

## About the Cover Art:

### First Fruits by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman Inspired by Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Digital Painting

This text urges the harvester to ground themselves in ancestral and divine identity. This requires a primal knowledge of the answers to the questions, “Who are you?” and “Whose are you?” When the harvester brings the first fruits to the dwelling place of God, they are asked to offer a response to God, in which the harvester recounts the Exodus narrative. This narrative defines the harvester and gives understanding, resonance, and purpose to their offering before God.

Notice how the response is in first person plural: “When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord... and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power... and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.” (Deut. 26:6-9, NRSV) I imagine this recitation roots the harvester in their identity as an Exodus person—a wandering alien, oppressed and afflicted, who was heard, seen, and rescued by God.

Regardless of whether or not the harvester directly experienced the events of their pronouncement before God, this narrative is where their identity is found and it changes how they live. Echoes of this narrative live in the harvester. This narrative affirms the truth that the harvester was once an alien, and whatever they have been given and all that they are belong to God. Therefore, all of the bounty—the sumptuous, nurturing, first fruits of the ground are to be shared with the aliens who reside among them. What would it look like for you to ground yourself in ancestral and divine identity? How would it change how you live? Who are you? Whose are you?

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February 26, 2023  
9:30am and 11am

# Wayne Presbyterian Church





Sharing the Ministry of Jesus Christ through Worship, Education and Mission



# Welcome! We're so glad to have you worshipping with us...

If you are visiting, we would love to get to know you! Please fill out the Fellowship Pad at the end of the pew with your contact information so we can be in touch. Our pastors would love to greet you as well, so please introduce yourselves.

## What to expect in worship...

-  Liturgy
-  Prayer
-  Offering
-  Childcare
- Liturgy literally means “the work of the people.” We think worship should be interactive. It is designed to engage the whole person—heart, mind, soul, and body. Therefore, we sing, speak, stand, sit, eat, watch, think, and sit in silence. If worship is a performance, it is the church’s performance for God. Each week we do our best to make sure that God is praised using everything we have.

Our lives are full of lament and celebration. We therefore come to God with honesty recognizing that God wants to hear our deepest pain and most pressing questions, and loves to see the Church joyfully celebrate God’s great gifts.

We give tithes and offerings as a response to God’s grace in our lives. Knowing that all good blessings come from God, the offering is an opportunity to joyfully spread that blessing throughout the world. Guests are not expected or obligated to give.

We love children. As a child-cherishing church, we provide a variety of educational opportunities for children. They are welcome in the worship service or in Sunday school. We also have a lovely nursery staffed by professional childcare workers if you need a break.

## Children & Youth today...

Children & Youth Sunday School ~9:30am

- Preschool (2, 3, & 4 year olds)- Room 103
- K/1st- Room 304
- 2nd/3rd- Room 301
- 4th/5th- Room 306
- Grades 6 & 7- Room 208/209
- Confirmation- Knox Room
- Childcare is provided for infants and toddlers in Room 101/102 during both the 9:30am and the 11am services.

Youth Group will be meeting every 1st and 3rd Sunday.



## Announcements

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS:** Devotional booklets for the season of Lent are available through the church. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, this weekly devotional by Sanctified Art follows the Revised Common Lectionary (Year C) through Easter Sunday. Each week offers commentary, poetry, visual art, and written reflections, along with hymns and journaling prompts for Holy Week. Booklets are now available and can be picked up at the brochure table outside of the Sanctuary.

**LENTEN STUDY:** Join us for a two-week Lenten Study taking place on March 1 and March 8. Starting in the Chapel from 6:15PM-7:00PM for dinner and fellowship, followed by a Lenten Study in Fireside from 7:00PM-8:00PM led by Rev. Courtenay Willcox who currently serves as the Transitional Pastor of the Tree of Life Church. For Zoom access, please register online at [waynepres.org](http://waynepres.org). To request childcare for this event, please contact Rev. Katy Shevel at: [katy@waynepres.org](mailto:katy@waynepres.org).

