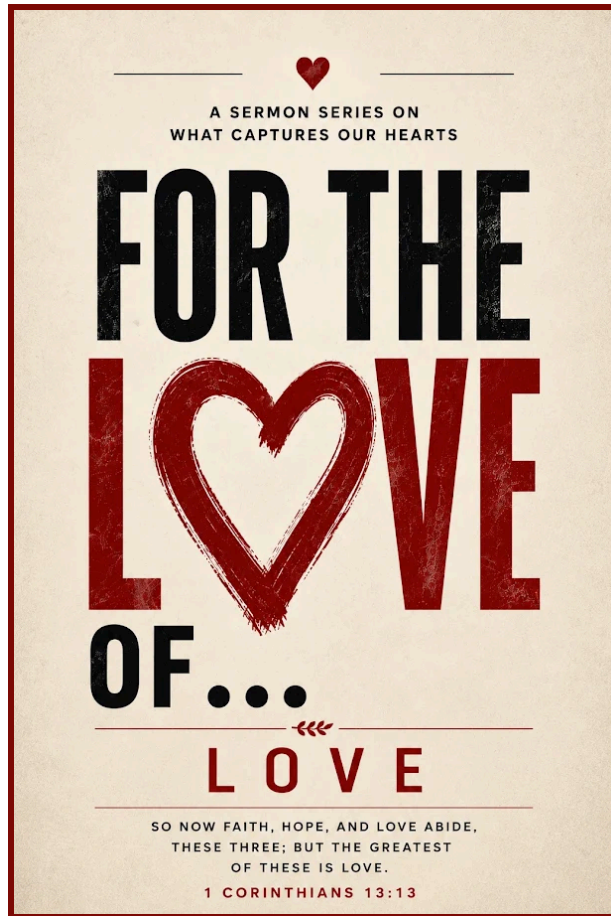


WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2ND, 2026 | TENTH 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 STAND.

PRELUDE

YOU ARE MY KING (AMAZING LOVE)
Tom Andrew, Piano

BILLY J. FOOTE

WELCOME & SHARING

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

| CALL TO WORSHIP

MAREN REID

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

God is patient. God is kind. God is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

Love is not irritable. God is not irritable. Love keeps no record of wrongs.

God keeps no record of wrongs.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

We are gathered here to worship the living God - the God of love. God's love will never end!

Come, let us worship God!

| HYMN #366

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

CHARLES WESLEY, 1747

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Love is patient, kind and not irritable. You, God, are patient, kind and not irritable. But we confess, holy and loving God, that we are not always patient. We are often unkind, and we find it easy to be irritable. We are envious and boastful. We do, indeed, keep records of wrongs. We do not bear all things, but find limits to what we can bear by those who we wish were better at loving us. Will you help us believe once again in your limitless love, and help us to find kindness for ourselves as we honestly confess how unloving we are?

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM JOHN 3:16 - 17

For God so loved the world that God gave the one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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

EPISTLE READING

1 CORINTHIANS 13

PAGES 1786 - 1787

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

HE

MULLET AND RICHARDS

Elizabeth O'Leary, Contralto

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 1:18 - 25

PAGE 1497

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

SERMON

"LOVE IS..."

OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

I HYMN #316

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL

LUCIUS CHAPIN, 1812

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

I BELIEVE

DRAKE, GRAHAM, SHIRL AND STILLMAN

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

HYMN #507

COME TO THE TABLE OF GRACE

BARBARA HAMM, 2008

First & Third Verses

¹ Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.
³ Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.
This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

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.*

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 the glory forever. Amen.

I HYMN #828

MORE LOVE TO THEE, O CHRIST

ELIZABETH PAYSON PRENTISS, 1856

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

LOVE LIFTED ME

JAMES ROWE

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! ACOLYTES: GRAYSON CUNNINGHAM & ISLA CUNNINGHAM
GREETER: REBEKAH LANDI | LITURGIST: MAREN REID | USHERS: WILL MONROE AND CHARLIE SHIPTON

*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 recordings.*

The **acolytes** light the candles at the beginning of the service, representing the light of Christ coming in.
Then, they carry the light out of the sanctuary with the final hymn,
encouraging us to follow Christ's light out into the world.

We always welcome the sounds of children of all ages in worship.
And, if a caregiver needs a break, our **nursery** is also available for the entire worship service.

BOOKS AVAILABLE We have been cleaning out our library to make space for a second children's Sunday School class! Feel free to take any of the books in the Fellowship Hall home. Any books still at church after next Sunday, August 9th will be donated.

BOONE COUNTY FAIR AUGUST 11TH - 16TH RESPITE TENT Sign up in the Fellowship Hall for a time to volunteer at our Respite Tent! See Pastor Lauren or Mike Landi if you have any questions.
This is one of our favorite ways to serve as a church family and let our wider community know what a caring congregation Willow Creek is.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES *For the Love of...* everything you ever hoped there *wouldn't* be a sermon about? In August, we will spend a couple of weeks on **For the Love...** what does the Bible say about love, marriage and relationships? Plenty! But it may not be what we *think* it says.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday 2nd	10a	Worship, 11a Fellowship
Monday 3rd	5:30p	Pickleball
Tuesday 4th	6p	Session
Wednesday 5th	8a	Men's Coffee at Boone County Family Restaurant, 5:30p AA Meeting
Thursday 6th	6p	Bell Rehearsal
Friday 7th	1p	Preschool Board Meeting
Sunday 9th	10a	Worship, 11a Fellowship

"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 hours are Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 9a - 12p. If you'd like to set up a time to visit Pastor Lauren, please reach out to the Office.
Phone: (815) 885-3455
7300 Belvidere Road
Caledonia, Illinois 61011



Email: office@willowcreekpc.org
Website: www.willowcreekpc.org
Social Media: <https://linktr.ee/wcpcargyle>