

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 12TH, 2025 | BAPTISM OF OUR LORD | 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 HONOR GOD BY STANDING.

PRELUDE

MARY'S BABY BOY
Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto

SPIRITUAL, ARR. PHILIP KERN

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

And as Jesus was coming out of the water, the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

And a voice said: You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters! Come, let us worship God!

I HYMN #463

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

AMERICAN FOLK MELODY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves and separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. Have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promise of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM LUKE 3

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us,

“You are my child, my beloved! I am overjoyed with you!”

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 43:1 - 7

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The voice of the Lord, powerful and full of majesty. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

COME, BE BAPTIZED

GARY ALAN SMITH, ARR. JACK SCHRADER

Tom Andrew, Piano

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING

LUKE 3:15 - 17 & 21 - 22

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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SERMON

"BEING BELOVED"

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

I HYMN #490

WASH, O GOD, YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS

DUCK, 1987 & WOOD, 1958

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

THE SLEEP OF THE CHILD JESUS

F.A. GEUCART

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 #488

I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY

JOHN C. YLVISAKER, 1985

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

BAPTIZED IN WATER

MICHAEL SAWARD, ARR. DALE GROTENHUIS

Tom Andrew, Organ

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: RON MUZZARELLI
USHERS: LON & KATHY CLARK, KATHERINE RALSTON AND MATTHEW RALSTON

TODAY!

Plan to stay after worship to help **undecorate the church** and enjoy our **annual chili cook-off!**
All are welcome to bring a chili to share or just help with undecorating & enjoy what others bring.

COVER ART: *Baptism of Jesus* by Liz Valente (Instagram @donalizvalente)

HYMN NOTES: Dianne Londo writes about a “Hymn of the Month” in each Streamer. January’s hymn is #490 *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters*. We will sing it at least twice this month as we learn it. Today’s closing hymn #488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry* was a particular favorite of Lee Pickett’s, and we sang it at her memorial service.

Every Sunday, we join our voices together to affirm what we believe using our denominations' Book of Confessions or words from Scripture. Today's affirmation is the **The Apostles' Creed**. This form of the creed dates back to the 8th Century, and is traditionally used at baptisms to celebrate our connection to Christians from other times and places and our unity in Christ.

Join us next **Sunday, January 19th** for our **Officer Ordination & Installation**, which will take place during the regular worship service at 10am. Following worship, all currently serving Elders & Deacons are invited to Officer Training in the Fellowship Hall 11:30am - 2pm. We will have lunch together (reach out to Pastor Lauren to sign up to bring something for our meal) and pray and plan for the upcoming year at Willow Creek.

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 20th, 2025 for Martin Luther King Day.

Do you remember how cool it felt to find out a friend's favorite song was also on the B-side of a cassette tape? Or the thrill of finding a deep track that speaks to your soul? (For Swifties, these hidden gems are songs “from the vault”). There's nothing like discovering a song that encapsulates everything you love about an artist, and everything you're feeling in the moment. What if there were passages of Scripture like that? Often overlooked stories and characters who resonate with you and teach us something new about God's love. Join us in worship from **January 26th - February 23rd** as we explore some of the Bibles “**Deep Cuts & B-Sides**”, and learn the legacies of incredible figures from Shiphrah to Eutychus.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

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| Sunday 12th | 10a | Worship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Undecorate the Church and Chili Cook-off |
| Tuesday 14th | 4p | Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals |
| Wednesday 15th | 8a | Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant |
| Thursday 16th | 6p | Bell Choir Rehearsal |
| Sunday 19th | 10a | Worship - Officer Ordination & Installation , 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a Officer Training |

“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 & 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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