

Willow Springs Worship, Sunday, October 1, 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 – Pam Kaufmann

Call to worship – Voices Together #870 (VT).

Songs - Phil Kaufmann

50 Cent Offering/Song

Children's time – Ellen Davis Zehr

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17, John 6:41-58

Sermon: *God - An Extension of Love and Life*

Jesus - The Son, the Savior, the Servant

Communion – Crackers and grapes are available for the children to share in our communion together. The bread is gluten free.

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.

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for September is the **Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center**. If you would like to give to MH 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.

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

Thanks for all the anniversary cards celebrating our 40th Wedding Anniversary. It was special to get so many greetings and expressions of love! - Cal and Carol Zehr

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 Righteousness.

CALENDAR

Oct. 1 World Wide Communion Sunday – Communion during morning worship.

Oct. 4 Church Board Meeting

Sending – Voices Together (VT)#946

Benediction Song – Seeds VT#777

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

Matthew 3:13-17

The Baptism of Jesus

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

John 6:41-58

⁴¹ At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴² They said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I came down from heaven’?”

⁴³ “Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus answered. ⁴⁴ “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶ No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰ But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

⁵² Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

⁵³ Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”