



WOODSTOCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017 - 11:00 AM
4TH SUNDAY AFTER LENT

*“I was glad when they said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’” Psalm 122:1*

Welcome to all who gather to worship today! We hope you feel warmly welcomed and even “at home,” for all are welcome in God’s house! If you are a guest today, we are honored by your presence with us and hope to see you again! Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register located in the pew. Everyone is invited to stay for our fellowship hour following worship!

WPC Vision & Mission Statement

Growing and Building in the Love of Christ
Ephesians 4:16

We ENVISION a church that:

- † Is kind, generous, hospitable and welcoming.
- † Involves everyone in local and global mission.
- † Treats everyone as a Child of God.
- † Shares our time, talents, and treasure.

Our MISSION is to grow and build in:

- † Faith through worship, prayer, and Bible study.
- † Fellowship with one another and with guests.
- † Hospitality shown to our community and world.
- † Facilities that are exceptional and accessible.

* Congregation is invited to stand.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude *Anthem for Lent* J. Althouse
Behold the Lamb D. Rambo/L. Larsen
Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow L. Maynard

Welcome and Announcements

(Please sign the Friendship Pads located in each pew.)

Call to Worship Barry Thomas

God does not see as mortals see. We look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

Once we lived in darkness, but now— as children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

The Lord is my shepherd. There is nothing I lack.

Yes, God’s goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life!

***Hymn 611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

***Opening Prayer** *(pray together)*

Loving God, we praise you with joy! As we continue the Lenten journey to the cross, help us to see beyond it to the triumphant resurrection, so that we may live daily in the assurance that you are always with us. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.



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Ruling Elders
(Spiritual Leaders of the Church)

Class of 2017
Marian French, Trustee
Karen Nathan
Margaret Nelson
Morgan Sacler

Class of 2018
Jerry Germroth, Trustee
Irene Mertens
Lori Staley
Cindy Wilkins

Class of 2019
Sharon Baroncelli, Trustee
Jane Runyon
George Shaffer
George Swecker

Invitation to Confession of Sin

Confession of Sin

Gracious God, we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgement on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable, but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us we pray. Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly. Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin, and shine upon us with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world... (time for silent confession)

Words of Assurance and Pardon

The psalmist assures us that God's goodness and mercy will follow us, even pursue us, all the days of our life. As God's forgiven people, receive this goodness and mercy, and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ. Brothers and sisters, this day and always, believe the Good News of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen!

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Anthem *Were You There* arr. J. Althouse

Scripture Readings

Epistle Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel John 9:1-41

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord ~
People: Thanks be to God!

Message Rev. Karen Casperson

***Hymn 649** *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Lenten Creed

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as parents yearn for their child. We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

~ from **Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our Guide, Patmos Abbey**

***Gloria Patri** (words at left)

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory *Lenten Carol* S. Walters

***Doxology & Prayer of Dedication** (words at left of page)

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn 451** *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** *Holy Lamb of God* Hymn 602

***Postlude** *Prelude in B Flat Major* J. S. Bach

Glory Be to the Father

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!

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.