

Wheatland

REFLECTIONS

In the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: "Son of man, raise a lamentation over Pharaoh king of Egypt and say to him:

"You consider yourself a lion of the nations, but you are like a dragon in the seas;
you burst forth in your rivers, trouble the waters with your feet, and foul their rivers.
Thus says the Lord GOD:

I will throw my net over you with a host of many peoples, and they will haul you up in my dragnet.

And I will cast you on the ground; on the open field I will fling you, and will cause all the birds of the heavens to settle on you, and I will gorge the beasts of the whole earth with you."

~ Ezekiel 32:1-4

The world isn't simply going round and round in circles, as many religions and philosophies teach. It's going in a straight line towards a goal, and it's going there quite fast. The coming of Jesus began the process of final judgment. As he taught and lived the kingdom, the world was divided sharply into two, into those who were swept off their feet by him and those who resisted and rejected his gospel. That process continued through the first generation. It reached a climax when the city and regime that had rejected Jesus was destroyed by the Romans in AD 70. It continues still, and will do so until the day when God will remake the whole world in justice and truth, and all who have shaped and formed themselves around injustices and lies will find that they are like the bad fish that the fisherman will be forced to throw away. The choice is real, stark and sharp.

 \sim N. T. Wright

Within the church we shall always find good and bad, real and unreal. And although we have been told in the parable of the weeds not to expect a pure world or church on earth and not to make our judgment now, the day will come when God will make his final separation.

 \sim Michael Green

Don't think the way things are now is the final word. Just as the unrepentant should take no comfort in this temporary state, so the repentant should take no discouragement from it. Things will be made right. \sim J. Mark Bertrand

Cover art: Bitter Herbs by Tanja Butler | A linocut from Revealed: A Storybook Bible for Grown-Ups

April 21, 2024 | Fourth Sunday of Easter

▲ CONGREGATION STANDS ▼ CONGREGATION SITS

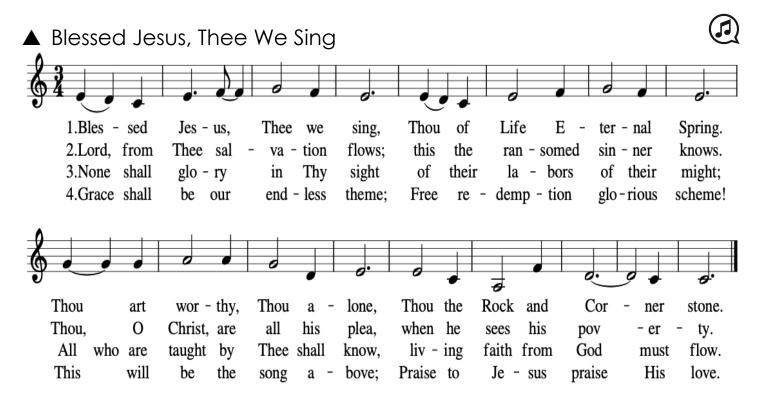
Hearing-assisted headsets are available through the Sound Technician. For a large-print edition of the bulletin, please call the church office.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

▼ P R E L U D E

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP 1 CHRONICLES 16:8-10

- LEADER: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;
- **PEOPLE:** Make known among the nations what he has done.
- LEADER: Sing to him,
- **PEOPLE:** Sing praise to him;
- LEADER: Tell of all his wonderful acts.
- **PEOPLE:** Glory in his holy name;
- **UNISON:** Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.



▼ CONFESSION OF SIN

LEADER: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God together by praying—
UNISON: Almighty heavenly Father, you have searched us and you know us.
You know when we sit and when we rise; you perceive our thoughts from afar. You discern our going out and our lying down; you are familiar with all our ways. Search us, O God, and know our hearts; test us and know our anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.

Please take a moment to silently confess your individual sins.

▼ Assurance of Pardon HEBREWS 7:24-25

But because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

A THANKSGIVING

LEADER: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

PEOPLE: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.







