

**Willow Springs Sunday Worship 9:30 am, July 25, 2021
(Gathering East of the Building.)**

Welcome

Call to Worship VT#1009

Prayer

Songs

Prayer VT#994

Song

Children's time

Scripture Philippians 2:1-11, Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-37

Sermon In Christ - Common Love, Common Mind, Common Material

Songs VT#753 Heart and Mind Possessions, God

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

Offering Song

Announcements – Antiracism reflections today after our worship time.

Next Sunday: WS worship at 9:30 at our church building.

If weather looks potentially bad we will communicate on Sat. at 7:00PM the plan to switch to zoom format.

SENDING/BLESSING VT#1058

Song Go, My Children VT#830

Philippians 2:1-11 Imitating Christ's Humility

2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature^[a] God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature^[b] of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Acts 2:42-47 The Fellowship of the Believers

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32-37 The Believers Share Their Possessions

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. ³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Willow Springs Anti-racism Reflections/Discussion will be held today after worship.

We will break up in to smaller groups for discussion and then come to the larger group.

Exploratory questions connected to race to explore our own narrative:
How do you describe your racial or ethnic background?

Growing up, what kind of contact did you have with people from different racial and ethnic backgrounds?

What are some of your earliest memories of people being treated differently because of race?

What are things that your parents or adults in your life did to help you grow in anti-racism as a child or youth?

For Reflection: How they have moved along the continuum from racism to anti-racism in the past year?

Reflect on a moment that you became aware of your racist or anti-racist actions or thoughts. Was this revelation positive (anti-racist) or negative (racist)?

What other questions have you found helpful in reflecting on this topic?

What ideas do you have for personal or congregational action?

What steps are you taking to help your children or the children in this congregation to grow in anti-racism?

What other resources would be helpful?