

**Willow Grove Presbyterian Church**  
**March 29, 2026**  
**Palm Sunday**

*Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.  
This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.  
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.  
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.  
Psalm 118:19-22*



**WORSHIP ✦ SHARE ✦ GROW ✦ SERVE**



WELCOME, Visitors and Guests!  
We pray for God's blessing for us all  
as we worship together today.  
Please silence your cell phones  
and pass the peace of Christ.

*†Please rise in body or spirit.*

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

— John 12:12-15; Luke 19:39-40

Leader: The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

**All: "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"**

Leader: Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey. Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

**All: Jesus replied, "I tell you, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."**

#### †OPENING SONG

"Hosanna."

1. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest  
Lord we lift up Your Name,  
With hearts full of praise,  
Be exalted Oh Lord our God,  
Hosanna in the highest.
2. Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings  
Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings  
Lord we lift up Your Name,  
With hearts full of praise,  
Be exalted Oh Lord our God,  
Glory to the King of Kings.

*By Carl Tuttle*

## WE COME BEFORE GOD TO CONFESS

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Leader: Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and then later pronounced “Crucify him,” we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Remembering the events of Jesus’ last week helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—we have in Christ.

In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Loving God,  
you rode a donkey and came in peace,  
humbled yourself and gave yourself for us.  
We confess our lack of humility.  
As you entered Jerusalem,  
the crowds shouted “Hosanna: ‘Save us now!’”  
On Good Friday they shouted “Crucify!”  
We confess our praise is often empty.  
We sing “Hosanna,” but cry “Crucify.”  
As the crowd laid their palms in front of you,  
you took no glory for yourself.  
We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way.  
We do not stay true to your will.  
Forgive us, Lord, and help us  
to follow in the way of obedience. Amen.**

### SILENT PRAYER

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

—based on Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17

Leader: Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:

Let those who fear the Lord say,

“His steadfast love endures for ever.”

Out of my distress I called on the Lord;

the Lord answered me and set me free.

The Lord is my strength and my song;

he has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but I shall live,

and recount the deeds of the Lord.

In Christ, God answers us and sets us free!

In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

**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.

—*Ken Meedema*

**WE RECEIVE GOD’S WORD**

**MESSAGE FOR YOUTH**

“The Day the Tables Flipped” (Mark 11)

**NEWS FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

Lay Reader

*This Week at Willow Grove*

- *Join us for our weekly prayer meetings! The Zoom links are available on the church website.*

*Wednesdays at 7:30 pm: Led by Judy and Paul.*

*Let's come together in prayer and seek the presence of God as we lift up our hearts and intercede for one another. Everyone is welcome!*

- *Join us for a Good Friday Tenebrae Service in the sanctuary at 7:30 PM on April 3. We are pleased to welcome First United Methodist Church of Scotch Plains as they join us for this meaningful service.*
- *There will be no Thursday Bible Study this week; it will resume next week.*
- *Easter Egg Hunt*

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

- *We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering today and next Sunday; thank you for your faithful participation.*

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 19:28-44

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### **SERMON**

“A King Who Weeps”

Rev. Se Hyuk Park

#### **†SONG OF RESPONSE**

#89 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna.”

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Almighty God, who was, and is, and is to come, we approach your throne of grace by faith, asking that you hear us. We pray that you would attend to our needs as well as those around us.

**All: In your abundance of mercy and grace, provide for those who are struggling and fearful, and give the gift of faith to our family, friends, and neighbors who do not know you.**

*(Pray that God would give to those in need)*

Leader: Come Lord Jesus, hear us and answer us we pray. We pray for greater hope. Grant us all courage and perseverance in this time of uncertainty.

**All: Give those in despair a sense of your all-powerful presence.**

*(Pray that God would give hope)*

Leader: Come Lord Jesus, hear us and answer us we pray. We pray for an increased measure of peace. Settle our hearts and minds as we live with unmet longings.

**All: Attend to the broken hearts of those who have lost loved ones, and comfort those who are weary.**

*(Pray that God would give peace)*

Leader: Come Lord Jesus, hear us and answer us we pray. We pray for glory. Come Lord Jesus and forever dwell with your beloved, right our wrongs, dry our eyes, heal our diseases, and restore our relationships, as we long for living with you in a world without sin and death.

*(Pray for perseverance in faith as we await Jesus' return to make all things new)*

Leader: Let us join together in praying as Jesus taught us to pray:

**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

“It Was Finished Upon That Cross”

## BENEDICTION

## THE DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**All: Thanks be to God.**





# IT WAS FINISHED UPON THAT CROSS

5 Eb Ab/Eb Eb Cm Bb

How I love the voice of Je - sus on the Cross of Cal - va - ry.  
Now the curse, it has been bro - ken, Je - sus paid the price for me.

9 Eb Ab Eb/G Ab Bb Eb

He de - clares His work is fin - ished, He has spo - ken this hope to me.  
Full, the par - don He has of - fered. Great, the wel - come that I re - ceive.

13 Cm Ab Eb Bb

Though the sun had ceased its shin - ing, though the war ap - peared as lost.  
Bold - ly I ap - proach my Fa - ther, clothed in Je - sus' right - eous - ness.

17 Cm Ab Eb/G Ab Bb

Christ has tri - umphed o - ver e - vil, it was fin - ished u - pon that  
There is no more guilt to car - ry, it was fin - ished u -

25 Bb Eb Ab/C

pon that Cross.

32 Eb/Bb Ab Eb

Death was once my great op - pon - ent,

36 Cm/Eb Bb/Eb Eb Ab/Eb

fear once had a hold on me. But the Son who died to save us

40 Eb/G Ab Bb Eb

rose that we would be free in - deed!



# GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

APRIL

3

2026

7:30 PM

961 Raritan Rd  
Scotch Plains, NJ



Willow  
Grove  
Presbyterian  
Church

## ***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*

*Healing prayers for  
Andy, August, Sandra, Lorraine, Irany, Carol, Gary, Olivia, Ed, Sue, and Frank*

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

*Bonnie Ruggiero – Lay Reader*

*Beth Klingelhofer – Greeter*

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

*Paul DiDario – Director of Music and Pianist*

*Rebecca Pacella – Song Leader*

*Doris Dias – Secretary*

*Office hours Mon-Thu 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 [pastor@willowgrovechurch.org](mailto:pastor@willowgrovechurch.org) or contacting the church office*

Willow Grove Mission Statement

**Reflecting God's love, we love and serve all neighbors**

**Willow Grove Presbyterian Church  
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908-232-5678 office@willowgrovechurch.org  
willowgrovechurch.org**

*Cover Design by Frank Thorne*