

Subject: WS Worship February 26, 2023. 9:30 am
From: "wsmenno@juno.com" <wsmenno@juno.com>
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To: wsmenno@juno.com

Willow Springs Sunday Worship February 26, 2023. 9:30 am

Simulcast on 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

We join together this Lenten Season as created in the image of God, shaped by Jesus.
Jesus' Regeneration – Authentically Human. Today's theme - **Shaped by Testing**

Welcome and Call to worship – Ellen Davis Zehr

Leader: Sing together! Celebrate God!

People: God protects us from all our trouble.

Leader: God forgives us and covers our sins.

People: God surrounds us with songs of deliverance.

All: Therefore, let all God's people pray with thanksgiving and worship God.

Songs - Steve Graham

VT59 Father God, You are Holy

VT601 Lead Me, Guide Me

Confession - Leader: Lord, our desire for control has separated us from you.

In our stubborn independence, we have turned from your love.

We hide our failure and guilt, yet we feel their weight both day and night.

Here and now, we acknowledge our sins before you and reveal our transgressions.

We confess to the Lord . . .

(silent prayer)

Leader: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven.

Our slate is wiped clean.

We are free to follow Jesus in obedience
and experience love in every test. Amen.

Song of Praise

VT#91 We Praise Thee O God

Children's time – Cal Zehr

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon: Regeneration: I am a Child of GOD! I Follow Jesus!

Songs

VT141 Create in Me a Clean Heart
VT443 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Testimony - Guiding questions:

Life is full of challenging experiences and testing. Tell us about an experience of testing in your life. How did you handle the testing?

What positive effect did this testing have in your life?

How does this test shape the way you see Jesus?

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

After prayer times “Lord, in your mercy” respond with “hear our prayer.”

Offering Song

Announcements:

The worship visual represents a desert journey of lent with this morning’s color - red pointing us to testing/temptation.

This quarter we highlight the **ministries of MCC** with their impact around the world. Current MCCProject: **Relief kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster.** Collect change in your “Little School Kit” bags for a special offering on March 12.

WiderStand AntiRacism Training - The training consists of at home, on-line, video sessions. Intertwined in the sessions will be group conversation and processing. Pray for our growth closer to the Kingdom in the love and truth of Jesus. The organizing for WS usage is happening now. Stay tuned for starting date!

The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus In Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery by Sarah Augustine

Join Hungry World Farm staff in reading, reflecting, and inviting transformation of our relationships with the land, with our neighbors, with ourselves, and with God. Author Sarah Augustine is a Pueblo (Tewa) woman with a profound faith and passion for justice, Jesus-style. Through personal stories, historical accounts, and reflection on scripture, Sarah invites us to wrestle with the ongoing implications of 15th-century laws known as the Doctrine of Discovery. We will gather four times (in person in the HWF Learning Center, or via Zoom) to reflect on our reading: **March 14, 28, April 11 and 25**, from 7 to 8 p.m. Participants are encouraged to join in as many sessions as they are able. Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, Executive Director of Hungry World Farm, will facilitate the gatherings. For more information and to register, go to [Book Study](#) on the Events page of the HWF website.

CALENDAR

February 27 – **Our Table** provisions from WS.

March 8 – Church Board Meeting.

March 11 – **IMC Assembly**, Cicero.

March 15 – MCC Relief Sale Pie Making.

March 18 – **MCC Relief Sale**, Bloomington.

Sending – Leader: Many are the woes of the wicked,

People: but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds those who trust in God.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous.

People: Sing, all you who have been forgiven!

All: *The Lord's unfailing love surrounds those who trust in God.*

Online giving option: <https://tinyurl.com/donateWSMC>

Masks are encouraged but no longer required in our building. If you have Covid-like symptoms, please stay home and join by Zoom. Thank you for your consideration of others.

Mission Vision: Willow Springs Mennonite Church is a thriving Anabaptist community of believers saved by grace who love and desire to follow Jesus Christ.

We celebrate life together through joyful worship, faithful study, intentional sharing of the Gospel, and compassionate caring and service to others.

Values: How will we be thinking and acting? Prayerfully, Faithfully, Intentionally, Compassionately, Enthusiastically and joyfully!