▲ CONFESSION OF FAITH

| UNISON: | We confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; |
|---------|---|
| LEFT: | truly God and truly man, of a soul and body; |
| | having the same nature as the Father according to the Godhead, |
| | and having the same nature with us according to the Manhood; |
| RIGHT: | in all things like unto us, without sin; |
| | begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead, |
| | and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, |
| LEFT: | born of the Virgin Mary, according to the Manhood; |
| | one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, only begotten, |
| | to be acknowledged in two natures, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; |
| RIGHT: | the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, |
| | but rather the property of each nature being preserved, |
| | and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, |
| UNISON: | not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, |
| | and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ; |
| | as the prophets from the beginning have declared concerning Him, |
| | and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself has taught us, |
| | and the creeds of the holy Fathers have handed down to us. |

▲ GOSPEL

JOHN 10:11-18

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

- LEADER: The Gospel of the Lord.
- **PEOPLE:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

▼ OFFERING



In your anger do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. Offer right sacrifices and trust in the LORD.

Children, ages 3 -5 years, are dismissed to the Fellowship Hallway for Children's Worship Training. Children will be served a small snack and a mini-cup of juice: please alert volunteers to any allergies.

Please fill in the attendance pad, pass it down the pew and then back.

If you are able to continue to give, you may do so online at <u>www.wheatlandpca.org/give</u> or by mail. If you are struggling financially, please contact our diaconate at <u>Diaconate@Wheatlandpca.org</u>.



▼ PROCLAMATION MATTHEW 13:47-52



⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

- LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.
- **PEOPLE:** Thanks be to God.

▼ Gathering and Sorting Manuscripts of the sermon are available.



▲ THE LORD'S SUPPER

- PASTOR: The Lord be with you!
- **PEOPLE:** And also with you.
- PASTOR: Lift up your hearts!
- **PEOPLE:** We lift them up to the Lord.
- PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
- **PEOPLE:** It is right to give him our thanks and praise.
- PASTOR: It is a right, good, proper, and joyful thing, at all times, and in all places to give you thanks, Lord God. We join our voices with the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven who forever sing:



- PASTOR: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:
- **PEOPLE:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Hallelujah!
- PASTOR: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!
- **PEOPLE:** Therefore, let us keep the feast.
- PASTOR: The gifts of God for the people of God.

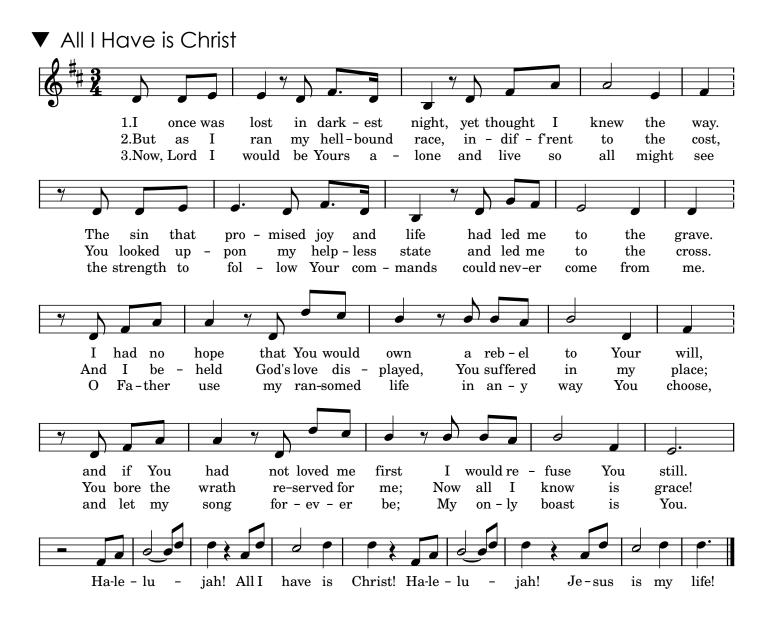
▼ Invitation and Prayer

- PASTOR: This Table is a place of nourishment for followers of Jesus Christ. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone, are in good standing with a church that embraces the Gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to eat this meal with us. But examine yourself, for Scripture reminds us that whoever eats the Bread or drinks the Cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the Body and Blood of the Lord. And while none of us are worthy apart from Christ, to even gather up the crumbs from this Table, we eagerly eat this meal with faith in Christ and gratitude to God for his salvation.
- **UNISON:** We do not presume to come to your Table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercies. Amen.
- ▼ Words of Institution
- PASTOR: And it was in mercy towards us that our heavenly Father gave his only Son to suffer death on the Cross for our redemption. As it is written: On the night Christ was betrayed he took Bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then in the same way, after supper Jesus took the Cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

