

Willow Springs Worship

March 30, 2025 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Call to worship – Esther Johnson

One: As we worship, Christ collides with our selfishness.

Many: **Lord, stir our beings as we turn to you.**

One: Lord, shake our perspective as you work in our lives.

Many: **Help us center on you!**

All: We are persuaded to listen to you as we worship this day, our living God.

Songs – Marilyn and Ellen

VT 555 Lord I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing

VT 563 Come, Thou Fount

Confession and words of assurance

All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.

One: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

Many: **We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.**

One: We have not fully accepted your love for us. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Many: **We cling to what we have and trust in material things, ignoring the needs of those around us.**

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us loosen our grip on what we have and challenge the selfishness of our society with open hands so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

One: Now hear these words of assurance: God tells us that we are created in God's image. God created us for relationship with God and each other.

In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Song – VT 512 Let the Children Come

Children's time – Connie Krabill

Scriptures – Luke 16:19-31, Ps. 24:1-2, Deut. 28:1-4, Deut. 15:7-11, Is. 58:6-7 NRSV

Sermon – Sally Schreiner Youngquist
Christ Collides with Our Selfishness

Songs

VT 753 Heart and Mind, Possessions, God

Sharing and prayer – Dale Bachman

Song – VT 745 God, Whose Giving

Announcements

Sending – As we journey, Jesus collides with our selfishness. Know Christ! Listen to Christ! Expand the reign of God! Go, growing peace!

Sending Song – VT 568 Christ Has No Body Here but Ours

Calendar

March 30 Hymn Sing at Roanoke MC 4:00 pm

April 5 Grub and Games, 5:30-9:00 pm

April 6 Input by Lynette Miller

April 10 Church Board, 7:30 pm

April 11 Mennonite Women, 9:30 am

April 12 Reflections on Anabaptism at the IL Mennonite Heritage Center, 10:00 am

April 13 Palm Sunday, Input: Richard Blackburn

April 17 Maundy Thursday Service, 6:00 pm

Thank you to Sally Schreiner Youngquist for bringing the message today!

The theme for this fourth Sunday of Lent is Christ Collides with Our Selfishness. What selfishness might Christ be colliding with within us? How can we, as the body of Christ, collide with selfishness in our society?

Lent-at-Home: Christ Collides, a free downloadable Lenten devotional from Mennonite Education Agency | [Download it here](#).

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for March/April is Mennonite Central Committee ([MCC](#)). If you would like to give to the organization, write a check to Willow Springs and **make a notation on the memo line**. Thank you for supporting organizations ministering to many.

On Saturday, April 5th from 5:30-9:00 pm come to church for Grub and Games. Please bring a healthy, snacky food to contribute to our supper together. If a snacky supper isn't adequate calories for you, plan accordingly and eat more on your own. Invite a friend and bring your favorite game to play!

The Illinois Mennonite Heritage Center in Metamora has an upcoming meeting on April 12, starting at 10:00 am. Speaker John Sharp will be sharing Reflections on Anabaptism at 500. Meal to follow. All are welcome to attend!

Our Maundy Thursday service is on April 17 at 6:00 pm. We will reflect on the Last Supper through singing, drama, communion, and foot washing. Please sign up to bring food to share for supper.

3/16 transitional pastor update: Pastor Phil Waite will join us in mid-July, to assist as we discern what comes next for Willow Springs. This process will require time, thought and energy. We hope all of you will be willing to put in this energy. We have work ahead of us! If you have questions about this process, please talk with one of the Elders.

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

Luke 16:19-31 NRSVue

The Rich Man and Lazarus

19 “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. **20** And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, **21** who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. **22** The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.^[a] The rich man also died and was buried. **23** In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw

Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.^[b] **24** He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ **25** But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. **26** Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ **27** He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— **28** for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ **29** Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ **30** He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ **31** He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”