

**Willow Grove Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, January 28, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

*“He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded,  
for a thousand generations, the covenant that he made with Abraham,  
his sworn promise to Isaac, which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,  
to Israel as an everlasting covenant”  
Psalm 105:8-10*



WELCOME Visitors and Guests!  
We pray God’s blessing for us all  
as we worship together today.  
Please silence your cell phones,  
wear your masks if you wish,  
and pass the peace of Christ safely.

*† You are invited to stand or sit as the Spirit leads.*

**We Gather in God’s Name**

**Welcome and Passing of the Peace**

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

**People: Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; He fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

**People: Praise the Lord from the earth, all you creatures of the land, sea and sky, you mountains and hills, lightning and wind, forests and vineyards.**

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and women alike, old and young together!

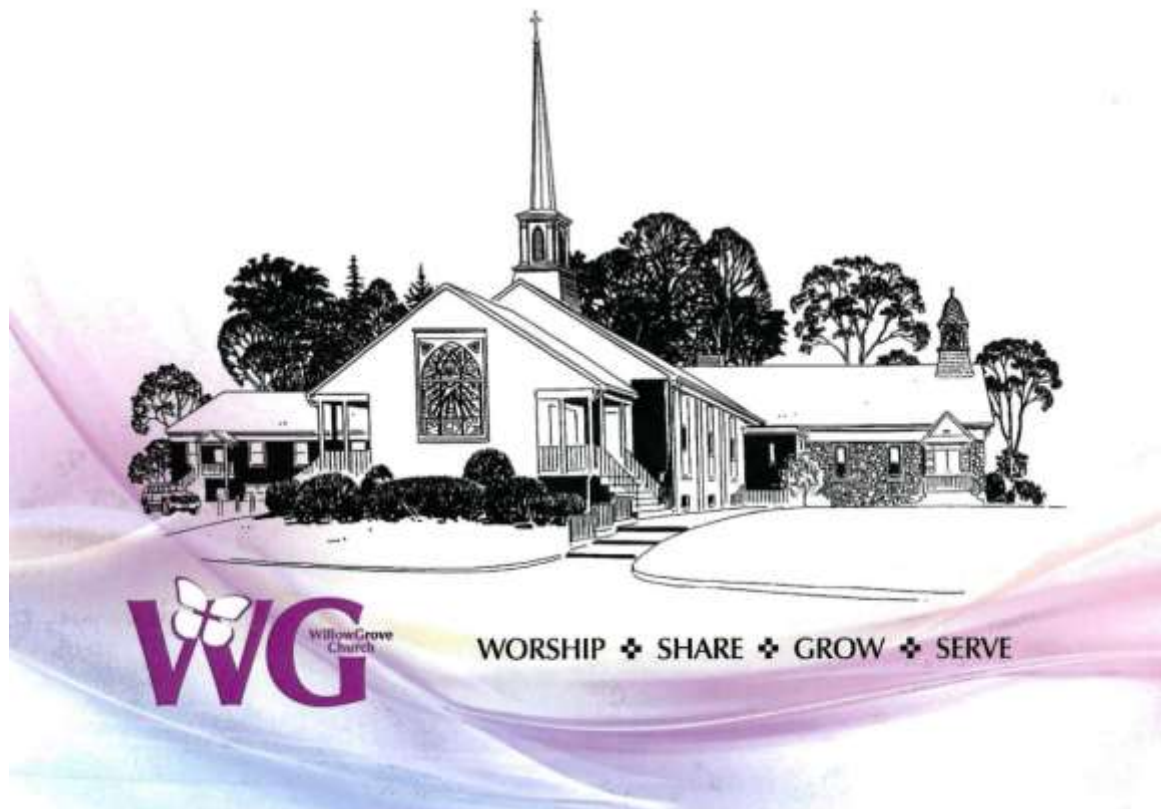
**People: Let us praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven.**

**† Opening Song You Are Holy**

You raised the mountains up and laid the valleys low.  
You lift the humble heart and break the prideful soul.  
You chase the darkness from my life, Lord, you make me whole.

You are holy, holy is the Lord.  
You are holy, holy is the Lord.  
You are holy, holy is the Lord.  
You are holy, holy is the Lord.

In your power and Your glory I can see,  
The God of love and grace reaching out to me.  
I’ve been made righteous by your blood, Lord you set me free.