▼ Coming to the Table

You will be invited forward up the center aisle and you will return down the outside aisle. If you are unable to come to the front to take communion, remain in your seat and it will be brought to you. The bread is gluten free. Wine is in the clear cups. Grape juice is in the purple cups. Please hold the bread and the cup until invited to eat and drink. We welcome our children to come forward to the Table for prayer (see Children and Communion at the back of this order of worship). If you are not eating the Supper with us today, you may come forward with your hands clasped together to receive prayer, or you may spend this time in prayer at your seat using the communion prayers printed in the back of the bulletin.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

UNISON: Everliving God, thank you for feeding us with these holy mysteries the spiritual food of the Body and Blood of your Son. Heavenly Father, please assist us with your grace, that we may continue in holy fellowship with you, and do all such good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

▲ Psalm of Praise

| PASTOR: | Bless the Lord, O my soul, |
|---------|---|
| PEOPLE: | and all that is within me, bless his holy name. |
| PASTOR: | Bless the Lord, O my soul, |
| PEOPLE: | and forget not all his benefits |
| PASTOR: | who forgives all your iniquity, |
| PEOPLE: | who heals all your diseases, |
| PASTOR: | who redeems your life from the pit, |
| PEOPLE: | who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. |
| PASTOR: | The Lord is merciful and gracious, He does not deal |
| | with us according to our sins, |
| PEOPLE: | nor repay us according to our iniquities. |
| PASTOR: | For as high as the heavens are above the earth, |
| PEOPLE: | so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; |
| PASTOR: | as far as the east is from the west, |
| PEOPLE: | so far does he remove our transgressions from us. |
| PASTOR: | As a father has compassion for his children, |
| PEOPLE: | so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. |
| PASTOR: | For he knows our frame; |
| PEOPLE: | he remembers that we are dust. |

▲ Doxology

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.

▲ BENEDICTION

I THESSALONIANS 3:16,18

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you . . . The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Scripture is taken from the English Standard Version.





Confession of Faith adapted from the Chalcedonian Creed. Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from Psalm 103.

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LIFE TOGETHER

This Week at Wheatland Sunday, April 21

8:30 & 11:15am Worship 10:15am Sunday Classes 6:30pm Roots Youth Group **Tuesday, April 23** 7:30am Prayer on Zoom **Wednesday, April 24** 9:30-11:00 Women's Bible Study Brunch 7:00-8:45pm ESL Classes **Thursday, April 25** 7:30am Prayer at Becker's, 413 College Ave. **Sunday, April 28** 8:30 & 11:15am Worship 10:15am Sunday Classes

Looking Ahead

July 27 – Church Picnic

6:30pm Roots Youth Group

Adult Sunday Class Honest Prayer, Lasting Hope Clint Watkins / Sanctuary

New Adult Sunday Class Next Week

We have a new adult Sunday class starting **next Sunday, April 28.** This class will run five consecutive weeks, through 5/26.

Habakkuk

Sanctuary - Keith Winder

During the prophet Habakkuk's ministry, the national life of Israel was completely falling apart. But the words we have from Habakkuk are not words of judgment against Israel. Instead, Habakkuk addresses God, wondering if God is good, then why is he not doing something about the evil of Israel. Then, God responds. So, we will see that the book of Habakkuk is a window into, "what if we heard God's response to our lament?"

Women's Discipleship Event For our next Women's Discipleship event, join us for a series of small group events happening simultaneously in several locations on Saturday, **May 4** from 2-4:00pm. These activities will create space to build deeper connections with women at

Wheatland in a small-group setting. Use the QR code to sign up. Please contact Erin Quillen <u>erinbquillen@gmail.com</u> with questions.



Adoption Support Group

Wheatland members Dan and Liz Grubb host an adoption and foster care support group for parents on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30-8:00pm at Wheatland in the Narthex. Dan is a licensed counselor with Matters of the Heart Counseling LLC and will be facilitating the group discussion. Community and family support will be encouraged and supported outside of group meetings as well. If you are interested in learning more or know a family who would benefit, please email dan@counselingmail.com.

