

WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 24TH, 2026 | 8:00AM

THE CHAPEL AT SCOTTISH ARGYLE CEMETERY

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

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.

WELCOME

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

PRELUDE

I CALL TO WORSHIP

MARISA O'DELL

In a world filled with violence and war,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace.

In a world filled with tyranny and oppression,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all.

In a world filled with hunger and greed,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of plenty for all.

Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.

Together may we worship our God of Peace.

I HYMN

MY COUNTRY, 'TIS OF THEE

SMITH, 1831; ANGELICANA, 1744

¹My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing: land where ancestors died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside let freedom ring!

²My native country, thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills; my heart with rapture thrills like that above.

³Let music swell the breeze and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song: let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake; let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

⁴Our holy God, to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy night; protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

I APOSTLES' CREED: RESPONSIVE

BRIAN O'DELL

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

I BAPTISM REAFFIRMATION & THANKSGIVING

Beloved people of God...Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the new life...

By the power of your Holy Spirit, poured out upon us in baptism, fill us with the joy of resurrection, so that we may be a living sign of your new heaven and new earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

INVITATION TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:1 - 16

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

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

HOMILY

A CITY ON A HILL

LITANY OF PENITENCE & REMEMBRANCE

Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another...

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God. *silence is kept after each petition*

For failing to love others as you have loved us...

God of grace, forgive us.

For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods...

God of grace, forgive us.

For plundering the earth and abusing the planet...

God of grace, forgive us.

For fearing those who are strange to us...

God of grace, forgive us.

For ignoring those in need...**God of grace, forgive us.**

For losing heart and abandoning hope... **God of grace, forgive us.**

For all the ways we turn from you...**God of grace, forgive us.**

Trusting in your grace, mercy and steadfast love, we know that in Jesus Christ **we are forgiven.**

Gracious and Merciful God, your love is stronger than death...

We pray now for those we mourn... *speak aloud names*
We pray for those names in our hearts that we can't find the breath to
say aloud... *silence is held.*
We pray for those whose names we don't know, who are mourned by
others... *silence is held.*
We pray for those whose names are unknown to all but you... *silence is held.* Comfort and sustain all those who mourn...**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.**

I HYMN O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES! BATES, 1893; WARD, 1882

¹ *O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed his grace on thee and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!*

² *O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness! America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law!*

³ *O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life! America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!*

I BLESSING OF THE FLAGS

I BENEDICTION

I POSTLUDE & RECESSION

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY! BAGPIPER: PATRICK POWERS
LITURGISTS: BRIAN & MARISA O'DELL | KEYBOARD: TOM ANDREW
THE HONOR GUARD FROM THE VFW POST 9759

**All are invited to WCPC for a Continental Breakfast in the Fellowship
Hall and then Worship in the Sanctuary at 10a.**

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

MINISTERS: ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST