

# WILLOW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 | FIFTEENTH 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

AS THE DEER  
Tom Andrew, Keyboard

MARTY NYSTROM

WELCOME

REV. LAUREN PATRUS-BETZEL

I CALL TO WORSHIP FROM ROMANS 6

MAREN REID

**We gather today in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection. When we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that, as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with Christ into a death like his, we will certainly be united with Christ in a resurrection like his.**

I HYMN

I DANCED IN THE MORNING

SYDNEY CARTER, 1963

<sup>1</sup> I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Refrain:* Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

<sup>3</sup> I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame. The holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and left me there on the cross to die. *Refrain*

<sup>4</sup> I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black. It's hard to dance with the devil on your back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on. *Refrain*

<sup>5</sup> They cut me down and I leapt up high - I am the life that will never, never die. I'll live in you if you'll live in me - I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *Refrain*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

A PERIOD OF SILENT CONFESSION **Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON FROM ROMANS 8

If God is for us, who can be against us? Who then is the one who condemns? **No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.**

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

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:3 - 10 & 13

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

JEREMIAH 29 *selected verses*

<sup>1</sup> These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent: <sup>5</sup> Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>7</sup> And seek the peace and welfare of the place where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its peace and welfare you will find your peace and welfare. <sup>10</sup> For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon’s seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your peace and welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup> Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER READING

PSALM 90:1 - 5, 10 & 12

<sup>1</sup> Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. <sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. <sup>3</sup> You turn us back to dust and say, "Turn back, you mortals." <sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night. <sup>5</sup> You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; <sup>10</sup> The days of our life are seventy years or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. <sup>12</sup> So teach us to count our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.  
Holy wisdom, **holy Word.**

HOMILY

"EULOGY FOR TWO HEARTS OF WISDOM"

### OUR RESPONSE TO SERVE

I PSALTER READING

PSALM 23

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

OFFERTORY

A WONDERFUL WORLD  
Paul Carlini, Trumpet

THIELE-WEISS, ARR. RICH RIDENOUR

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

I HYMN

ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY

SYLVIA G. DUNSTAN, 1990

<sup>1</sup> All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread. Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

*Refrain:* Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

<sup>2</sup> All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest. Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast. We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood. *Refrain*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC

SIMPLE GIFTS

ARR. RICH RIDENOUR

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 WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

HORATIO G. SPAFFORD, 1876

<sup>1</sup> When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

*Refrain:* It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

<sup>2</sup> Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control:  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

<sup>3</sup> My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part, but the whole, is  
nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

<sup>4</sup> O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a  
scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

I CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE PRAISE THE LORD WITH THE SOUND OF TRUMPET

NATALIE SLEETH

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

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVED TODAY! GREETER: KATHERINE RALSTON

LITURGIST: MAREN REID | USHERS: STEVE & DAYLE PAULSON

***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.***

**WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR**

|                           |     |                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>    | 10a | Worship at the Cemetery, 11a Fellowship, 11:30a F/P/E Meeting                                                           |
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>    |     | <b>Labor Day ~ Church Office Closed</b>                                                                                 |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>   | 6p  | Pipe Band                                                                                                               |
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> | 1p  | Grief Group, 5:30p AA Meeting                                                                                           |
|                           |     | <b>First Day of Argyle Preschool 2026 - 2027!</b>                                                                       |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> | 6p  | Bell Choir Rehearsal                                                                                                    |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 10a | <b>Kirkin' o' the Tartans with Potluck to Follow,</b><br>10:30a Children's Sunday School, 11:30a Youth Group Kick - Off |

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

