

February 11, 2024



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Senior Pastor**

**The Rev. Nathan Royster,
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**The Rev. Jim Haas,
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**Nicholas Nasibyan,
Director of Music and
Organist**

**Mission
Josh Heikkila
Ghana, Africa**



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

11:00 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

CHORAL INTROIT

"Surely the Lord is In This Place"

Colvin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Pentz

Behind all things, beneath the gray surface of this world,

There is a glory escaping, born of heaven.

It is a light that welcomes, that clarifies our vision, and transforms the world.

The light casts a spell of hope that sees the glory in the cross and life within death.

It is a glory that meets us here on this mountain where Jesus Christ, covered in the dust of the world, is caught up in the glory of heaven.

Welcome to the mountain. Welcome to the light.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 339

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Lift Every Voice

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy and grace, through Jesus you come to break down the dividing walls of hostility, yet we remain isolated and suspicious. You give us the ministry of reconciliation, yet we nurse our wounds and withhold mercy and forgiveness. You showed your full glory on a mountain, but we keep expecting more of the same. Forgive our lack of faith as we neglect the journey and life that you call us to. Draw us near to you so that we may reflect your love in this world through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A WORD OF ASSURANCE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

WOW Choir

A MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Teaching Elder Nathan Royster

(Young people through age four may now be excused to childcare.)

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

"This Little Light of Mine"

Primary and WOW Choirs

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, in your Word, meet us in the middle of our lives. Let your light dispel darkness, your hope overcome despair, your truth silence falsehood, and your love transform our thoughts, words, and deeds, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:2-9 NT p. 44

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Teaching Elder James Bernhardt

"Keeping the Vision"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

Open our eyes.

Open our hearts.

OFFERING AND REFLECTION

When the world feels threatening and overwhelming, take a breath, remember you are beloved, and form your response from a calm heart.

***THE DOXOLOGY NO. 606**

Old Hundredth

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING**

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the light of love around us and the fire of faith within us. As we go forth from this place let our lives reflect the One who is the image of your glory: Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

TAKING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN NO. 700**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm Gonna Live

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Everyone who is able may stand.

Bold lettering is to be read responsively by the congregation.

Bold lettering that is italicized is to be sung by the congregation.

Cover Art:

"The Transfiguration" from the portfolio, The Life of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
by James Tissot. Brooklyn Museum, public domain.

Sunday Take Home for February 11, 2024

Questions for Reflection

Why does Jesus instruct the disciples to keep quiet about what they had seen “until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead” (Mark 9:9)?

Household Prayer: Morning

God, as this new day dawns,
may your Spirit guide my feet
and reveal you to me in new ways
as I walk through your world today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy One, thank you for the gift of this day.
Whatever has happened,
whatever I have done and left undone,
help me hear the voice of Jesus tonight,
telling me to go to sleep as I am,
and not be afraid. Amen.

*Based on excerpts from Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion,
Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.*

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
February 11, 2024
WELCOME!

"I will show love to those who were called unloved and, to those who were called 'not-my-people', I will say 'you are my people' and they will answer, 'you are our God'." (Hosea 2:23)

Wayside Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) is a place where the mind is nourished as well as the spirit, and where we affirm the dignity and worth of every person. As we are all created in the image of God, we believe discrimination is incompatible with Christ's Gospel of unconditional love. While we celebrate our Presbyterian identity, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. We invite conversations that move us to seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit.

Be who you are and be welcome here.

FOR OUR CHILDREN

Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children are invited and welcome to stay in the service, in whatever manner befits their person: they should feel free to squirm, whine, dance, sing, cry, pray, or otherwise make themselves known. Children's worship activity bags are available for children remaining in the worship service. Please return them following worship.

AUDIO AND VISUAL ASSISTANCE

A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have a need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Thanks to all those who helped with the worship service today:

Church Opener:	Matt McGill	SNE Greeter:	Neil Kruse
Slides: 8:30:	Ed Snyder	11:00:	Austin Jewell
Worship Assistant:	Linda Pentz	Fellowship Time:	Dottie Lytle
Ushers: 8:30:	Tim Feltmeyer		
11:00:	Bobbi Jo Fye, Sarah Jay, Jonathan Jewell, Barb Sundberg		

A reminder to those scheduled to help next week, February 18:

Church Opener:	Bill Pentz	SNE Greeter:	Sarah Jay
Slides: 8:30:	Steve Porter	11:00:	Brenda Donegan
Worship Assistant:	Jonathan Jewell	Fellowship Time:	Jean Moore
Ushers: 8:30:	Colleen Loeslein, Mac Pollard		
11:00:	Paul Carpenedo, Chuck Lytle, Matt McGill, Dave Sundberg		

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11-FEBRUARY 18

Sunday, February 11 Souper Bowl of Caring	8:30 AM Celebration of Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Celebration of Worship 12:15 PM Confirmation Class 3:00 PM Sunday Suppers at Covenant (WaYouth)
Monday, February 12	9:30 AM Stronger Seniors 6:30 PM AA 6:30 PM Symphonic Singers 6:30 PM Sanctuary Bells
Tuesday, February 13	9:30, 10:30 AM Music Together with Ms. Mary 4:15, 5:30 PM Music Together with Ms. Mary
Wednesday, February 14	9:30, 10:30 AM Music Together with Ms. Mary 9:30 AM Stronger Seniors 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00 PM WOW Club 5:00 PM Primary Choir 6:00 PM Pancake Dinner 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, February 15	9:00 AM Yoga with Cathleen 6:00 PM AI-Anon Newcomers 7:00 PM Chancel Choir
Friday, February 16	7:00 PM Lenten Book Study at Rabenolds'
Saturday, February 17	8:30 AM HAAEQG 9:30 AM Bag Lunch Packing
Sunday, February 18 Noisy Offering	8:30 AM Celebration of Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Celebration of Worship 12:15 PM Confirmation Class

