

Willow Springs Sunday Worship March 26, 2023. 9:30 am

Simulcast on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4743450556>

Meeting ID: 474 345 0556 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Hosted by Elaine Good

We join together this Lenten Season created in the image of God, shaped by Jesus.

Jesus' Regeneration – Authentically Human. Today's theme - ***Called to life***

Welcome and Call to worship – Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler

(based on Psalm 130)

Leader: Out of the depths we cry to you.

People: O Lord, hear our cry.

Leader: If you kept a record of sins, who would stand a chance?

People: O Lord, hear our cry.

Leader: But with you there is forgiveness.

All: We wait for you, O Lord. We hope in your word. Blessed be your name.

Songs - Phil Kaufmann

Confession

Leader: Lord, our lives are dry bones.

We are cruel in our words
and indifferent in our actions.
We confess to the Lord . . .

(silent prayer)

Leader: Breathe on us, Lord.

Put your Spirit within us
and make us alive.

All: We place our hope in you. Amen.

Hymn of praise

Children's time – Pam Kaufmann

Scripture: John 11:17-46

Sermon: Encounters: Called to Life!

Martha, Mary, Lazarus, Friend

Songs

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

After prayer times "Lord, in your mercy" respond with "hear our prayer."

Testimony - Guiding questions:

- Have you ever experienced dryness or hopelessness in your life? Could you tell us some details about that experience?
- How did God enter your situation and make a shift from dryness to abundance?
- If there is no "dead end" in the lives of those who put their trust in God, then, from your experience, how does God help us make a U-turn?

Offering Song

Announcements:

The **worship visual** represents a desert journey of lent with this morning's color - red pointing us to testing/temptation, Orange for new birth (sunrise), blue for water. - yellow for light. TODAY – green for life.

This quarter we highlight the **ministries of MCC** with their impact around the world. Current MCCProject: Relief kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster. Our special MCC offering - Change for a Change, last Sunday total \$199.87. Thank you! We will have another opportunity to collect the coins today.

WiderStand AntiRacism Training - The training consists of at home, on-line, video sessions. Intertwined in the sessions will be group conversation and processing. Pray for our growth closer to the Kingdom in the love and truth of Jesus. Go through: *Introduction and Developing A Common Vocabulary: Race, Bias, Privilege. Discussion today 11:15 to 12:15.*

The Land Is Not Empty HWF Book Conversation - March 28, April 11 and 25, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Hungry World Farm Eat local, grow local! Garden planning for a long, local harvest: Saturday, April 22, 1-3 p.m.

Growing your own food is a great way to invest in your own health and the health of our planet! The theme for Earth Day 2023 is "Invest In Our Planet".

Spring Meeting of the Illinois Mennonite Historical & Genealogical Society: Saturday April 22 at 10 a.m. at the Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center near Metamora. Luke Fischer of Roanoke will give a presentation on *The Origins and History of the Apostolic Christian Church*, a cousin Anabaptist church. Everyone is welcome. A fellowship lunch will follow.

CALENDAR

March 26 - Anti-Racism discussion – 11:15 am.

April 1 - Hungry World Farm Spring Work and Play Day: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 2 - Anti-Racism discussion.

April 6 - Maundy Thursday Supper/Communion/Footwashing. Please sign up to bring food to share.

April 9 - Easter!

June 6 and 7 - Willow Springs Kids Day Camp.

Sending –

Leader: Put your hope in the Lord.

People: The Lord is unfailing love,

Leader: and with God is full redemption.

People: God will bring us up from our graves.

All: God will redeem us from all our sins.

Online giving option: <https://tinyurl.com/donateWSMC>

Masks are encouraged but no longer required in our building. If you have Covid-like symptoms, please stay home and join by Zoom. Thank you for your consideration of others.

Mission Vision: Willow Springs Mennonite Church is a thriving Anabaptist community of believers saved by grace who love and desire to follow Jesus Christ.

We celebrate life together through joyful worship, faithful study, intentional sharing of the Gospel, and compassionate caring and service to others.

Values: How will we be thinking and acting? Prayerfully, Faithfully, Intentionally, Compassionately, Enthusiastically and joyfully!