

Willow Springs Worship

October 13, 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

Voices Together #859 Anna Zehr

Prayer #1011

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

I sought the Lord VT #161

Children's time – Beth Gerig

Scriptures – Luke 1:28-56, Romans 8:22-27

Sermon/Input – Dennis Zehr

Finding our Way: Listening, Groaning, Hoping
Mary teaches Jesus and us the Way of Peace

Songs

Healer of Our Every Ill VT #644

Hope Is a Candle, VT #211

Sharing/Pastoral prayer – Dale Bachman

Song

Announcements

CALENDAR

October 16 Church Board meeting

October 20 Input by Phil Kaufmann

October 27 Input by Sam Ingersoll

Sending – VT# 1068

Sending Song

Thank you to Dennis Zehr for bringing the message today!

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for Sept./Oct. is Arukah. Thank you to Lori Christopherson from Arukah for sharing with us last Sunday! If you would like to give to the organization, **make a notation on the memo line of a check.** Thank you all for supporting organizations ministering to many.

Hungry World Farm Fall Schedule:

October 19 Fall work day, 8 to noon. Lunch provided.

NEW! HWF Sunday Brunch

October 13, 20, 27 10am to 1:00pm with Fall Leaf Forest Tours following brunch.

Thanks for all the wonderful support from Willow Springs for HWF over these 7 years!!!

All are welcome to a Lantern Festival this afternoon, Oct. 13, at the home of Boo and Steve Graham on Bottom Road. Activities begin at 3:00 and will continue into early evening. Food will be provided. If you have questions, call Grahams at 815-646-4950, or Steve's cell 815-303-1817.

Menno Haven is seeking volunteers Oct. 17-19 for trenching and laying water lines and electrical lines. See forwarded email for more details.

Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center's fall meeting is Saturday, Oct. 19, 10:00 am with the focus of Mennonites and War II: WWII and Vietnam. Everyone is welcome and fellowship meal to follow.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are in western North Carolina responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort.

Please pray for the people impacted by this hurricane as well as those affected by Hurricane Milton. Pray for the volunteers as they respond. Visit [MDS.org](https://www.mds.org) to see the latest volunteer needs or to make a donation. Check donations can be mailed to Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Write "Hurricane Helene" on the memo line.

If pastoral care is needed, please contact an Elder: Dale Bachman, Ellen Davis-Zehr, Pam Kaufmann, or Elvin Krabill

Anna Zehr will be putting together the worship sheet and checking the WillowSpringsMenno@gmail.com account. Please send emails to be forwarded to the church this address. If you are not receiving these emails, let Anna know.

Luke 1:28-56 (NIV)

28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **30** But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called[a] the Son of God. **36** Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. **37** For no word from God will ever fail.”

38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, **40** where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. **42** In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!”

Mary’s Song

46 And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.

50 His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.

53 He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors.”

56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Romans 8:22-27 (NRSVue)

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, **23** and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. **24** For in[n] hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? **25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes[o] with groanings too deep for words. **27** And God,[p] who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit[q] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.