal, fellowship and study. You do not have to come each week – come when your schedule allows! We will meet on **Wednesdays 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13 and 3/20 from 5:30pm - 7pm**. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to pick a day to bring soup.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 18th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - 1 st Sunday in Lent - Communion by Intinction, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship
Monday 19th	6:30p	Presidents Day - No Argyle Preschool
Tuesday 20th	8a	Buildings & Grounds, 6p Pipe Band & Drumming
Wednesday 21st	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant, 5:30p Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 22nd	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Friday 23rd		<i>Streamer Articles Due!</i>
Sunday 25th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - 2 nd Sunday in Lent - Communion by Intinction, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:15a F/P/E

SESSION

Class of 2024: Abby Guthrie, Lucas Greenlee, April Rottman (Clerk)

Class of 2025: Jeff Cummings, Rebekah Landi, Katherine Ralston

Class of 2027: Lon Clark, Karli Rankin, Molly Shipton

DIACONATE

Class of 2024: Gyneth Lamont, Carolyn J. Wheeler

Class of 2025: Mary Beth Gratz, David Perez-Fernandez

Class of 2027: Ron Muzzarelli, Renee O'Dell

"A Faith Community, Growing Together, Sharing the love of Christ"

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

For more information about our staff and volunteers, visit our website.

The Church Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30am - 3pm.

If you'd like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren or Pastor Tanya, please reach out to the Church Office.

Phone: (815) 885-3455
7300 Belvidere Road
Caledonia, Illinois 61011



Email: office@willowcreekpc.org
Website: www.willowcreekpc.org
Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>