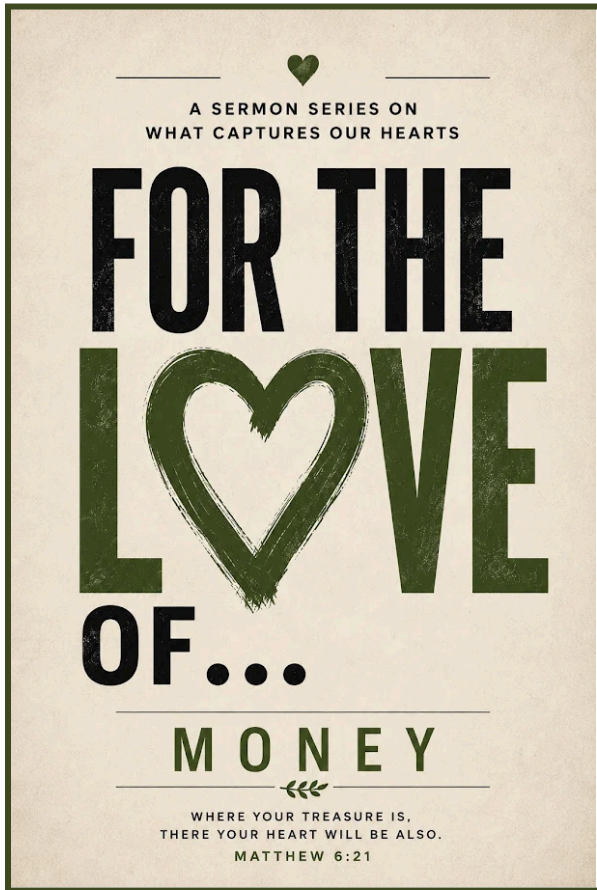


**WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
JUNE 21ST, 2026 | FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | 10:00AM



**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

WELCOME

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

CALL TO WORSHIP - FROM PSALM 121 MAREN REID  
I lift up my eyes to the hills.

**From where will my help come?**

My help comes from the Lord -

**the One who made heaven and earth.**

The Lord will not let your foot be moved;

**the One who keeps you will not slumber.**

The Lord is your keeper and your shade.

**The Lord will keep you from all evil; the Lord will keep  
your life. Come, let us worship God!**

HYMN

THE OLD BRICK CHURCH IN ARGYLE

WILLIAM PITTS

There's a church in the valley by the wildwood, no lovelier place in the dale;  
No spot is so dear to my childhood, as the old brick church in Argyle.

*Refrain: O come, come, come, come, come to the church in the wildwood;  
O come to the church in the dale;  
No spot is so dear to my childhood, as the old brick church in Argyle.*

How sweet on a bright Sabbath morning, to list to the clear ringing bell;  
Its tones so sweetly are calling, O come to the church in Argyle.

*Refrain*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, and transform us, O God. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us as the people you have called us to be. Amen.**

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON - FROM ISAIAH 43

PASTOR TANYA MUZZARELLI

Do not fear, says the Lord. For I have redeemed you.

**I have called you by name, you are mine.**

By the grace 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 18:1 - 17

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

<sup>9</sup>He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>15</sup>People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them, and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. <sup>16</sup>But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>17</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."

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

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

#### THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

Ron Muzzarelli, Vocalist

MALTBIE D. BABCOCK

#### SECOND GOSPEL READING

LUKE 18:18 - 27

<sup>18</sup>A certain ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>20</sup>You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery. You shall not murder. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>21</sup>He replied, "I have kept all these since my youth."

<sup>22</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." <sup>23</sup>But when he heard this, he became sad, for he was very rich. <sup>24</sup>Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup> Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> He replied, “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.”

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

SERMON

“BELONGING IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD”

## OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - AN EXCERPT FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

I HYMN #450

BE THOU MY VISION

BYRNE, 1905; HULL, 1912; EVANS, 1927

<sup>1</sup> Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

<sup>2</sup> Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

<sup>3</sup> Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

<sup>4</sup> High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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 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

TAKE MY LIFE

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL, 1874

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee; swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

JAROSLAV J. VAJDA

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! GREETER: MIKE LANDI | LITURGIST: MAREN REID  
USHERS: KATHERINE RALSTON AND MATT RALSTON

*The service is being live-streamed and archived through our social media channels.  
While this videography focuses on worship leaders, participants may appear in the service*

**PRELUDE** *Here in This Place (Gather Us In)* Tom Andrew, Keyboard *BY MARTY HAUGEN*

**FATHER'S DAY** can be a day of celebration as well as a day of complexity and grief. If today is a day of celebration for you, your church family celebrates with you; if today is a day of sadness for you, your church family mourns with you. And, if today is just another day for you, your church family is here with you, too. Wherever today finds you, you are welcome here. If you find that today brings up something that you'd like to discuss with a pastor, let Pastor Lauren or the Church Office know.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: begins TOMORROW!** God's love is **Out of this World!**

**June 22nd - 25th (Monday - Thursday) 9am - 12pm**

We welcome any Preschooler\* through 6th graders to join us for an adventure! The registration fee is \$10 for the week with a \$30 family maximum. \*children must be potty-trained

Registration forms are available on the credenza in the Fellowship Hall and on the Church Office door.

**Join us for VBS Sunday on June 28<sup>th</sup>!**

**SUMMER BOOK CLUB** Join us Thursdays 7/9 and 7/23 at 10:30am to discuss *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans, which explores the different "genres" within Scripture. There are still a few copies of the book available for \$20. **On 7/9 we will discuss chapters 2 - 5 (read through page 140).**

**WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR**

<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	10a	Worship in the parking lot, 11a Fellowship
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9a-12	VBS Opening Day- "God's Love Is Out Of This World!"
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9a-12	VBS, 6p Pipe Band
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	9a-12	VBS, 5:30pm AA Meeting (Women Only)
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	9a-12	VBS, 6p Bell Rehearsal
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	10a	Worship - VBS Sunday, 11a Fellowship , 11:15a F/P/E, 11:30a Deacon's Meeting