

Willow Grove Presbyterian Church
Sunday, April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter

*For this reason the Father loves me,
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.
I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I
have received this command from my Father."
—John 10:17-18*



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

We Gather in God's Name

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship

—Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Leader: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

People: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Minister: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise; give thanks to
him and praise his name.

**People: For the LORD is good and his steadfast love endures forever; his
faithfulness continues through all generations.**

† **Opening Song** "You are my All in All"

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Words and Music by Dennis Jernigan

We Come before God to Confess

Invitation to Confession

—based on Matthew 22:37-40

Leader: Our Lord Jesus said:

“‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.’

This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it:

‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.”

As God has instructed us in these great commandments,
and because we have not lived in full obedience,
let us now confess our sins to God,
trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord.

Prayer of Confession

All: Pardon our sins, merciful Lord. We have been hasty and short in prayer, and this first sin of the day leads to so many others. Keep us from robbing you of the true worship which your glory requires and which our hearts so urgently need. Wipe out our sins, known and unknown, felt and unfelt, remembered and forgotten. Enable us to remember the blood that cleanses from all sin, and the grace which overwhelms all evil, in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

—Hebrews 9:15

Leader: For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

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)

News For Our Community

Lay Leader

This Week at Willow Grove

- *The third Church Officer Training session will be held after the service today. Today’s session will focus on worship and sacraments. The final session, which will cover polity and the Book of Order, is scheduled for the upcoming Sunday. All those interested are warmly invited to attend.*
- *Thursday Bible Study meets weekly at 10:30 am for a new series, “The Gospel according to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.” Please join us in person or via Zoom.*
- *Join us for our weekly prayer meetings! The Zoom links are available on the church website.
Mondays at 1 pm: Led by Bonnie and August.
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!*

What’s Ahead at Willow Grove

- *In April Willow Grove Presbyterian Church will be collecting for “One Great Hour of Sharing” a special offering, for Presbyterians worldwide to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.*

Scripture Reading

Mark 6:30-44

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Our Compassionate Shepherd”

Rev. Se Hyuk Park

† Song of Response

#329 “Break Thou the Bread of Life”

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: O Lord, we cry out to you for the Church:

All: We pray for the churches in the greater Atlanta area that proclaim your gospel; We pray for our church and for our sister churches in the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey.

(Pray for the church.)

Leader: O Lord, we cry out to you for all the people of the earth:

All: We pray for those who do not know you. We pray that your gospel would reach the people of our community, our country, and our world.

(Pray for your friends who do not yet believe the gospel.)

Leader: O Lord, we cry out to you for our own nation:

All: Please give our national and state leaders wisdom and humility; and an acknowledgment of their need for you.

(Pray for our leaders.)

Leader: O Lord, we cry out to you for the sick, the struggling, the poor and the suffering of our community:

All: We pray for those who are sick and those who are grieving; We pray for those who are discouraged and despairing. We pray for those who are struggling financially; that you would bring healing, relief, and hope.

(Pray for those who suffer.)

Leader: O Lord we cry out to you with our individual concerns and needs:

(Pour out your heart to your Father who gives good gifts to his children.)

Leader: All of these things we ask of you in the name of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray 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

#171 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Benediction

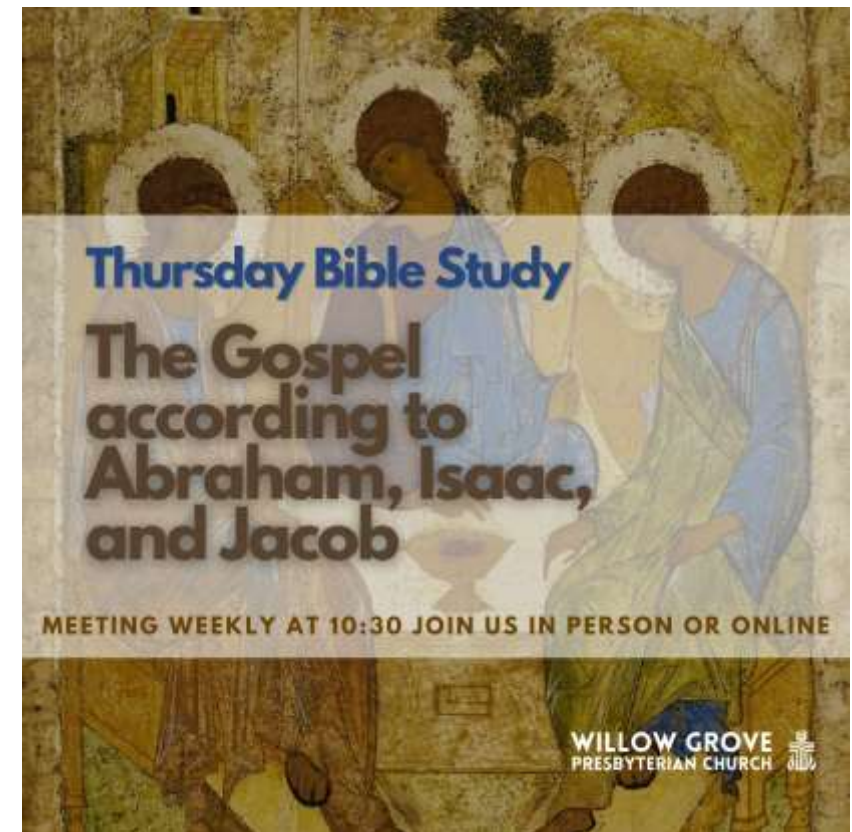
—based on Hebrews 13:20-21

May the God of peace, who raised to life the great shepherd of the sheep, make us ready to do his will in every good thing, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

The Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and our neighbors.

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, and Gary*

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

Today's Worship Assistants

Edwin Velez – Lay Reader

Karen Wirth - Greeter

We thank all our volunteers who make our service welcoming.

*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 sehyukp@gmail.com or contacting the church office

*Willow Grove Presbyterian Church holds CCLI license #3219335
to copy lyrics for a single-time use. Permission to record and live stream music through
ONE LICENSE #A-7*



UPCOMING CONCERTS AND DINNERS AT WILLOW GROVE CHURCH:

- ✚ May 4 at 4 pm International Concert and Dinner fundraiser for disaster assistance and Food Bank of NJ
- ✚ May 19 Concert by the Plainfield Music Club with light refreshments
- ✚ June (date TBA) 2nd Concert and Dinner similar to April 14th Concert
- ✚ Sept. to Dec. (dates TBA) Four more Concerts and Dinners with various types of music, including jazz, pop, and operatic soprano.

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)



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