

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 29, 2023

A photograph of a snowy forest path. The path is covered in snow and has several footprints. The trees on either side are evergreens heavily laden with snow. In the distance, a bright sunburst is visible through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

Do justice...

love kindness...

walk humbly

January 29, 2023

10:00 am

Order of Worship

*Text in **bold** congregation reads together. *Indicates congregation standing, if able.
Please turn off cell phones & other devices.*

We Gather to Worship

CENTERING MUSIC & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed:

The poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek.

We gather to hear who Christ calls blessed;

those who hunger and thirst for

His righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, the persecuted.

Blessed.

*HYMN #2002 I Will Call upon the Lord

(The Faith We Sing)

*OPENING PRAYER

*Redeeming God, you come to us in Christ to rescue us from slavery and lead us out of captivity. Guide us by the wisdom of the cross, and show us how to live a life of justice, love, and blessedness. **Amen.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has told us what is good, what is required: Do justice. Love kindness. Walk humbly with God. These commands are so simple, yet we know we have not always followed them. With that knowledge, we confess.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we fail to do what is right. Instead, we pursue evil and do not speak the truth. Even when we try our best to be faithful, still we turn away from you. Forgive us, accept us, and redeem us, that we may seek to do what you call good

Silent meditation

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption, is the one who judges us. Christ is the one who was born for us and forgives us with abundant love. We will boast of all the good God has done for us!

Thanks be to God!

*PASSING THE PEACE *(Please share the peace however you feel comfortable)*

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***PEACE RESPONSE** There's A Sweet Sweet Spirit
**There's a sweet, sweet, Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord:
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, your blessings are abundant, and your wisdom exceeds our grasp. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word this day, that we may be justice seekers and peacemakers, sharing your life among those who are forgotten, weak, or persecuted, and revealing to all your glory. Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-21 (MSG)

The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hell-bent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It's written, I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head, I'll expose so-called experts as shams. So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered stupid—preaching, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation. 22-25 While Jews clamor for miraculous demonstrations and Greeks go in for philosophical wisdom, we go right on proclaiming Christ, the Crucified. Jews treat this like an anti-miracle—and Greeks pass it off as absurd. But to us who are personally called by God himself—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in one. Human wisdom is so cheap, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can't begin to compete with God's "weakness." 26-31 Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of "the brightest and the best" among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these "nobodies" to expose the hollow pretensions of the "somebodies"? That makes it quite clear that none of you can get by with blowing your own horn before God. Everything that we have—right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start—comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. That's why we have the saying, "If you're going to blow a horn, blow a trumpet for God."

SECOND READING

Matthew 7:24-29 (NLT)

Building on a Solid Foundation 24 "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse

because it is built on bedrock. 26 But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. 27 When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash." 28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 for he taught with real authority—quite unlike their teachers of religious law. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Get Used to Different

*HYMN #726 Will You Come and Follow Me

(Glory to God)

We Respond to God

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

RESPONSE #2071 Jesus, Name above All Names

(The Faith We Sing)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*We thank you, God, that you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world. May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. **Amen.***

*HYMN #721 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

(Glory to God)

*CHARGE

In the spirit of the beatitudes, commit to leading a life of blessing, living in compassion, simplicity, and peace.

*BLESSING

*May Christ the Son of Righteousness shine brightly on your path as you walk the way of justice and peace. And the blessing of God—the Creator, Healer, and Giver of Life—bless you and keep you always. **Amen.***

And always remember...

The Light of God surrounds us, the love of God enfolds us, the power of God protects us, the presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is! Alleluia! Amen.

Worship Leaders: Becky Ventre, C.C.D.

Worship Assistant: Shari Perkins

Musicians: Bruce Decker, Mark Panfil,

Please stay for Wayside's Annual Meeting immediately after the service.

Please keep Gordon Poecking and his family in your thoughts and prayers. A service for Gordon will be held at Wayside tomorrow afternoon (01/30/23) at 1:00PM.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

Wayside's Annual Soup-A-Thon is back! Mark your calendars for February 5, 2023. Please see sign-up sheets downstairs on board outside of the main office.

Wayside's Annual Meeting to receive and review reports from 2022 is scheduled for TODAY, after the service. Please plan on staying for this important meeting.

If you, or a member of your family are in the hospital please let the office know so we can arrange a visit and prayers.

We have an amazing opportunity as a church to travel to Choma, Zambia Africa, to partner with an incredible organization/church called Poetice. We will be a part of "Love Choma 2023" July 20-31 as we come alongside Poetice in meeting the incredible needs of the city. If you're interested in learning more about the trip, please talk to Becky.

