

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 14TH, 2024 | THIRD 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.

IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO STAND.

PRELUDE

WALK IN THE LIGHT

Dan Holmes, Voice & Guitar

DAN HOLMES

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP FROM PSALM 47

REBEKAH LANDI

Our God is the Most High, the great Ruler over all the earth.

God is the One who subdues nations and chose our inheritance for us,

God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord has ascended amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises!

Sing praises to the One who Reigns, sing praises!

For God is the Ruler of all the earth.

Sing to God a psalm of praise.

Come, let us worship God!

IF HYMN #260

ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS

DIX, 1866 & PRICHARD, 1831

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we come to you in fear. We are afraid we might not really be fully forgiven, not of our worst sins. We are afraid we couldn't be forgiven of our little, persistent sins. We struggle to believe your grace is for everything within us, even the things we try to hide from. Forgive us, Holy God, for clothing ourselves in shame when you have given us the clothing of righteousness. Forgive us for not believing your grace, and for the many times we fail to treat others as though they, too, are fully beloved and fully forgiven.

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM 1 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 READING

ACTS 1:1 - 9

PAGES 1690 - 1691

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

WALK ON THE WATER

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

SECOND READING

ACTS 1:10 - 14

PAGE 1691

Holy wisdom, **holy Word.**

SERMON

"ASCENDING HOPE"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #257

THE RISEN CHRIST

WEAVER, 1993 & GREATOR, 1916

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

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 #452

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

PAUL BALOCHE, 1997

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: REBEKAH LANDI
USHERS: MIKE LANDI, RON MUZZARELLI, CAROLYN J. WHEELER AND CAROLYN L. WHEELER

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.

The 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 will be studying Spiritual Disciplines on **April 14th, 21st, 28th as well as May 5th & 12th.**

For Eastertide (the season from Easter to Pentecost) we will learn about the faith and ministry of the early church through a sermon series on the book of Acts.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 14th	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - Pastor Lauren Preaching, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a Youth Group
<i>Change for Change</i> Tuesday 16th	8a	Buildings & Grounds, 6p Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals, Worship & Music
Wednesday 17th	9a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant,
Thursday 18th	10:30a	Ladies Walk at WCPC, 11:30a Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's, 6p Bell Rehearsal
Sunday 21st	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a Youth Group

If you feel moved to give to WCPC, the QR Code can be used.



"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.

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

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