TODAY'S WORSHIP

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad that is on the aisle end of your pew! This is a way to be known to others and share information with the church. Our deacons like to deliver homemade bread to guests; please leave your address.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Today's Sanctuary Flowers are given by Mark & Gwen Smith in honor of their wedding anniversary. They would like to share the flowers with you. If you would like a bouquet, please come to the communion table following the late service. If you would like to sponsor flowers, there is a sheet in the lobby. Florist choice arrangements are \$40; specific requests are \$60.

ISSUES OF FAITH

Barb Kurkas Lee, CNM, is presenting "Aromatherapy: a comfort tool for prayer and meditation." Next week Jim Haas will be sharing about Habitat for Humanity.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday service will be held Wednesday, February 14, at 7 PM preceded by a pancake supper at 6:00. Lenten devotional booklets are available in the lobby today.

LENTEN PRACTICES

Join James Bernhardt in prayer practices during Lent, online at 7:30 Tuesday mornings, and in person Wednesdays at 5:15 PM in the Prayer Room at Wayside. We will use the book *Prayer: Forty Days of Practice*, as well as engage in centering prayer for those who are interested. You can find the book online or order through a local bookstore. It is by Justin McRoberts and Scott Erickson.

Nathan Royster and Gregg Rabenold will be leading studies on *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat* by John Ortberg in the parlor Wednesdays at 6:30 PM or Fridays at 7 PM at the Rabenold home. Books are available in the lobby; a \$10 recommended donation is appreciated but not required.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Today is Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday! Drop cash into the soup pot to support Second Harvest Food Bank and help to feed the 88,670 individuals in northwest PA facing hunger.

REFUGEE UPDATE

Our refugee family arrived February 2 looking exhausted and a bit scared. The family is Muslim and the mom will wear traditional African clothing with a head covering any time she is outside her home. The older daughter will most likely have her head covered but may wear pants and long sleeves. The parents left Sudan and have been in a refugee camp in Chad for 20 years. All four children were born at the camp and have only known life in a refugee camp. They speak Arabic and no English. Pictures of their airport arrival and their apartment are posted on the PW bulletin board. Please consider donating gently used or new clothing in the sizes below:

Dad: men's 34 – Medium

Sons: Men's small; Boys 10-12

Mom: size 10 - Medium

Daughters: Ladies' Small or X-Small; Girls 6-8

Clothing can be dropped off at church in the container to the left as you enter from the accessible entrance by the fellowship hall lobby. It will be marked MCRC. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Haas 814-397-1619.

BLANKET SUNDAY

Today is the last day the Blanket Sunday Offering will be taken. Each blanket costs just \$10. Our goal is to provide 100 blankets and we need 30 more blankets purchased to meet our goal! Please consider donating. Checks can be written out to Wayside Presbyterian Women. Thank you! Together we will blanket the world with love.

BAG LUNCHES AND NOISY OFFERING

All are invited to help pack bagged lunches for distribution through area homeless shelters Saturday at 9:30. Next Sunday, February 18, will be our Noisy Offering to support this ministry. Gather up your loose change to make a joyful noise!

SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS

What burdens are you carrying? Illness, emotional distress, strained relationships? On Wednesday, February 28 at 7:00pm, there will be a worship and prayer service in the sanctuary for any who are longing for healing of any type.

WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

The suggested donations for this week are **toilet tissue** and **bar soap**. Non-perishable items such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, and pet foods are always appreciated. See the newsletter for a suggestion of a "birthday box" donation. Checks can be made out to "West Millcreek Food Pantry;" there is an envelope for donations in the lobby.

SOUP SALE

Presbyterian Women will hold a Homemade Soup Sale on Sunday, February 25th. The soup can be picked up before and after both services. Our great chefs--Jane Gilewicz and Jill Abbott--will be making Vegetable Beef Soup and Broccoli Cheddar Soup. You can reserve your soup by signing up in the lobby. A quart container will be available for a \$12 donation. All proceeds will support the Wayside Co-sponsorship of our refugee family. Please plan on enjoying some yummy soup and help PW raise money to help resettle our new neighbors!

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY PRESENTATION AT WAYSIDE

The Presbytery of Lake Erie is hosting a presentation on inter-generational ministry on Saturday, February 24, 10:00-11:30am at Wayside with GenOn Ministries. GenOn Ministries equips congregations with approaches that bring together all ages in the work and life of the Body of Christ. RSVP to Pastor Nathan by February 19 to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School for 4-year-olds through rising 5th graders will be July 29-August 2. Registration opens May 1! *"God So Loved the World": Caring for ALL of God's Creation*

PRESBYTERY YOUTH RETREAT

6th-12th graders mark your calendar for April 5-7 for a presbytery-wide retreat at Lamppost Farms in Columbiana, OH. Stay tuned for details.

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