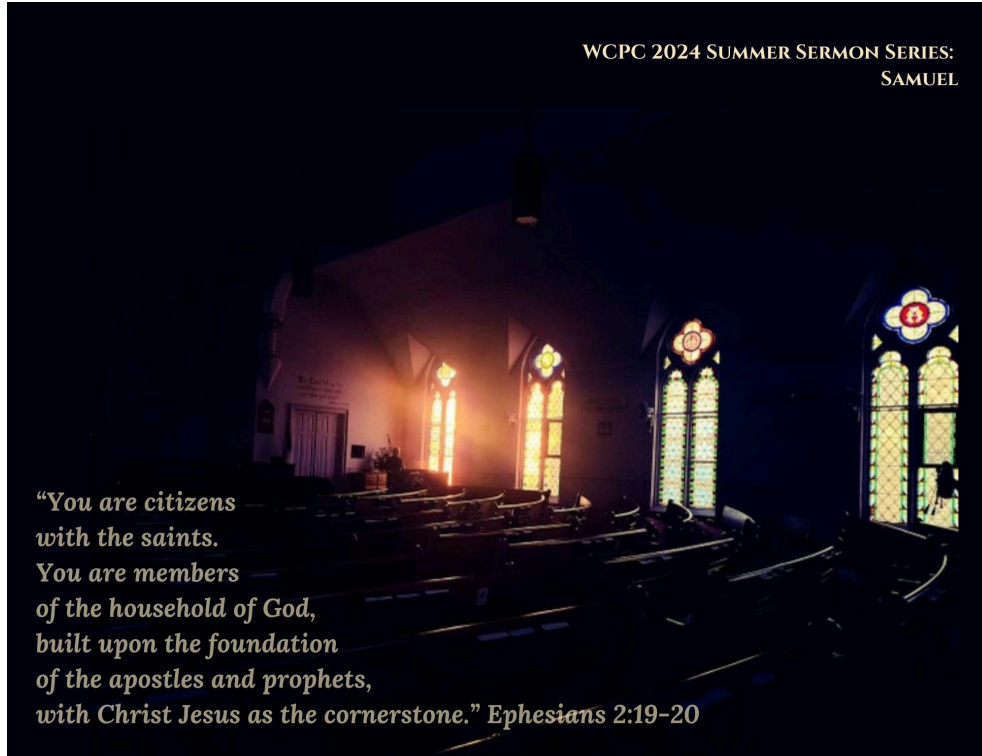


# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 | TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | 10:00AM



WCPC 2024 SUMMER SERMON SERIES:  
SAMUEL

*"You are citizens  
with the saints.  
You are members  
of the household of God,  
built upon the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets,  
with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone." Ephesians 2:19-20*

## 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 HONOR GOD BY STANDING.

PRELUDE

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

KATHLEEN THOMERSON

Tom Andrew, Organ

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP - FROM EPHESIANS 2

RON MUZZARELLI

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near. **Christ is our peace.** Jesus has made us one and has broken down any dividing walls. **Christ is our peace.** Christ has reconciled us to God in one body through the cross. **Christ is our peace.** Jesus came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to you who were near. **Do you ever feel lost? Do you ever feel as though you don't belong? Do you struggle to experience peace?**

Christ is our peace - we are no longer strangers. We are citizens with the saints and we are members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone.

**Our God is a God of peace. Our God calls us to make peace. Come, let us worship God!**

IF HYMN #394

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

NEALE, PURCELL & HAWKINS

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Redeemer, forgive us for hesitating to believe that you welcome our confession. Forgive us for our fears that we are not good enough, and forgive us for our attempts to hide our fears away by pushing through, by trying to build and complete and achieve. Forgive us for confusing the accomplishments of our own hands with your favor. We ask you to humble us, and we ask you to forgive our fear as we pray that prayer. We want your grace more than anything else, and we confess all that is within us that tries us to protect us from needing grace. May we find joy in your acceptance of us and honestly confess our sins.**

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM 1 SAMUEL 2

There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no Rock like our God.  
**My heart rejoices in you, O Lord; for I delight in your deliverance.**  
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

EPISTLE READING

EPHESIANS 2:13 - 22

PAGES 1819 - 1820

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

I WALK THE KING'S HIGHWAY

EVELYN CUMMINS & HERERT DRAESEL JR.

Jim Burrigh, Voice & Guitar

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 SAMUEL 7:1 - 13

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

Holy wisdom, **holy Word.**

PAGES 480 - 481

SERMON

"BEGINNING, MIDDLE, ETERNAL"

**OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage. 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

## PASS IT ON

KURT KAISER

## 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 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 #462

## I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

HANKEY, 1866 &amp; FISCHER, 1869

## I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

## LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

JILL JACKSON &amp; SY MILLER

---

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

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: RON MUZZARELLI  
USHERS: MIKE LANDI, STEVE PICKEN, SHANNON REAGAN AND ED ROTTMAN

Every Sunday, we join our voices together to **affirm what we believe** using the Book of Confessions. Yale History Professor Jaroslav Pelikan once said this: *My faith life, like that of everyone else, fluctuates. There are ups and downs and hot spots and cold spots and boredom and ennui and all the rest. And so I'm not asked on a Sunday morning: 'What do you believe?'*

*I'm not asked to sit down and write what I happen to believe today. Instead, with a common confession, we answer the question "What do you believe?" as a member of a community which for a millennium and a half has said: We believe in One God.*

Rather than figuring it out as individuals, we turn to faithful followers of Christ throughout time and around the world to see how they answered: *What do you believe?*

Today's confession is from **A Brief Statement of Faith**, which was written when the two largest Presbyterian churches in the United States reunited in 1983 after splitting over the practice of slavery prior to the Civil War. This expressly Trinitarian confession calls the church's attention to God's eternal sovereignty and reminds us that the church is not only a refuge from the world, but rather the church is always being reformed into the body by which Christ continues blessing all of creation and all of God's children.

This **Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** we are hosting a group of youth and chaperones from Ukraine. Spaghetti will be provided (sauce with and without meat offered).

Please RSVP on the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or by contacting the Church Office so we can prepare enough food and to let us know if you can help with the meal by bringing a salad or dessert.

**UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES:** *Mark these special Sundays on your calendars!*

SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 10AM WORSHIP OUTSIDE THE CHAPEL AT SCOTTISH ARGYLE CEMETERY  
Bring a chair and join us for this special worship service where we will remember those we lost during and since the pandemic who we were not able to have funerals for.

If there is anyone you would like honored, please let Pastor Lauren know.

SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> KIRKIN' SUNDAY!

**Remember to check the items in the Fellowship Hall and see if you'd like to take anything home with you!**  
**Items left will be donated soon. Any questions, see Rebekah Landi or Katherine Ralston.**

**WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR**

<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship, 11a Fellowship
<small>Change for Change</small>		
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	6:30p	Session
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Last Day of Church Office Summer Hours * MWF 8:30a - 3p resumes on 8/19</b>
	10:30a	Ladies Walk at WCPC, 11:30a Ladies Meet & Eat at Sophia's
	5p	Set-Up for Ukraine Dinner, 6p Dinner for Visitors from Ukraine
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship

**"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.

**This is our final week for Summer hours for the Church Office, which are: Tuesday thru Thursday 10a - 2p. Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>, we will resume our normal Church Office hours of Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30a - 3p.**

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](mailto:office@willowcreekpc.org)

Website: [www.willowcreekpc.org](http://www.willowcreekpc.org)

Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>

