

Willow Springs Worship, Sunday, February 4, 2024. 9:30 am

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 – Carol Gale

Call to worship VT#105

Songs - Phil Kaufmann

Children's time – Tarik Khesghi

Scriptures – Romans 12:3 - 13:7

Sermon- Practical Mercy:
the Body, the Glue and Governments

Song

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

Announcements:

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for February is the Gideon's International. If you would like to give to **the Gideon's, a special offering will be collected on February 11.** Thank you all for supporting organizations connected to the Willow Springs.

Our church building desperately needs a new roof sooner than later. We plan for a new steel, hidden fastener roof to last for decades to come! If you would like to the project, please mark your check – Building Fund.

Willow Springs Retreat Saturday evening, February 24

6:00 pm Puerto Rican Supper - Please sign up.

Fellowship – table games, collage/color, cards, music, conversation, puzzles, children's activities.

Evening Prayers - *Anabaptist Prayer Book*

Sunday morning, February 25

9:30 am Worship – Morning Prayers, *Anabaptist Prayer Book*

Fellowship – table games, collage/color, cards, music, conversation, puzzles, children's activities.

Lunch – Sandwich Salad Carry In Meal

The retreat concludes after lunch.

Goals: Fellowship, Eat together,
Anabaptist Prayer Book worship.

CALENDAR

February 8-18 Cal and Carol vacation

February 11 Gideon's Sunday

February 14 Ash Wednesday/Lent begins

February 18 First Sunday of Lent

February 24/25 Willow Springs Retreat

Sending: #1059 Go in peace!

Sending Song VT#813 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

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

Romans 12 A Living Sacrifice

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Humble Service in the Body of Christ

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Love in Action

9 Love must be sincere.

Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

10 Be devoted to one another in love.

Honor one another above yourselves.

11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

16 Live in harmony with one another.

Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.

Do not be conceited.

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil.

Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Submission to Governing Authorities

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. 4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.