

**February 18, 2024**



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**The Rev. Nathan Royster,  
Associate Pastor**

**The Rev. Jim Haas,  
Pastor Emeritus**

**Nicholas Nasibyan,  
Director of Music and  
Organist**

**Mission  
Josh Heikkila  
Ghana, Africa**



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP  
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

11:00 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

CHORAL INTROIT

“Who Can Save Us, Lord, but Thou?”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sarah Jay

We cultivate the earth—

**When we till the ground and lay new seeds.**

We cultivate hospitality—

**When we pay attention to what others need.**

We cultivate worship—

**When we come together, our hearts fully open.**

In this worship, may we be honest and present;

**May we be faithful and gracious.**

For the God of the soil, who is the God of our hearts, is near.

**Let us worship Holy God.**

OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 792

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Balm in Gilead

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, we are works in progress. In spaces where we could cultivate belonging, we build up walls. In spaces where we could cultivate compassion, we insist on perfection. In spaces where we could let go of anger, we hold tightly to old grudges and bitter resentments. So today we pray—Remind us how to cultivate hope, love, and justice. Remind us how to let go of fear, perfection, and hatred. Forgive us. Guide us. Heal us. Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

\*A WORD OF ASSURANCE

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**God’s mercy endures forever.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### **NOISY OFFERING**

#### **A MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN**

Mark Smith

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

#### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

"Bound for The Promised Land"

arr. John Leavitt

Chancel Choir

Johanthan Moser, violin; Mary Moser, viola; Staci McGill, cello

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Bring your word near, O Lord, to stay in our hearts. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to respond to your word with our whole lives, until you alone become our dwelling place. Amen.**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 4:1-13 NT p. 61

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **SERMON**

Teaching Elder James Bernhardt

"Cultivating Trust, Letting Go of Power"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

#### **A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

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

God our refuge,

**Deliver us.**

#### **OFFERING AND REFLECTION**

*"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21*

*WaYouth serving at Mercy Center and Sunday Suppers at Covenant*

**\*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**

**We thank you God for your abundance shown in food that sustains, companions on the journey, and work to do. Here is part of all we have received, in celebration of the great gift of Christ, and to continue the work he has commissioned in the world. Amen.**

**TAKING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*HYMN NO. 729**

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

I Want to Be a Christian

**\*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:**

"Christ in the Wilderness – The Scorpion",  
1939, Stanley Spencer, (1891 -1959), Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth.

## **Sunday Take Home for February 18, 2024**

### ***Question for Reflection***

In Luke 4:1–13, the devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread, to take control of the kingdoms of the world, and to perform a spectacular stunt that would “wow the crowd.” Jesus refused to take control in these ways. Instead, Jesus chose another way to feed hungry people, to demonstrate what the kingdom of God looks like, and to enter Jerusalem humbly. Why do think Jesus chose another way to “do justice” and what are some ways that you and your faith community practice justice in his name?

### ***Household Prayer: Morning***

Loving God, all night I slept in your shadow,  
sheltered by you.

As I enter into the gift of this day,  
I trust that you are with me.

May I see signs and wonders of your presence in the  
world today, for you alone are God.

I ask that this day afford me opportunities to celebrate  
and share with others the abundance of your grace and love.

Help me to be open to all people you bring my way,  
for you yourself make no distinctions, but are Lord of all.

In Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

### ***Household Prayer: Evening***

God, my dwelling place, as the shadows fall, I rest in you.

Thank you for the faith that held me fast this day.

Thank you, too, for every person who offered me grace,  
and for those to whom I could also show grace.

I pray this night for all who long to see a sign of your power  
in the darkness that surrounds them.

Be near to them and show them your salvation.

And in the morning when I rise,  
give me your work to do for another day;  
in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
February 18, 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:

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

A reminder to those scheduled to help next week, February 25:

<b>Church Opener:</b>	Steve Porter	<b>SNE Greeter:</b>	
<b>Slides: 8:30:</b>	Mark Twinem	<b>11:00:</b>	Bobbi Jo Fye
<b>Worship Assistant:</b>	Tim Feltmeyer	<b>Fellowship Time:</b>	
<b>Ushers: 8:30:</b>	Jill Gomes, Louise Martin		
<b>11:00:</b>	Kenny Momeyer, Andy Potocki, Katie Potocki, Marilyn Russell		

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18-FEBRUARY 25

Sunday, February 18	8:30 AM	Celebration of Worship
<b>Noisy Offering</b>	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Celebration of Worship
	12:15 PM	Confirmation Class
Monday, February 19	9:30 AM	Stronger Seniors
	6:30 PM	AA
	6:30 PM	Symphonic Singers
	6:30 PM	Sanctuary Bells
Tuesday, February 20	7:30 AM	Online Lenten Prayer Practices
	9:30, 10:30 AM	Music Together with Ms. Mary
	4:15, 5:30 PM	Music Together with Ms. Mary
	7:00 PM	Sophia Circle
Wednesday, February 21	9:30, 10:30 AM	Music Together with Ms. Mary
	9:30 AM	Stronger Seniors
	4:00 PM	WOW Club
	5:00 PM	Primary Choir
	6:00 PM	Fellowship Dinner
	6:30 PM	Lenten Book Study
Thursday, February 22	9:00 AM	Yoga with Cathleen
	6:00 PM	AI-Anon Newcomers
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Friday, February 23	7:00 PM	Lenten Book Study at Rabenolds'
Saturday, February 24	10:00 AM	GenOn Presentation
Sunday, February 25	8:30 AM	Celebration of Worship
<b>PW Soup Sale</b>	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 to the glory of God in loving memory of Paul and Grace Zarenko. 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

Jim Haas is sharing today about Habitat for Humanity. Check "Wayside Issues of Faith" on Facebook for speaker updates.

## 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.

## SOPHIA CIRCLE

The Sophia Circle will meet Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the parlor.

## ELIZABETH CIRCLE CHANGE OF DATE

This month only, Elizabeth Circle will meet Thursday, **February 29**, at 11:30 AM in the parlor. Happy Leap Day!

## 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. No more pre-orders are being taken; if extra soup is made, it will be available next Sunday.

## 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.

## 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.

## REFUGEE UPDATE

The Dahye Family is doing well. MCRC has been very busy and has helped them get Social Security cards and some social services to help with food and expenses. The specific needs at this time are for ladies' shoes size 10, 10½, or 11 and clothing for the older boy--men's size small. The family expresses thanks anytime we see them. They are grateful for our support!



## BLANKET SUNDAY

Thank you for your outstanding support of Blanket Sunday! We exceeded our goal and were able to purchase 140 blankets! These blankets will provide warmth and comfort to people in need. Each blanket allows someone to feel God's love in their lives. THANK YOU!

## WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

The suggested donations for this week are **mac and cheese** and **peanut butter**. 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.

## SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School for 4-year-olds through rising 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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