**SUPPORT FOR TURKEY AND SYRIA:** A 7.8 magnitude earthquake near the Turkey-Syria border struck in the early hours of February 6, 2023, estimated to affect more than 23 million people. The Presbyterian Church is already processing solidarity grants to meet immediate needs for blankets, mattresses, food items and medicines. Donate via the Presbyterian Mission Agency at [pda.pcusa.org](http://pda.pcusa.org)

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** This Lenten season, Wayne Presbyterian will 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. The familiar Fish Banks will be distributed in Sunday School classes to our children and youth. The young at heart may pick up their own at the welcome desk in the Connector. One Great Hour of Sharing contributions will be online beginning Ash Wednesday. Fish banks will be presented in worship on Palm Sunday. Please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

**COFFEE HOUR:** We are excited to serve baked goods and treats at 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour Fellowship in the Connector on Sundays between the two services. Here is the schedule for the next several weeks: March 5 S-Z; March 12 A-F; March 19 G-L . Thank you very much for helping to make our time together extra special! Please contact Marian Hollingsworth if you have any questions: [mhholling@gmail.com](mailto:mhholling@gmail.com) or 484-557-5733.

**HELP SEND MITCHELL SCHOOL'S CHESS TEAM TO NATIONALS:** Chess Team students at Mitchell School, our Church's 23-year Southwest Philadelphia partner, head to national elementary and upper school tournaments this spring. They already rank high among Philadelphia School District chess teams and seek to raise funds for \$6,000 in travel expenses for tournaments in Baltimore and Washington DC. Please help these talented players with a donation today. For more information, stop by the CityLights table between services, visit [waynepres.org](http://waynepres.org), or contact Wendy Norman ([wnormanpa@yahoo.com](mailto:wnormanpa@yahoo.com), 610-608-2572) or Jane Beatty ([jnbeatty@verizon.net](mailto:jnbeatty@verizon.net), 610-688-7529). Donations can be made online at [waynepres.org/giving](http://waynepres.org/giving) and select Mitchell School from the Fund dropdown or send a check to the church office with "Mitchell School – Chess" in the memo line.

**DINNER + A MOVIE: LUCA:** Andiamo! Let's go! You're invited to Dinner and a Movie on Friday, March 3 from 6PM-8PM in the Chapel for a special screening of Disney Pixar's LUCA! Grab your sleeping bag, bring a friend and come hungry. This event is for children in Kindergarten-5th Grade. Grown-ups may drop off, but please note pick-up is at 8pm, sharp! Register all children attending at [waynepres.org](http://waynepres.org).

**COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY VOLUNTEERS:** Do you have a background in writing, marketing, communications, PR or digital media? The Communications Committee is looking for a few volunteers to join us to help spread the word about all the great things we do here at WPC! If you're passionate about using messaging, images, and traditional/digital media in strategic and creative ways, we'd love to meet you! Please contact Elizabeth Castleman at [epcastleman@earthlink.net](mailto:epcastleman@earthlink.net) to learn more.

**WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY VOLUNTEERS:** If You Have Fun with Computers, How About This? The Communications and Technology Committee is looking for a few computer oriented volunteers to help run our Sunday Worship Services, both in-house and LiveStream. If you would like to be trained to run our digital audio console or the video production console, contact us. Just a few hours on a Sunday is all that would be required, after training. Contact [MBurnham@waynepres.org](mailto:MBurnham@waynepres.org).

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**  
**Invitation**  
**Orison**  
9:30am - *In You, We Are One*, Westminster Choir  
11:00am - *Hear, O Lord, When I Cry*, Chancel Choir  
**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving with the Lord's Prayer**  
**Words of Institution**  
**Communion of God's People**  
*All are welcome at God's table. Please come forward via the center aisle, partake of the bread and then the juice, and return to your seats via the outer aisles. If you would like to be served in the pews, raise a hand and worship leaders will come to you.*  
**Communion Music**  
11:00am - Choral Scholars Anthem      *If Ye Love Me*      Thomas Tallis  
Hymn 525      *Let Us Break Bread Together*  
Hymn 507      *Come to the Table of Grace*  
**Concluding Prayer**

+ **Hymn 339**      *Lift Every Voice and Sing*      LIFT EVERY VOICE

+ **Benediction**  
11:00am - *God Be in My Head*, Chancel Choir      Briggs

**Postlude**  
*Meditation on Bryn Calvaria (Calvary Hill)*      Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Kirsten Santos Rutschman, Organ

*Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*  
*Rev. Kay Shevel is on vacation today.*  
*The rose at the lectern is in celebration of the birth of Smith George Connell, son of Preston and Kristin Smith Connell, on January 8, 2023. He is the grandson of Sue and Gary Smith.*

**Join us for pancakes today in the Chapel at 10:30am. Pancakes are made and served with love by our 4th-7th graders. All are welcome.**

