

# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 | REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY | 10:00AM



“JESUS BEFORE PILATE”

## 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

DEBORAH DUNNAVAN, ORGAN

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP - LITANY FOR REIGN OF CHRIST

LON CLARK

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice! **Christ will reign forever and ever.**

The Lord is robed in majesty and girded in strength. **Christ will reign forever and ever.**

God has established the world, and God's realm will never be shaken.

**Christ will reign forever and ever.**

God will judge the world with righteousness and the nations with equity.

**Christ will reign forever and ever.**

The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord.

**Christ will reign forever and ever.**

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior, you pour out your power for the powerless and your salvation for the lost. **Come, let us worship God!**

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION &amp; PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all, we try to rule our own lives. We forget that you alone are sovereign. We try to be the rulers of what you have given us, forgetting that you are the giver and the ruler. Remind us of the joy of submission. Restore us to the peace of following. Return us to the peace of faith in our good and sovereign God.**

## A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM COLOSSIANS 1:13 - 14

God has rescued us from the power of evil and claimed us for the realm of Jesus Christ.  
**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 18:28 - 35

PAGES 1682 - 1683

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

## SPECIAL MUSIC

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

ARR. ROBERT LOWRY

Deborah Dunnavan, Piano

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

## SECOND GOSPEL READING

JOHN 18:36 - 40

PAGE 1683

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

## SERMON

"QUESTIONS FOR THE KING"

**OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE**

## MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - AN EXCERPT FROM THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Q. Why is Jesus called “Christ,” meaning “anointed”?

**A. Because Jesus has been ordained by God the Creator and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.**

Q. But why are you called a Christian?

**A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in this anointing. I am anointed to confess the name of Jesus, to present myself as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.**

Q. Why do you call him “our Lord”?

**A. Because— not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood—Jesus has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be God’s very own.**

OFFERTORY

WE GATHER TOGETHER

NETHERLANDS FOLK HYMN

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 #647

GIVE THANKS

HENRY SMITH, 1978

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

ARR. JOHN HUGHES

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: LON CLARK  
USHERS: CURT GREENLEE, DON GREENLEE, JACK GREENLEE AND OLIVIA LANDI

Today’s affirmation of faith is from **The Heidelberg Catechism**, which was completed in 1563 in Germany to reflect the beliefs of the early Reformed (and always being reformed) Church.

**Cover Image:** Le Breton, J. (1933). *Jesus Before Pilate* [Stained Glass]. Amiens, France: Cathédrale d’Amiens

Today’s Prelude is a medley of “*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*” (Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music) and “*This Is My Father’s World*” (Sheppard, 1915 & Barnes, 1926).

The Congregational Meeting is today at the conclusion of worship for the purpose of electing officers and approving Rev. Lauren Patrus-Betzel's Terms of Call for 2025. Our **Hamball Potluck Dinner** is after the meeting - all are welcome, we always have plenty!

### SLATE OF OFFICERS

**Elders** Class of 2027: Tom Andrew, Cindy Nelson & Pat Nortch

**Deacons** Class of 2027: Annie Picken & Shannon Reagan

**Nominating Committee** Sandy Bell & Matt Ralston **Co-Financial Secretaries** Matt Ralston & Ed Rottman

**Bereavement Committee** Katie Monroe & Kylie Monroe **President of the Corporation** Maren Reid

**Thank you to this year's Nominating Committee:** Ron Muzzarelli (Deacon), Molly Shipton (Elder), Shannon Reagan (Member-at-Large) and Kim Reid (Member-at-Large)

### **Make a Local Family's Christmas Merry & Bright!**

Our church will once again adopt a local family that needs some help to have a Merry Christmas. Please choose an item or two to purchase and gift wrap and return to church by **Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**. If you would prefer to give money to this cause, that's a big help, too! You can put it in the offering plate (please mark on the memo line of the check or an envelope: "Tessa's Family"). Please reach out to Shannon if you have any questions. Thank you for your generosity & willingness to spread the joy of the season!

Would you like to order a **Poinsettia** in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person? Order forms are in the Fellowship Hall and on the Church Office door. Orders and payment (\$12.00 each) due to the Church Office **by Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

### WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Congregational Meeting followed by Hamball Dinner
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Argyle Preschool Thanksgiving Break 11/25 - 12/2</b>
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	6p	Pipe Band & Drumming
<b>Thursday 28<sup>st</sup></b>		<b>Happy Thanksgiving! - Church Office Closed</b>
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Church Office Closed! - Regular Hours Resume on Monday 12/2</b>
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	9:15a	Adult Sunday School, 10a Worship - Communion, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship

**December 1<sup>st</sup>:** First Sunday in Advent with Communion

**Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>:** All Church Gingerbread Party **2pm - 4pm**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>:** Second Sunday in Advent - Children's Christmas Pageant

**December 15<sup>th</sup>:** Third Sunday in Advent - Worship with Handbells & Cookie Walk following

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Fourth Sunday in Advent - Lessons & Carols

**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight **4pm**

**December 29<sup>th</sup>:** Hymn Sing

**"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 8:30a - 3p.** 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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