Morning Prayer on Zoom

To be placed on the list to receive the login information for our **Tuesday Morning Prayer** time held on Zoom, please contact Betsy at <u>bboone@wheatlandpca.org</u>.

Song Lyrics Available Online

For those who find the lyrics and music printed together challenging, the link to the lyrics for each Sunday's worship service songs can be found on the front page of our website.

LIFE TOGETHER

Men's Discipleship

Monday Bible Study – Meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays in the Narthex. Contact Keith Winder (<u>kwinder@wheatlandpca.org</u>) for details.

Wednesday Morning Study - Meets virtually at 6:30am weekly to study a book of the Bible. Grab a cup of coffee and your favorite commentary and join us. Contact Paul Chase 717-220-4209 for more information.

Weekly Discipleship Group – Meets on Thursday evenings in the Narthex from 7:00pm-8:30pm. Call/text Edmund Byne at 404-583-4253 or email Edmund.byne@agriteer.ag for details.

Young Adult Discipleship

If you fall into the early 20's to early 30's age group, check out Wheatland's Young Adult ministry!

Young Adult Book Group meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at the Spatola's house, 748 Barr Blvd. Lancaster. We are reading *Open & Unafraid: The Psalms as a Guide to Life by W. David O. Taylor.*

Young Adult Sunday Lunches also meet at the Spatola's house. We will gather for lunch on the 2nd Sunday of each month shortly after the late service. A text or email RSVP is requested to Samuel at <u>SSpatola@wheatlandpca.org</u>. or (717) 847-3559.

Roots Youth Discipleship

If you or your student are in grades 6–12, check out the Roots Youth Activities at Wheatland!

Sunday night gatherings happen every Sunday night in the Narthex from 6:30-8:00pm.

Sunday School Classes meet on the 2nd floor of the church office building during the Sunday School hour.

Women's Discipleship Saturday morning Bible Study – Will resume in the fall meeting twice per month from 7:30 to 9:00am. For more information, contact Catherine Achor at <u>kitkatvt85@gmail.com</u>.

Evening Bible Study - Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. For more information, please contact Erin Quillen <u>erinbquillen@gmail.com</u> or at (717) 679-1317.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study - Meets 9:30am in the narthex. We are studying 1 Corinthians, using a study guide by NT Wright. Please email Joy Manning at <u>fimanning@msn.com</u> for more info. Study runs through May 1.

Quarterly Women's Events

The Women's Discipleship team is planning quarterly events to create opportunities for you to connect with other women at Wheatland. Please save the following dates: **May 4, August 3**, and **November 9**. Details and sign-up links will be communicated via email. With questions, please contact Erin Quillen (<u>erinbquillen@gmail.com</u>).

PCA Women's Conference

Made for More Conference: The PCA Women's Ministry will be hosting the Made for More Conference in Annapolis, MD on **Nov. 15-16**. This conference is open to women and girls in grades 3-12. For more information or to register, visit <u>https://women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more/</u>.

Discipleship: Triads

Triads are gatherings of three men or three women who seek to grow more and more into the image of Jesus Christ. Triads meet regularly (weekly, twice a month, or monthly) to study the Scriptures, read through a book, pray, and deepen our fellowship with one another. Create your own triad with some fellow Wheatlanders or reach out to Keith Winder <u>kwinder@wheatlandpca.org</u> for help or questions.

Food Bank

We collect food every Sunday for a local affordable senior housing apartment complex, LongCrest, on W. Walnut St. Our donations of non-perishable food and household items can make a difference for them. Please think about them when you are shopping and pick up a few extra items that a household of one could use. Place your donations in the box in the narthex.

Wheatland Communications

Are you receiving email communications from the church? If not, and you would like to, please email your contact information to the church office and we will add your name to the list. Send your info to Betsy at <u>bboone@wheatlandpca.org</u>.

Wheatland Recordings

Recordings of the sermons are available on the church website, <u>www.wheatlandpca.org</u>. Recordings of personal testimonies given during the worship service as well as both adult Sunday classes are also on the website. For CD copies of the worship service, please contact the office at <u>bboone@wheatlandpca.org</u>.

Prayer Chain

Prayer is an important part of our church life. If you have a prayer request or would like to join with more than 90 other Wheatlanders who are committed to bearing one another's burdens in prayer on the Prayer Chain, please contact Sue Seevers at <u>seseevers49@gmail.com</u>.