Mission Partners of the Week

WPC Mission Partner of the Week: The Rev. Jimmie Ray Hawkins, Director, Office of Public Witness, Presbyterian Church (USA), which seeks to translate the church's deep convictions about justice, peace, and freedom into reality. The Office engages national legislators and their staffs to help clarify the moral and ethical issues at stake in public policy decisions.  
Address: 100 Maryland Avenue NE, Suite 410, Washington, DC 20002

PC(USA) Mission Partners of the Week: Rev. Bob and Kristi Rice – Bob and Kristi serve in South Sudan where Bob teaches theology, church history and discipleship at Nile Theological College, a Presbyterian undergraduate institution that prepares men and women to serve South Sudan's churches. As an economic development advisor for the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, Kristi supports projects that improve the health and well being of communities and explores trauma healing ministries.  
Email: bob.rice@pcusa.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Sunday, February 26, 2023  
First Sunday of Lent  
Full to the Brim: Even in the Desert

+ Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Prelude**  
*Chorale Prelude and Fugue: O Darkest Woe*      Johannes Brahms  
Paul Fleckenstein, Organ

**Introit**  
9:30am - *I Come With Joy*, Westminster Choir      Lovelace  
11:00am - *O Come, Let Us Sing*, Chancel Choir      Nelhybel

**Words of Welcome**  
**Call to Worship**  
Jesus went to the mountaintop to pray.  
**Jesus went into the city to heal.**  
Jesus walked to Samaria to extend love.  
**Jesus went to the water's edge to teach.**  
Jesus went to places of peace and connection,  
**but Jesus also went to the wilderness.**  
There is nowhere we can go that God does not walk with us.  
**We are in God's house. Let us worship Holy God.**

+ **Hymn 509**      *All Who Hunger; Gather Gladly*      HOLY MANNA

+ **Call to Confession: (Hymn 698: Take, O Take Me As I Am)**

Take, O take me as I am;      sum - mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

+ **Prayer of Confession**  
Holy God, when we think that expansive life is about power—  
**Teach us a new way.**  
Gracious Creator, when we think that expansive life is about material wealth—  
**Teach us a new way.**  
Gracious Author, when we think that expansive life is about control—  
**Teach us a new way.**  
Teach us to live as you live.  
**Teach us to love as you love.**  
Forgive us when we don't.  
**Gratefully we pray, amen.**

-Silent Prayer-



+ Assurance of God's Grace

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

+ Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

Moment for Mission: The Good Shepherd Society

Offering

Text the word GIVE (not case sensitive) to our church's Giving Number (610 819 4483), or scan this QR code on your smart phone. Please feel free to give in-person as well.



Offertory Anthem

9:30 am - *O Lord, Most Holy*, Westminster Choir César Franck, arr. Hal H. Hopson  
O Lord, most holy, O Lord most mighty, O God of mercy, hear us, hear, O God of love. Help us to know you, know you and love you, Savior, grant us your truth and grace. Savior, guide and defend us. Rule all our willful hearts. Guard all our wand'ring thoughts. Lord of the broken-hearted, bring your peace and joy. Guide in temptation's hour, save through your mighty power. Lord, have mercy, hear our prayers, O God. Show your favor. Lord we sing and give praise to you.

11:00am - *There Will Be Rest*, Chancel Choir Frank Ticheli  
There will be rest, and sure stars shining over the roof-tops crowned with snow, a reign of rest, serene forgetting, the music of stillness holy and low. I will make this world of my devising, out of a dream in my lonely mind, I shall find the crystal of peace -- above me stars I shall find.

+ Doxology and Prayer of Dedication (Hymn 606)

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

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

*Lector: Bob Arndt (9:30); Carol Diehl (11:00)*

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

First Scripture Reading cont'd

The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

+ Hymn 166 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days ST. FLAVIAN

Second Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.”’ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,” and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Heather Shortlidge

+ Affirmation of Faith

We believe God is love.  
We believe God's love is overflowing.  
We believe Jesus is like a river.  
We believe that river is running toward us.  
We believe the Holy Spirit is a vessel.  
We believe that vessel holds mercy for you and for me.  
We believe the wilderness is real.  
We believe the desert is lonely.  
We believe that Jesus has been there.  
We know that we do not walk alone.  
Even in the desert,  
we are loved.  
Even in the desert,  
God is with us.  
Even in the desert,  
this love overflows.  
Thanks be to God,  
amen.