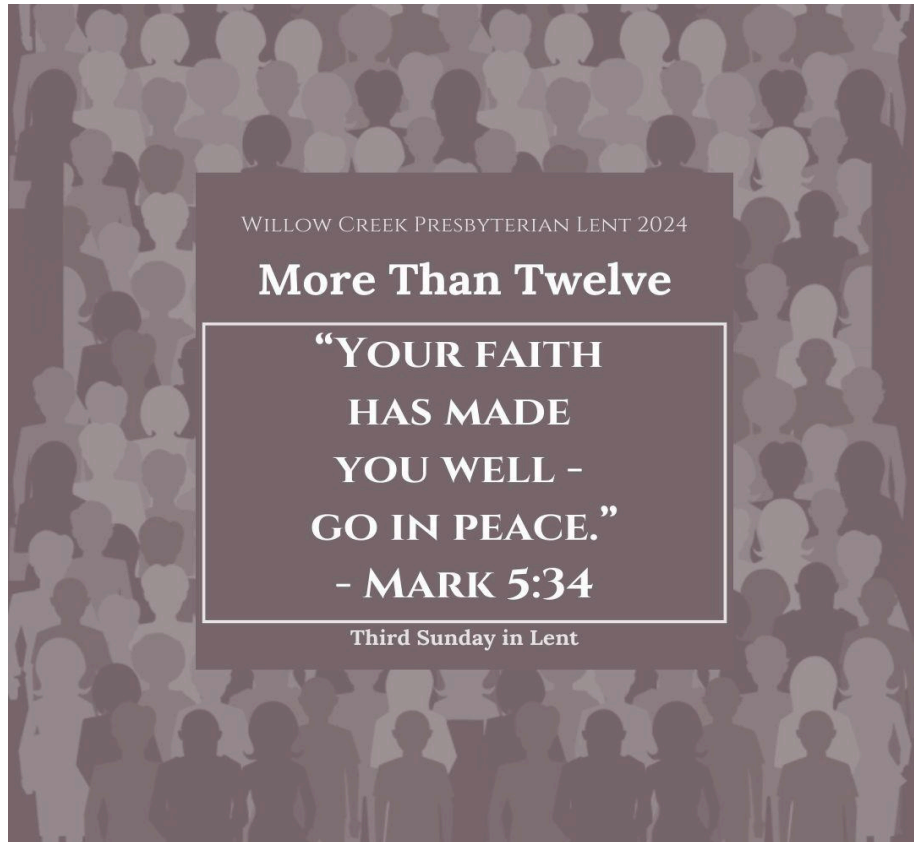


WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 3RD, 2024 | THIRD 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.

I IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO STAND.

PRELUDE

THE WONDERFUL CROSS
Tom Andrew, Piano

CHRIS TOMLIN & ISAAC WATTS

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

I CALL TO WORSHIP: LITANY FOR LENT

MARY BETH GRATZ

Moses spent forty days on the mountain,

Learning the commandments of God.

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!

I HYMN #611

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

DYKE, BEETHOVEN & HODGES

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we read stories of healing in scripture, and wonder if those miracles are still available. We are in pain and wonder why you heal the ailments of others, but not ours. We have hearts full of grief and wonder why you didn't heal the one we loved, but rather, called them home to you. We wonder if these old stories are all just metaphors - but we confess we want them to be more than metaphors. We want to be able to hope for miracles. Will you give us wisdom and hope? Will you let our faith be a little foolish, a little too big? Will you show us how to release our attempts to control the things you control?

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

FIRST GOSPEL READING

MARK 5:21 - 34

PAGES 1559 - 1560

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

JESUS TOOK THE CUP

ARR. HAL HOPSON

Based on the Scottish tune: The Lichtbob's Lassie
Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SECOND GOSPEL READING

MARK 5:35 - 43

LUCAS GREENLEE

The Gospel of our Risen Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PAGE 1560

SERMON

"A RECIPE FOR MIRACLES"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #178

THE WOMAN HIDING IN THE CROWD

WEAVER JR., 2008 & ROWAN, 1992

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

GIVE ME JESUS

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

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

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

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 #187

SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

THRUPP, 1836 & BRADBURY, 1859

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

HE TOUCHED ME
Tom Andrew, Organ

GAITHER

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: MARY BETH GRATZ

USHERS: BRENDA BENNING, ARGYLE GREENLEE, KATHERINE RALSTON AND MATT RALSTON

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 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.

The Youth Group will be helping with the **Easter Egg Hunt** on **Sunday, March 31st, 2024 at 9:30am**.

Would you like to donate candy? Must be individually wrapped and be able to fit inside a plastic egg.

Candy is due here at Willow Creek by March 10th, 2024 for the Youth. Thank you so much for your support! Any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Church Office.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 3rd	8:45a	Choir Rehearsal, 9:15a Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - 3 rd Sunday in Lent - Communion by Intinction, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a Deacons, Youth Group
Tuesday 5th	6:30p	Session
Wednesday 6th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant, 5:30p Lenten Soup Study
Thursday 7th	11:30a	Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's, 6p Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 10th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - 4 th Sunday in Lent - Communion by Intinction, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a Youth Group

Change for Change

"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.

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