

# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 2ND, 2026 | MAUNDY THURSDAY | 6:00PM



AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

*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

IF CALL TO WORSHIP

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

**Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.**

IF 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.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

BRIANNE AMBROSE

**Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life.**

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

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

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.**

*Why do we give thanks and praise before this table?*

We give thanks for God's work of creation and salvation. It is our greatest joy, Creator God, to give you thanks in every time and place. You made the heavens and the earth and all that is in them - sun, moon, and stars, mountains, rivers, and trees, animals and people. You even made us in your own image to love and serve you, and you show us your mercy every day. Therefore with all people and all creation, we shout your praise.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and blessing are yours, Saving God, for in your mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ. Born a child like us, he grew up to be your servant. Jesus taught your truth. He welcomed, healed, forgave, and loved people. In the end, he suffered and died to save us from our sin. And God raised him up, to give us a new life. We praise you that before he died, our Savior gave us this holy meal to eat together until he comes again.

*Why do we eat bread at this table?*

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

*Why do we drink from the cup at this table?*

The same night, Jesus took the cup, saying: this cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

*What do we remember at this table?*

We remember God's gracious love for us, Christ's death and resurrection for us, and the Spirit's tender care for us. And remembering, we offer ourselves and our gifts for the world. According to our Lord's commandment:

**We remember Christ's life and death, we proclaim Christ's resurrection, we await Christ's coming in glory.**

*What do we ask at this table?*

Merciful God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine, that in eating and drinking together we may be made one with Christ and with one another. At this table we ask for unity in Christ our Lord, and we ask for strength to serve the world in your name until the day you make all things new. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*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.*

## I HYMN

### WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

PETER SCHOLTES, 1966

<sup>1</sup> We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

*Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

<sup>2</sup> We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land; *Refrain*

<sup>3</sup> We will work with each other, we will work side by side; we will work with each other; we will work side by side; and we'll guard human dignity and serve human pride; *Refrain*

<sup>4</sup> All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: *Refrain*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION & 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 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.**

## SERVICE OF SHADOWS

MARY LOUISE BRINGLE, 2006; SALLY ANN MORRIS, 2006

*After each Scripture reading, there will be a brief pause for reflection, then we will sing a verse from hymn #207 "Sharing Paschal Bread and Wine".*

### MATTHEW 26:31 - 32

Sharing Paschal bread and wine as the daylight ebbs away,  
friends at table join to dine. One of them will soon betray. Shadows lengthen into night.

### MATTHEW 26:33 - 34

In a grove of olive trees underneath a darkening sky, Jesus warns as he foresees:  
Peter also will deny. Shadows lengthen into night.

### MATTHEW 26:36 & 39 - 40

In the garden, still and deep, those he asked to watch and pray heavy lidded, fall asleep,  
weary from the anxious day. Shadows lengthen into night.

MATTHEW 26:42

Deeper in the garden's chill, Jesus kneels to pray alone, wrestling with God's holy will,  
crying out, "Let it be done!" Shadows lengthen into night.

MATTHEW 26:47 - 48

All too soon, the silence rends, with a crash of club and sword, Judas, still received as  
"Friend," with a kiss betrays his Lord. Shadows lengthen into night.

MATTHEW 26:55 - 56

Christ's disciples, weak with fear, fail one further, stringent test -  
so like us, with trouble near - fleeing far at his arrest. Shadows lengthen into night.

MATTHEW 26:73 - 75

While the web of darkness grows, Jesus suffers through his trial.  
As the herald rooster crows, Peter speaks his third denial. Shadows lengthen into night.

MATTHEW 27:31 & 39 - 43 & 45

Lifted high upon a cross, perfect love hangs pierced with nails.  
All creation grieves its loss, as the very sunlight fails. Shadows lengthen into night.

SILENCE

CLOSING CHIME

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

---

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! LITURGIST: BRIANNE AMBROSE  
USHERS: ED & APRIL ROTTMAN | PIANIST: ELIZABETH O'LEARY

***Baskets are available at the exits if you would like to give an offering.***

**FLOWERING CROSS** Please bring cut flowers to add to the wooden cross outside of the sanctuary  
doors beginning at noon on Good Friday through Easter morning.

**HOLY WEEK: Good Friday** April 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Holy Saturday** April 4<sup>th</sup> Chapel open at Scottish Argyle Cemetery 8901 Picken Rd.

**Easter Sunday** April 5<sup>th</sup> **8am** Sunrise Service at Scottish Argyle Cemetery Chapel

**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!*

**"A Faith Community, Growing Together, Sharing the love of Christ"**

**MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST**

