

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 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 #726 WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME (THE SUMMONS) BELL & MAULE, 1987

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE BLESSED BE YOUR NAME BETH & MATT REDMAN

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: MARY BETH GRATZ
USHERS: BRENDA BENNING, RENEE O'DELL, STEVE PICKEN AND JOHN REID

Cover Image: Koenig, Peter. **Breakfast on the Beach**, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58541> [retrieved April 2, 2024]. Original source: Peter Winfried (Canisius) Koenig, <https://www.pwkoenig.co.uk/>

SPRING MISSION CLOSET DRIVE for The Haven Network! We will collect items to make kits for moms through the end of April. **What is Needed:** **Travel Sizes of Women's** body wash, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, hair ties, makeup wipes, chapstick and \$25.00 gift cards for Rockford Area Chain Restaurants (Chili's, Red Lobster, etc.). Contact Marisa O'Dell, David Perez-Fernandez or the Church Office at 815-885-3455 with any questions.

Youth Group will meet after worship for games, fellowship and lunch on **Sunday April 14th & 21st** from **11:30am - 1:30pm**. Check the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you'd like to help with lunch!

Join us on **Sundays at 9:15am in the Library for Adult Sunday School!** We are beginning a new study on **Spiritual Disciplines**. We will meet on **April 14th, 21st, 28th as well as May 5th & 12th**.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 7th	10a	Worship - Maren Reid Preaching - Communion, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship
Tuesday 9th	6:30p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals
Wednesday 10th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant,
Thursday 11th	10:30a	Ladies Walk at WCPC, 11:30a Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's, 6p Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 14th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - Pastor Lauren Preaching, 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 office.

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WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 7TH, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER | 10:00AM



OUR APPROACH TO GOD

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

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

PRELUDE HOW GREAT THOU ART STUART WESLEY & KEENE HINE
Tom Andrew, Piano

WELCOME AND SHARING REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

I CALL TO WORSHIP FROM I JOHN 1 MARY BETH GRATZ

We declare to you what was from the beginning,
**what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life.**
This life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it,
and declare the eternal life that was revealed to us.
This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you,
that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all.
Come, let us worship God!

I HYMN #14 FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH PIERPOINT, KOCHER & MONK

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, forgive us for taking the story of salvation so personally. Yes, you have saved us, and also, you have not saved only us. You have called us to a ministry of reconciliation, given us the commandment to love others as you have loved us, and sent us out to tell others the Good News of Resurrection Hope. We are all too content to keep these things to ourselves, and not take the risks of inviting others to experience the community of faith. Forgive us for the times we have resisted reconciliation. Forgive us for our failure to love - you, others, even ourselves. Forgive us for ignoring your call, especially when it takes us outside of our comfort zones. Forgive us for forgetting how good your Gospel is, and for not believing that even we are called to share this message with others.

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM I JOHN 1

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, our just and faithful God will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

JOHN 21:1 - 14

PAGES 1687 - 1688

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

AGNUS DEI

MICHAEL W. SMITH

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

SECOND GOSPEL READING

JOHN 21:15 - 19

PAGE 1688

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

SERMON

"THE PEOPLE JESUS LOVES"

MAREN REID

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #306

BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

FAWCETT, NÄGELI & MASON

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

PAUL BALOCHE

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 #525

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

African American Spiritual

ARR. COSTEN, 1988

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.