Wheatland Diaconate

The Diaconate at Wheatland (deacons and deaconesses) work to manage the upkeep of the property and to facilitate mercy ministries of sympathy and service among our members and regular attenders. If you have a concern about the property, a mercy-need, or want to get in touch with a deacon or deaconess, you can reach out personally (names listed in next column and contact information is in Elexio) or email Diaconate@WheatlandPCA.org.

Care Groups

Our congregation is organized by geographical lines into Care Groups. These groups meet twice a month to share meals and deepen fellowship with each other. Care Groups are organized as follows:

Lancaster City (Northwest) - Luke and Terilyn Le Duc <u>lleduc@wheatlandpca.org</u> Lancaster City (Southwest/East) - Joe and Tenli Hunter joeh1989@gmail.com Hempfield - Bill and Catherine Achor kitkatvt85@gmail.com School Lane Hills – Dain and Kristen Zimmerman kristen.zimmerman@gmail.com Hamilton Park - Jim and Joy Bates jbates01@mac.com Mountville/Millersville - Dallas and Diane Wolgemuth dndwolgemuth@gmail.com Lampeter Strasburg - Paul and Deb Kreider PHKIII@verizon.net Leola/New Holland – Glyn and Betsy Boone Glynboone@outlook.com Manheim Township - Dan and Tara Spanjer daniel.spanjer@live.com

Ruling Elders

Bill Achor Jeff Barrall John Bast Glyn Boone Ned Bustard Joe Hunter Les Slough

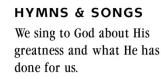
Deacons

Jon Bush Peter Horning Joseph Kiehl Dave Smith Dain Zimmerman Deaconesses Jess Bagge Laura Chapman Sharon Givler Amanda Long Priscilla Parker Katie Piser Beth Slough Becky Smith Diane Wolgemuth





CALL TO WORSHIP God invites us to come worship Him.





CONFESSION We say to God we are sorry for the sin we have done.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God reminds us that He has forgiven us for all of our sins.



THANKSGIVING

We tell God and each other how happy we are that we're forgiven.



BAPTISM

God puts His mark on us and sets us apart as holy to live for His glory.



CREED

We tell the world what we believe about God and His love.



PRAYER

OFFERING

given to us.

We talk to God. We tell Him what we love about Him and ask for what we need.

We give a little gift to God to

thank Him for what He has





SCRIPTURE/SERMON

God talks to us. The preacher explains God's Word.

LORD'S SUPPER

God feeds us at His table with the Body and Blood of Jesus.



BENEDICTION

God sends us out into the world with His blessing.

Spotlighting a Wheatland Missionary

- Who: Matt & Jenn Irvine, their children Malachi(20), Arielle(18), and Luke(14)
- Where: London, England
- Work: Matt and Jenn lead a Serge church planting team in northwest London whose vision is to establish a church that is understandable to British South Asians, mostly from Indian Gujarati Hindu or Jain backgrounds.



- Prayer: 1. Please pray for our Serge colleague (and brother to our brother-in-law) Eddie who has some difficult heart episodes in Spain and needs surgery.
 - 2. Please pray for our Wednesday street outreach time. We are getting opportunities to speak to many people from the Gujarati section of Western India who have just come as graduate students as well as people from all sorts of backgrounds including difficult to reach countries in the Middle East. Pray for the gospel to be heard and received.
 - 3. Please pray for the core of our church to have some good times of prayer as we ask the Lord to continue to build his church.

To receive the Irvine email prayer updates, email matt at mirvine@serge.org.

Communion Prayers

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, compelling, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Trusting that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

Children and Communion

Our baptized children are covenant children of our church, a rich part of our life together at Wheatland, and we long to see them eating with us at the Table. As a denomination (Presbyterian Church in America), we do not practice giving communion to children before they profess their faith to the Elders of our church and undertake the obligations and duties of a communing member. However, it is a deep joy to gather them with us at this Table so that we might pray for them. Our prayer is that they will grow in their faith and love of Jesus and his gospel and in due time will profess their faith publicly to our Elders and join us to eat this meal of grace. Wheatland Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God by equipping the community of believers to lovingly confront our generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



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