

# The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

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



Sunday Worship March 17, 2024 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

# A TIME TO GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*All who are able, please stand. **Bold** print denotes congregational response

WELCOME

**EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS** 

**PRELUDE** 

Maria Paz Pickens and Karen White, piano

# A TIME OF PRAISE AND PRAYER

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

(from Psalm 51)

According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

You desire truth in our deepest selves, so teach our hearts wisdom.

Let us hear your joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Create in us clean hearts, O God; put new and right spirits within us.

Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy of your salvation.

Let us worship God!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 440

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

**ABERYSTWYTH** 

#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to "me and mine." Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be.

(Silent prayers of confession) In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news!

We worship a God who forgives our iniquities

and remembers our sins no more.

Proclaim the good news with me:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE 433

Sign Us With Ashes (stanza 5)

**PHOENIX** 

(Stanza 3)

**ANTHEM** O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

by Hans Leo Hassler arr. By Arnold B. Sherman

Jubilate Bells Sherry Hunter, director

# A TIME OF PROCLAMATION

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Susan Duncan

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION 792

There Is a Balm in Gilead

**BALM IN GILEAD** 

**SERMON** "Create In Me A Clean Heart..."

#### STATEMENT OF FAITH

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments. we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. (from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

# A TIME OF PROMISE

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

FAITH IN ACTION FaithsTogether Carol East

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY** 

Bruce Xu, organ

\*DOXOLOGY 618 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

**DEO GRACIAS** 

Rev. Dr. David F. Jones

(stanza 5)

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 264 At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

\*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** 

Bruce Xu, organ

# ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing 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.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year: <a href="www.wcpc-tx.org/giving">www.wcpc-tx.org/giving</a> cash or checks payable to WCPC. Please be sure to note One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).



#### CHILDCARE FOR WORSHIP

Childcare, for children under 5, is provided during both worship services. Room 100 in the Children's Education Building for the 8:30 service and in the Hendricks Building (building to your right across the parking lot as you leave the sanctuary) during the 11 am service. After the children's message staff will be available to take children over to the nursery rooms or you can walk them too. WCPC believes worship for children is important to spiritual formation, children of all ages are encouraged and welcome in worship.

The Parlor (a room with a viewing window and restroom to the right as you enter the worship space) is available if you need a place for busy toddlers to roam, continue a meltdown, or privacy to diaper, etc.

#### STEPHEN MINISTERS AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER

Following worship, a Stephen Minister will be available to pray with you. They will be at the front-right side of the sanctuary. Our Stephen Ministers are trained in compassionate listening and confidentiality.

There is no need too large or too small to request prayer.

# **FLOWERS TODAY**

The flowers today were given by Ingrid Fowler in memory of Bill.

## **2024 FLOWER CALENDAR**

THE 2024 Flower Calendar is open. You may reserve your special date by contacting Carol Palmquist at <a href="mailto:RNPalmquist@aol.com">RNPalmquist@aol.com</a> or 281-367-5166. Make your check payable to WCPC for \$75 and write Flowers and the date for your flowers on the memo line. Flowers: mm\dd\2024. Payment is due at time of sign-up. You may put the check in the offering plate or mail in to church office attn: Flowers. Thank You!

# **ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION**

1 – Use this quicklink <a href="https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=110917&f=1&a=1000.00">https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=110917&f=1&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 https://secure.accessacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx?sn=110917

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

Phone: 281-363-2040

5 – Give using your Paypal Account office@wcpc-tx.org

# TREASURER'S REPORT THRU FEBRUARY 2024

	<u>February</u>	Yr to Date
Revenues	\$ 80,131	\$ 150,513
Expenses	\$ (80,337)	\$ (178,182 <u>)</u>
Net Total	\$ (206)	\$ (27,669)
Planned Reserve Transfers	\$ 4,292	\$ 8,583
<u>Total</u>	\$ 4,086	\$ (19,806)



Website: www.wcpc-tx.org



The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

4881 West Panther Creek Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381

Email: djones@wcpc-tx.org

Sunday Worship: 8:30am and 11:00am Sunday School (all ages): 9:45m-10:45am

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