Interested in becoming a Member? We'd love to have you. All you have to do is give the office a call (716-627-2150) and let us know that you're interested. Everyone is welcome!

Melanie Scholl is having a benefit for her friend, Renee "Nendza" Gennocro and Renee's dad, Edward Nendza and she needs our help. Renee and her dad are both battling cancer (Ed, Goblet Cell Carcinoma of the appendix) (Renee, Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer, which has spread to her liver and other parts). The benefit takes place on Sunday, March 12 at the Woodlawn Fire Hall. Pre-sale tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased through Melanie. If you would like to donate, please see Melanie or call or text Louise Ruger (716) 867-0572 or Michelle Rickard (716) 208-9733. Melanie is also accepting basket raffle donations.

If you filled out a "Connect With Us" card, you should have received the weekly email on Friday. If you did not, please call Julie, send her a text at 716-983-3888, or send the office an email at waysidechurch@hotmail.com and let us know . If you didn't get a chance to fill out a card, please take the time to do so. You can find the cards on the table where we collect the offerings. Please put cards in the offering plate when you are finished.

Your \$36.00 Per Capita payments are now due. Why are they so important? Per capita provides the Office of the General Assembly with the means to strengthen the connections of our work, and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God's love through mission and ministry. Please be sure to write "Per Capita" on your envelope or check. You can also make a payment by going to our website (www.waysidepch.org) and clicking on "Support Wayside" then go to the "Per Capita" box and click the blue "give now" button. There is also a "give now" button in your weekly email. If you have any questions, see Julie.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to be included on the prayer list, please call the church office. Remember to keep us posted with updates about these folks as well. Normally, if we have not heard any updates about a person, the name will be moved off the list after 30 days.

All Military Personnel
Gordon Poecking & Family
Lisa Glass
Claire & Charlotte Freid
Ainette Marshall
Jamie
Ray Wise
Joan Kelly
Pike/Peiffer Family
Caleb Pelka
Rich & Judie Miller
Carol Sherer

Skip Chase
Ed Nendza & Family
Elaine Jabcuga
Doris Stein
Janice Leigh
Donald Minnick
Kimberly Borkowski
Wendy Ritchey
Marjorie English
Kristina Carlson
Jill Slighter
Jason Weldy

Kim Chase
Rhoda Peace
Bob Palyszeski
Victims of violence, and tragedy, their families and loved ones.

WAYSIDE'S SCHEDULE

*Subject to change. Please check Facebook and email for updates.

Sunday 01/29

10:00 Worship
10:00 Sunday School
Annual Meeting
Coffee Hour & Fellowship

Monday 01/30

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00-1:00 Lake Shore Pre-School
1:00 Gordon Poecking Service @ Wayside

Tuesday 01/31

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00-11:30 Lake Shore Pre-School
12:15-2:45 Lake Shore Pre-School

Wednesday 02/01

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00-1:00 Lake Shore Pre-School
10:00 Women of Wayside (W.O.W.)
10:30 AA Support Group
6:30 Deacons

Thursday 02/02

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00-1:00 Lake Shore Pre-School

Friday 02/03

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00 Lake Shore Pre-School
10:30 AA Support Group
12:15-2:45 Lake Shore Pre-School

Saturday 02/04

Sunday 02/05

10:00 Worship & Communion
10:00 Sunday School
Soup Fest!

Monday 02/06

9:00-1:00 Office hours
9:00-1:00 Lake Shore Pre-School

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A safe, inclusive place for all people to worship.



95 Years in Ministry
5017 Lake Shore Road
Hamburg, New York 14075

Congregational Care Director:
Pastor Becky Ventre
Cell: 716-310-8152
bventrewayside@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00-1:00
716-627-2150 Office
716-983-3888 Julie Cell
waysidechurch@hotmail.com

www.waysidepch.org
Find us on Facebook and Instagram!

STAFF

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|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Congregational Care Director: | Becky Ventre | bventrewayside@gmail.com |
| Administrative Assistant: | Julie Horwood | waysidechurch@hotmail.com |
| Bldg & Grounds Coordinator: | Jeff Ventre | |
| Custodian: | Ashley Reardon | |
| Librarian: | Karen Peiffer | |
| Music Coordinator: | Bruce Decker | |
| Social Media Coordinator: | Ashley Reardon | |
| Pastor Emeritus: | David Persons | |