

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

**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 #301

LET US BUILD A HOUSE (ALL ARE WELCOME)

HAUGEN, 1994

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FORGIVE OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE

ROSAMOND ELEANOR HERKLOTS

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: APRIL ROTTMAN  
USHERS: BRENDA BENNING, STEVE PICKEN, KARLI RANKIN AND ED ROTTMAN

Every Sunday, we join our voices together to affirm what we believe using our denomination's Book of Confessions or words from Scripture. Scholar Jaroslav Pelikan once said: *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 with a three-by-five index and write down 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 now for a millennium and a half has said: We believe in One God.* On Communion Sundays, this church typically confesses using the **Nicene Creed**. This is our most ecumenical creed. More Christians throughout time and around the world have confessed their faith using these words than any other confession or creed.

Join us this **Wednesday, March 26th 5:30pm - 7pm** for our **Lenten Soup Study**.

We will share a simple meal and discuss chapter 5 and the first half of chapter 6 of Atul Gawande's book *Being Mortal*. Reading is not required to attend - all are welcome!

The Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir will sing two songs on Palm Sunday, April 13th.

We will have two rehearsals: April 6th at 8:45a and April 13th (Palm Sunday) at 8:45am.

Anyone can come and join us. Come one, come all!

#### WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	10a	Worship - Communion, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	8a	Building & Grounds Meeting, 6p Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals
<b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship - Communion, 11a Fellowship, 11:15a F/P/E Meeting, 11:30a Youth Group

**"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 Church Office.

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## WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 23RD, 2025 | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT | 10:00AM



#### OUR APPROACH TO GOD

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

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

PRELUDE

LORD I'M COMING HOME

Tom Andrew, Organ

WILLIAM JAMES KIRKPATRICK

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

I CALL TO WORSHIP: LUKE 15:1 - 10

APRIL ROTTMAN

Many gathered around to hear Jesus, but some muttered: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and calls his friends and neighbors together and says:

**'Rejoice with me; what was lost now is found.'**

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says:

**"Rejoice with me; what was lost now is found." Amazing grace, how sweet the sound. I once was lost, but now am found.**

Is it possible to be found even if you don't know that you are lost?

**Yes! It is grace that has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home. Come, let us worship God!**

I HYMN #649

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND

NEWTON, TSOSIE ARR. EDWIN O. EXCELL

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we rejoice when the lost have been found. We rejoice, and yet, sometimes we wonder how they got lost in the first place. We rejoice, and yet, we have questions about where the lost went and what they were doing and whether or not they really deserve all of that grace. We know we shouldn't keep accounts on how much grace is needed, so we confess, too, our tendency to do that. We confess that we are guilty of judging others, and we are guilty of not recognizing how much we ourselves need grace. Forgive us, O God, and make us more like you.**

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM ISAIAH 55:3

Listen so that you may live: the steadfast love of the Lord never fails.  
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 LUKE 15:11 - 24 PAGE 1624  
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC THE CALL GEORGE HERBERT, RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS  
Nicolai Janitzky, Baritone

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SECOND GOSPEL READING LUKE 15:25 - 32 ED ROTTMAN  
The Gospel of our Risen Savior. **Praise to you, O Christ.** PAGE 1624 - 1625

SERMON "PRODIGAL COMPASSION"

**OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #833 O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET ME GO MATHESON, 1881; PEACE, 1884

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 SHEPHERD, YOU SUPPLY MY NEED ISAAC WATTS

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 #215 WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS CARLTON R. YOUNG, 1965  
third verse  
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
to God and to the lamb who is the great I AM,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme, I will sing!

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.*