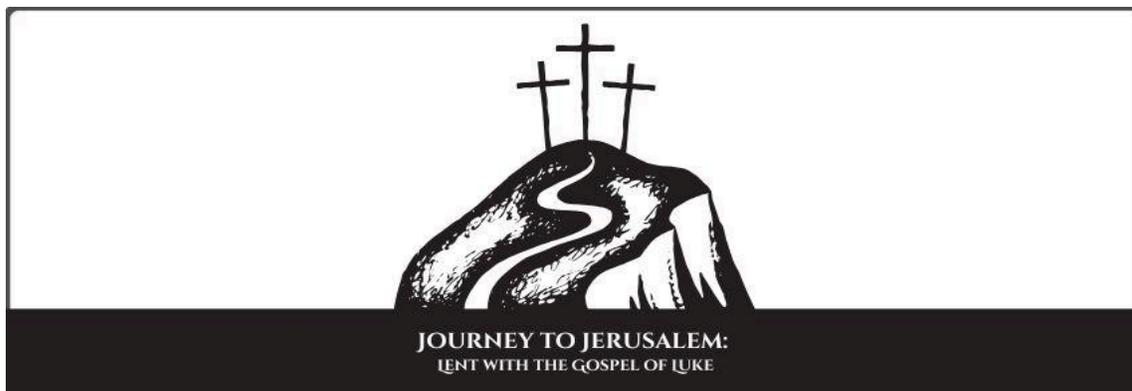


# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



APRIL 6TH, 2025 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF 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.*

IF YOU ARE ABLE, WE INVITE YOU TO STAND.

PRELUDE

BETTER IS ONE DAY  
Tom Andrew, Piano

MATT REDMAN

WELCOME AND SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

IF CALL TO WORSHIP FROM PSALM 51

MARY BETH GRATZ

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

**According to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.**

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

**Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.**

Cleanse me and I will be clean; let me hear joy and gladness.

**Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

**Our God is a God of resurrection, restoration and redemption. Come, let us worship God!**

IF HYMN #187

SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

BRADBURY, 1859

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, sometimes we have a hard time seeing you, and we are tempted to focus on the obstacles in our way. Sometimes we see others focused on you in a way that we are not, and instead of rejoicing at their faith, we grumble about how they're different. Sometimes we are the obstacle in someone else's way, sending them the message - intentionally or accidentally - that they do not belong at your table. But you have welcomed us all to the table of grace. Forgive us for building walls when you have destroyed every division and long to gather all of your children together under your grace and protection.**

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 18:31-34

PAGE 1630

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

I'D RATHER HAVE JESUS  
Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto

RHEA MILLER & GEORGE BEVERLY SHEA

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

SECOND GOSPEL READING

LUKE 19:1-10

JOHN REID

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

PAGE 1630 - 1631

SERMON

"COME DOWN AND SET THE TABLE"

**OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - 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.**

I HYMN #435

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

FABER, 1854; RONTGEN, 1906

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I LOOK NOT BACK

SWEDISH HYMN, OSCAR AHNFELT 1813

I DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings 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

*fourth verse*

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

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

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

*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.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION 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 #726

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME (THE SUMMONS)

BELL AND MAULE, 1987

I CHARGE AND BENEDECTION

POSTLUDE

HOW LOVELY IS THY DWELLING PLACE

Tom Andrew, Organ

SCOTTISH PSALTER, 1650

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: MARY BETH GRATZ  
USHERS: KATHY CLARK, STEVE PICKEN, JOHN REID AND ED ROTTMAN

Join us this **Wednesday, April 9th 5:30pm - 7pm** for our final **Lenten Soup Study**.  
We will share a meal and discuss Chapter 8 & the Epilogue of Atul Gawande's book *Being Mortal*.  
Reading is not required to attend - all are welcome!

**MISSION DRIVE:** We have been asked to help celebrate the **Capron Elementary's** Faculty and Staff during Teacher Appreciation Week! We are collecting *small bags of chips, crackers, cookies, snack cakes, bottled water, flavored water, juice, soda, post-it notes, fun pens, colored paper clips, binder clips, and fun office supplies*. All donations will be delivered on Tuesday, May 6th.  
*You are also welcome to bake homemade treats and drop them off May 4th, 5th or 6th.*

The Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir will sing two songs on Palm Sunday, April 13th.  
We will have one more rehearsal: April 13th (Palm Sunday) at 8:45am.  
Anyone can come and join us. Come one, come all!

### HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday** April 13<sup>th</sup> Palm Processional & Willow Creek Sanctuary Choir  
**Maundy Thursday** April 17<sup>th</sup> **Potluck & Communion Service** Fellowship Hall at 6pm  
**Good Friday** April 18<sup>th</sup> **Holy Saturday** Chapel open at Scottish Argyle Cemetery  
**Easter Sunday** April 20<sup>th</sup> **8am** Sunrise Service at the Chapel at Scottish Argyle Cemetery  
**9am** Pancake Breakfast\* **9:15am** Egg Hunt at WCPC  
**10am** Worship in the Sanctuary with Handbell Choir & Communion

\*Breakfast is at Willow Creek in the Fellowship Hall and provided by the Session. All are welcome!

Would you like to **donate candy** for our Easter Egg Hunt? Must be individually wrapped and be able to fit inside a plastic egg. **Please bring candy to church by April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

### WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship - Communion, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11a Fellowship, 11:15a Deacon Meeting
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	6p	Pipe Band & Drums: Lessons & Rehearsals,
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30p	Lenten Soup Study
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	6p	Bell Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship - Communion, 11a Fellowship, 10:30a Children's Sunday School, 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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