



# The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

“An Inclusive Church Family: Loving, Sharing, and Serving Christ.”



DO THIS IN  
REMEMBRANCE  
OF ME.



## Stephen Ministry Sunday

May 2, 2021

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## A TIME TO GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

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\***Bold** print denotes congregational response

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

Bruce Xu, organ

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## A TIME OF PRAISE AND PRAYER

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### CALL TO WORSHIP

Sally Shu

Hearts filled with resurrection hope

**We come to worship**

Hearts torn with pain and grief

**We come to worship**

Seeking to hear words of comfort when there are no good words

**We come to worship**

Seeking to speak words of grace when we cannot find them.

**We come to worship**

Trusting in the One who hears us, let us worship God.

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being. We live in a world that is filled with pain.**

**So, sometimes we fear that if you are God you are not good, and if you are good you are not God.<sup>1</sup>**

**Too often we turn away from you as we try to make sense of the suffering in our lives and in the world.**

**Forgive us the actions we take and the words we say which have caused more pain in your world instead of the comfort we intend. Cleanse our hearts, ease our minds, guide our actions and our speech, so that we might turn from sin, and live according to your purpose. Amen.**

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<sup>1</sup>Archibald MacLeish, *J.B.: a Play in Verse* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1986), 11

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

Rom. 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us,

Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us,

Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

**In Christ we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE 581

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI

### ANTHEM

*How Excellent Thy Name*

Joseph Martin (b. 1959)

Members of WCPC Sanctuary Choir

Jonathan Aigner, director

Bruce Xu, piano

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## A TIME OF PROCLAMATION

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### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*The Rabbit Listened*

Cori Doerrfeld

*The Rabbit Listened* written and illustrated by Cori Doerrfeld -published by Dial Books/Penguin Random House.

*Recording used with permission of author/illustrator*

### \*HYMN OF PREPARATION 250

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

### STEPHEN MINISTRY TESTIMONIAL

Robin Ward

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Job 1:1-2:13

Luke 24:13-32

### SERMON

"Be The Rabbit"

Rev. Laura R. Grice

### \*STATEMENT OF FAITH

*Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Jake Gonzales

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

In every time and every age, O God...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest.**

Isa. 6:3; Ps. 118:25-26

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things... we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.... as we pray in the manner Christ taught us, saying:

**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.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread. Let us now go forth from this place, fed at your table and filled by the Spirit, to walk with you all the days of our lives, and proclaim the glory of your resurrection to all the world. Amen.**

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## A TIME OF PROMISE

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### PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

<b>OFFERTORY</b>	"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" from <i>Messiah</i> Kristen Campbell, soprano Bruce Xu, organ	G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
<b>*DOXOLOGY 609</b>	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	LASST UNS ERFREUEN
<b>*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING</b>		Bruce Garthwaite
<b>*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 727</b>	<i>Will You Let Me Be Your Servant</i>	THE SERVANT SONG
<b>BENEDICTION</b>		
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Bruce Xu, organ	

### HOUSEHOLD PRAYER: MORNING

God of all beginnings, you bring a new day, and you promise to journey with me through the hours. I thank you for the breath and strength I have, and I beg your help that I may use my powers wisely and with compassion toward everyone I meet. Let my questions today be a form of pruning to bring forth in me new understandings, healing, and good fruit; in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Elements of this service were developed as part of Laura Grice's coursework for the January 2021 Doctor of Ministry Seminar Living Justly: Job, Wisdom, Theodicy, and Justice at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.*

### FLOWERS TODAY

The flowers today were given by  
Louise Crider to the Glory of God

### ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

Matthew Jensen, our Financial Administrator, has provided the links below to offer some suggestions. If you have questions please give him a call at 281-363-2040 or email him at [mjensen@wcpc-tx.org](mailto:mjensen@wcpc-tx.org)

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 – Use this quicklink             | <a href="https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=110917&amp;f=1&amp;a=1000.00">https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=110917&amp;f=1&amp;a=1000.00</a>  |
| 2 - Text to give                   | <a href="https://www.wcpc-tx.org/text-to-give/">https://www.wcpc-tx.org/text-to-give/</a>  |
| 3 – Give online using MyWCPC       | <a href="https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx?sn=110917">https://secure.accesssacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx?sn=110917</a><br>Using a credit card, you can make a one-time contribution or set up a recurring charge using our secure online payment process. |
| 4 – Mail in your Contribution      | Address is: 4881 W. Panther Creek Dr, The Woodlands, TX 77381  |
| 5 – Give using your Paypal Account | <a href="mailto:office@wcpc-tx.org">office@wcpc-tx.org</a>   |

### TREASURER'S REPORT THRU MARCH 2021

	March	Yr to Date
Receipts	\$ 58,424	\$ 272,126
Expenses	\$ (102,040)	\$ (264,817)
Over/(Under)	\$ (43,616)	\$ 7,309



### The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

4881 West Panther Creek Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381  
Phone: 281-363-2040      Email: [office@wcpc-tx.org](mailto:office@wcpc-tx.org)      Website: [www.wcpc-tx.org](http://www.wcpc-tx.org)  
Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. David F. Jones      Associate Pastor: The Rev. Laura Grice  
Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Charles Hendricks

