

Willow Springs Worship, Sunday, September 10, 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

Welcome and Call to worship –

Call to worship – Voices Together (VT)#185

Songs - Phil Kaufmann

50 Cent Offering/Song

Children's time - Presentation of *The Peace Table* - Cal Zehr

Scripture Litany:

North Side - God formed you inside and out. God knit you together in your mother's womb. You were made in a wonderful way.

South Side - God has good plans for you. God has loved you with an everlasting love and will always be faithful to you.

North Side - God will rescue you and protect you. God will be with you in trouble.

South Side - Rest in the great love God has for you. Let it bring joy to your hearts. God chose you and loves you.

Prayer

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-10, Psalms 104

Sermon: Creator God, Our God

Songs

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

Song

Announcements:

We pass the globe banks as a reminder of all of us doing our part in world hunger. **The 50 Cent offering** will be shared with the Bureau County Food Pantry and Mennonite Central Committee.

Julius Malin shares after worship today about his PhD project with the University of Basel, Switzerland. Julius has been in Bureau County engaging in Hungry World Farm and Willow Springs as a significant part of his PhD Project.

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for September is the **Peace Tax Fund**. If you would like to give to PTF write a check to Willow Springs with the organization's name included on the Memo line. Thank you for supporting organizations connected to the Mennonite Church. Have you resisted

paying the military portion of taxes or kept your income low for military tax reasons? Would you consider sharing your perspectives with the congregation? Please talk to Cal.

ROAD CLOSED - A bridge will be replaced on 1725 E St (The golf course road) and may be a few months. Who knows? Plan accordingly to get to Willow Springs until the road opens.

We bring our thoughts and energy before the Lord as Willow Springs in many ways. Thanks for the strong affirmation of the **2023-24 Sunday School and Church Office Ballot**. Thanks to the Discernment Committee for their work!

Please consider a **gift to the WS Benevolent Fund** as we have given to various people in some aspects of their life journey. Approximately \$500 is currently needed. Note *Benevolent Fund* on a check to Willow Springs.

This Fall the sermon's will explore **different characteristics or metaphors of God** such as Creator, Rock, Righteousness, Judge, Peace... This morning we reflect together about Our God is Our Creator.

CALENDAR

September 10 - Julius shares after worship about his PhD project with the University of Basel, Switzerland.

September 30 – Wilma Potts Committal/am, Margaret Gale Memorial Service/3:30pm

Sending – VT#1009

Benediction Song – Seeds VT#777

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

Psalm 104

¹Praise the Lord, my soul.

Lord my God, you are very great;

you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

²The Lord wraps himself in light as with a garment;

he stretches out the heavens like a tent

³ and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters.

He makes the clouds his chariot

and rides on the wings of the wind.

⁴He makes winds his messengers,

flames of fire his servants.

⁵He set the earth on its foundations;

it can never be moved.

⁶You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment;

the waters stood above the mountains.

⁷But at your rebuke the waters fled,

at the sound of your thunder they took to flight;

⁸they flowed over the mountains,

they went down into the valleys,

to the place you assigned for them.

⁹You set a boundary they cannot cross;

never again will they cover the earth.

¹⁰He makes springs pour water into the ravines;

it flows between the mountains.

¹¹They give water to all the beasts of the field;

the wild donkeys quench their thirst.

¹²The birds of the sky nest by the waters;

they sing among the branches.

¹³He waters the mountains from his upper chambers;

the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.

¹⁴ He makes grass grow for the cattle,
and plants for people to cultivate—
bringing forth food from the earth:
¹⁵ wine that gladdens human hearts,
oil to make their faces shine,
and bread that sustains their hearts.
¹⁶ The trees of the Lord are well watered,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
¹⁷ There the birds make their nests;
the stork has its home in the junipers.
¹⁸ The high mountains belong to the wild goats;
the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.

¹⁹ He made the moon to mark the seasons,
and the sun knows when to go down.
²⁰ You bring darkness, it becomes night,
and all the beasts of the forest prowl.
²¹ The lions roar for their prey
and seek their food from God.
²² The sun rises, and they steal away;
they return and lie down in their dens.
²³ Then people go out to their work,
to their labor until evening.

²⁴ How many are your works, Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
²⁵ There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both large and small.
²⁶ There the ships go to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.
²⁷ All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.
²⁸ When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.
²⁹ When you hide your face,
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.
³⁰ When you send your Spirit,
they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
³² he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
who touches the mountains, and they smoke.
³³ I will sing to the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the Lord.
³⁵ But may sinners vanish from the earth
and the wicked be no more.
Praise the Lord, my soul.
Praise the Lord.