

Willow Springs Worship

March 8, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Lent

Dwelling in Dissonance:

Standing up and standing back

Welcome and Call to Worship – Anna

One: Confident, hesitant, maybe just tired.

All: We come to worship.

One: Wanting to follow but not always sure how.
Embarrassed by the ways we've fallen short.

All: We come anyway.

One: Seeking, hurting, longing, needing.

All: We come.

One: When hopes are high, and dreams are bright.
When hopes are dashed, and the world is not
all right.

All: We come again. We keep coming.

One: Ready or not. Here we are.

All: Come, Jesus. Come and meet us.

Confession Poem

Songs – Phil Kaufmann

Children's time – James Nicholson

Scripture – John 18:12-27 NRSV

Sermon – Phil Waite

Dare to Be a Peter

Song – VT 326 How Shallow Former Shadows

Sharing and prayer – Pam Kaufmann

Song

Announcements – Sunday School ends at:

Sending Blessing

As you go, may you listen for God
in the discordant melodies of your life,
in the fear, in the regret, in the questions.
May you give and receive grace.
May you go with Christ's peace surrounding you,
to bear witness to the cross of Christ.

Sending Song

Calendar

March 13	Mennonite Women, 9:30 am
March 14	Game Night, 5:30 pm
March 15	Melika Hershberger preaching
March 19	Pie Making, 6:00 pm
March 20-21	IL Mennonite Relief Sale
March 22	Ron Guengerich preaching

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Praise, Prayer and Pacing:
If you would like company getting in your daily walk
join the group at the church.

Please remember to place your gifts in the basket
towards the back of the sanctuary.

Willow Springs Missional Giving emphasis for
Mar/Apr/May is Mennonite Central Committee. For
over 100 years, MCC has shared God's love and
compassion for all through relief, development and
peace. Learn more about MCC initiatives here:
<https://mcc.org/what-we-do/initiatives>. 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.

Transitional Process Update: After worship today
we will have two sessions focusing on
Congregational Discernment of Charism. Please
plan on attending at least one of these sessions.
The next sessions like this will be on **March 8**
(today), March 22, and March 29.

Phil Waite has a new pattern of being present with
Willow Springs, which began in February. Phil will
be here four Sundays per month, including the first
full week of the month. He will preach three
Sundays. This allows Phil to be present
consistently on Sundays and gives him a greater
sense of continuity between his life in Goshen and
in the community here. Housing will be provided in
homes of members of the congregation.

Today's visuals for Dwelling in Dissonance are a
visible object, a rock, and an object hidden by a
cloth. This represents Peter hiding who he is from
individuals in the crowd.

Warm up your week by planning for the summer. Menno Haven summer camp brochures are in your church mailboxes. In addition there is a camp certificate from Willow Springs offering \$150 for each child to be used toward youth camp attendance for the 2026 camp year.

Game Night: Saturday, March 14 at 5:30 pm. Invite a friend, bring a snack to share, and your favorite game!

Pie baking for the Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale (proceeds of which are given to Mennonite Central Committee and local food banks) will be Thursday, March 19 starting at 6:00 p.m. You can help by: coming that evening to assemble pies, their boxes and labels; donating ingredients, including pie crusts; delivering the pies to Bloomington on Friday, March 20. Please let Ellen know if you are able to do any of these!

MC USA's 2026 **Lent at Home** Worship Guide invites households to journey through Lent with simple practices, Scripture from John's Gospel and opportunities for reflection. This guide, titled *Dwelling in Dissonance*, helps all ages hold grief and hope together, as we walk with Jesus toward resurrection. You can find the guide and its accompanying worship calendar [online here](#) or find printed copies of the Lent calendar underneath the church mailboxes.

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

John 18:12-27 (NRSV)

Jesus before the High Priest

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. **13** First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. **14** Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Peter Denies Jesus

15 Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, **16** but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. **17** The

woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." **18** Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

The High Priest Questions Jesus

19 Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. **20** Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. **21** Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." **22** When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" **23** Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" **24** Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Peter Denies Jesus Again

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." **26** One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" **27** Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.