

Willow Springs Worship

Nurturing Faith Together

October 11, 2026 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship – Esther

Psalm 46

Songs – Phil K.

Children's time – Anna

Scripture – Acts 10:1-35 NRSV

Sermon – Phil Waite

Hours of Prayer

Song – The Lord's Prayer: VT 673 Our God in Heaven

Commissioning of the Pastoral Search Committee

Sharing and prayer – Pam

Song

Announcements

Sunday School ends at:

Sending Blessing – Psalm 46:10-11

Sending Song

Calendar

Oct. 12 Church Board Structure, 8:00-12:00
Oct. 18, 25 Phil Waite 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.

The Willow Springs Elders have named a Pastoral Search Committee. By the WS Constitution, the Elders are the Search Committee, but in consultation with Bryan Miller (Conference Minister), he suggested broader representation. His recommendation was one from the Elders, one Church Board member, one from the Stewardship Board, and two at-large. From this list, we suggested Ellen Davis-Zehr, Megan Krabill, Phil Kaufmann, Tarik Kheshgi, and Anna Zehr, and each of them agreed to serve on this committee. We plan to have a commissioning for this group on Sunday, October 11. Also, we are working with Bryan Miller to look for an interim pastor to serve after Phil Waite leaves in January. – Dale Bachman, Ellen Davis-Zehr, Elvin Krabill, Pam Kaufmann, and Phil Waite

Between now and the first Sunday of Advent (November 29) our worship series will focus on practice of prayer. Prayer undergirds the life of the church and the individual Christian. It is at the center of nurturing faith. Scripture models prayer for us. The prayer that Jesus taught us gave shape to the prayer life of the early church. Speech about God, to God, and from God to us, fills the Bible. In a world where most speech means talking to each other about ourselves, prayer goes missing. Scripture models many ways to pray. Christians pray in many ways. This fall we will nurture our faith together by exploring prayer!

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

Acts 10:1-35 (NRSV)

Peter and Cornelius

10 In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. ² He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. ³ One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." ⁴ He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵ Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; ⁶ he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside." ⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier

from the ranks of those who served him,⁸ and after telling them everything he sent them to Joppa.

⁹ About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while it was being prepared he fell into a trance. ¹¹ He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. ¹² In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³ Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ¹⁴ But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." ¹⁵ The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁶ This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

¹⁷ Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. ¹⁸ They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. ¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three^[a] men are searching for you. ²⁰ Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation, for I have sent them." ²¹ So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" ²² They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous^[b] and God-fearing man who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish people, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." ²³ So Peter^[c] invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the brothers and sisters from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴ The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ On Peter's arrival, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, worshiped him. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled, ²⁸ and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is improper for a Jew to associate with or to visit an outsider, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?"

³⁰ Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. ³¹ He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. ³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' ³³ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness^[d] is acceptable to him.

Psalm 46

God's Defense of His City and People. To the leader. Of the Korahites. According to Alamothe. A Song.

¹ God is our refuge and strength,

a very present^[a] help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
(*Selah*)

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city;^[b] it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶ The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;

he utters his voice; the earth melts.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.^[c] (*Selah*)

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD;

see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

**he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**

¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God!

**I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth."**

¹¹ ***The LORD of hosts is with us;***

the God of Jacob is our refuge.^[d] (*Selah*)