## **We Come before God to Confess**

### **Invitation to Confession**

Isaiah 1:18

Leader: “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD.

“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

### **Prayer of Confession**

**All: Almighty God,**

**we are thankful that Your mercy is higher than the heavens,  
wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.**

**Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life,**

**our callousness toward suffering,**

**our envy of those who have more than we have,**

**our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,**

**our indifference to the treasures of heaven,**

**our neglect of Your wise and gracious law.**

**Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good,  
love what You love, and do what You command,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Silent Prayer**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Colossians 1:13-14

Leader: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

### **Response “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”**

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying,

send us love, send us power, send us grace.

*(Words & music by Ken Medema @1973 Hope Publishing Company)*

## **We Receive God’s Word**

### **Message for Youth**

### **News For Our Community** Lay Leader

#### ***This Week at Willow Grove***

- Thursday Bible Study meets weekly at 10:30. You may participate in person or virtually.

#### ***What’s Ahead at Willow Grove***

- ***Food on the First is next Sunday, February 4— Drop off non-perishable food in the bins in the narthex.***

***February 11: Souper Bowl of Caring*** Founded in 1990 by a Presbyterian youth group, this nationwide movement encourages churches to give money and food to their local food pantries through a special collection in solidarity with other churches and groups across the country. We will be collecting donations of money in addition to food in support of local food pantries

### **Scripture Reading**

John 5:2-9

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

“When God’s Promise Sounds Too Good to Be True” Rev. Se Hyuk Park

† **Song of Response** #282 “If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”

### **Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Almighty God, in Jesus Christ You taught us to pray, and to offer our petitions to You in His name.

**All: Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve Your will and show Your steadfast love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*(Please pray silently for the world.)*

Leader: Merciful God, You bear the pain of the world.  
**All: Look with compassion on those who are suffering and those who are sick; cheer them by Your Word, and bring healing as a sign of Your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
*(Please pray silently for those who sorrow.)*

Leader: Gracious God, You have called us to be the church of Jesus Christ.  
**All: Keep us one in faith and service, breaking bread together, and proclaiming the good news to the world, that all may believe You are love, turn to Your ways, and live in the light of Your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
*(Please pray silently for the church.)*

Leader: Mighty God, whose Word we trust, whose Spirit enables us to pray, teach us to pray as our Savior taught us, saying:  
**All: 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**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**Offering**  
*[Now let us bring our gifts to God through our offering. Please stand or sit as the Spirit leads and join us as we sing our song of thanks.]*

† **Response**  
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks, because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. *Repeat*  
And now, let the weak say I am strong,  
Let the poor say I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us. *Repeat*  
Give thanks. Words and Music: Henry Smith

† **Song of Departure** “Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me”

**Benediction** Romans 15:13  
May the God of hope  
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**The Dismissal**  
Leader: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**



### ***Prayers***

*Each week as we pray together, we pray for people whose names and stories we may not know. Yet we faithfully pray for them as we know God is aware of each and every need.*

*Grateful prayers for the continued healing of  
Mital & Cathy*

*Healing prayers for  
David, Dorothea, Mavis, Sandra, Lorraine, Irany and Bob*

### ***Today's Worship Assistants***

*Bill Buchannan – Lay Reader*

*Linda DiDario - Greeter*

*We thank all our volunteers who make our service welcoming.*

*Doris Dias – secretary  
Office hours 9:30 am to 2:30 pm  
Paul Whitehurst – custodian  
Rev. Se Hyuk Park – pastor*

### ***Rev Park's office hours are:***

*10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wed. and 12-3 p.m. on Thu.*

*Appointments during this time or at another time can be scheduled by emailing him at [sehyukp@gmail.com](mailto:sehyukp@gmail.com) or contacting the church office*

### **Willow Grove Mission Statement**

Reflecting God's love, we love and serve all neighbors.  
With God guiding us, we are called to be an intergenerational  
Christian community helping people

### **SESSION ELDERS**

Mavis Amaning (Communications)  
Linda DiDario (Administration/Spiritual Growth)  
Beth Klingelhofer (Worship)  
Sue Palmer (Congregational Life)  
Bonnie Ruggiero (Clerk/Mission)  
Stefanie Velez (Legal and Finance/Buildings and Grounds)  
August Ruggiero (Outreach)

*Willow Grove Presbyterian Church holds CCLI license #3219335  
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*Cover art by Frank Thorne*