

February 8, 2026



# 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



**WORTHINGTON**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*In Christ's love, we connect, serve, and transform*

## **Worship Team**

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice  
Pastor for Discipleship

Rev. Betsy Rice  
Pastor for Member Ministries

Russell Nagy  
Director of Music Ministries

Nicholas Robison  
Director for Youth Ministries

Annie Barner  
Int. Director for Children's  
Ministries

Kim Anderson, Organist

*Visit our website for a  
complete list of WPC staff.*

## **Sanctuary Flowers**

*The flowers on the chancel  
are given to the glory of God  
by Mack and Colleen Parkhill  
in celebration of their 70th  
wedding anniversary & 60  
years of membership at WPC.*

## **Serving Us Today**

**Ushers:** *Scouts Fritz Towne,  
Elizabeth Fenimore, Matt  
Rings, Chad Cucksey, Jack  
Fenimore, Caroline Towne*

**Team C-** *John Smith, Sue  
Funk, captains; Peggy  
Albright, Elaine Christian,  
Debbie Dieringer, Tom Hull,  
Kathy Hull, Dave LaHue, Bill  
Leiter, Connie Lewis, Mark  
Ranck, Marsha Smith*

**Video:** *Bill Yost*

**Carillon:** *Linda Ranck*

*In Christ's love, we...*

**CONNECT ♦ SERVE ♦ TRANSFORM**

## **Welcome**

Welcome to Worthington Presbyterian Church. This congregation has worshiped together in the Worthington community since 1805. We welcome all who seek faith, hope, and joy.

Visiting for the first time today? Join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall after the service for pancakes, refreshments, and conversation.

## **Children & Youth**

Children and youth are invited to Sunday School after a brief children's message around 10:15AM. Nursery care begins at 9:45AM in the Nursery located outside Fellowship Hall.

You can pick your child or youth up from Sunday School in the following rooms after the service:

- Pre-K: Room 113
- 3 - 5: Room 111
- K-2: Room 112
- 6 - 7: Living Room
- Confirmation: Youth Room

## **Accessibility**

Accessible features of the building include:

- Handicap parking near east and west entrances
- Wheelchair ramp at the main entrance
- Elevator access
- Multiple accessible restrooms
- T-coil hearing capabilities for those with compatible hearing aids
- Listening devices for the hearing impaired available

*If you would like a large print bulletin and/or a hearing device, please see an usher.*



## **Prayer Requests**

Please write prayer requests on the pew prayer cards and place them in the offering plate.

## **Contact Us**

Mon - Thurs: 8am-4pm; Fri: 8am-2pm  
wpchurch@wpcnow.org | 614.885.5355

**Worthington Presbyterian Church**  
**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**5th Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 8, 2026**

**10:00AM**

*Members of our own scout troops will help to lead us in worship today as Scripture readers, ushers, and more. They will also be available at Coffee Hour to tell you more about scouting at WPC.*

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

*\* Please stand*

### **WELCOME**

Rev. Betsy Rice

Invitation to Mission & Discipleship *(Please sign & pass the Friendship Pads)*

Moment for Mission: *Souper Bowl Offering*

Connor Page

Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP "Remember the Lord Your God"** **IN MUSIC**

Franklin Ritter

Kim Anderson, organist

### **OPENING SENTENCES** *(based on Isa. 58 & Micah 6:8)*

One: People of God, make a joyful noise! Shout Alleluia!

All: **Alleluia!**

One: Let us raise our voices like trumpets and shout Alleluia!

All: **Alleluia!**

One: What does the Lord require of us?

All: **To do justice, love kindness,  
and walk humbly with our God.**

One: God calls us to take care of each other  
and to love our neighbors.

All: **Then our light shall rise like the morning sun.  
Let us worship God.**

**\* HYMN #610** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, in Christ you have made us one,  
but we confess how often we forget.  
We let differences divide us.  
We are not always kind.  
We ignore the needs of others.  
Forgive us.  
Change our hearts and change our lives.  
Help us to love and to follow your ways of peace,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(Silent Confession)*

\* Congregational Response “Lord, Have Mercy,” #551

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Gloria

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*

*Amen. Amen.*

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Betsy Rice, Elder Vera Coniglio

\* The Apostles' Creed (*p. 35 in the hymnal*)

We welcome new members **Jennifer and Terry Bartley and Connie and Jeff Strathern**. Please greet these new members and share the joy of the whole church.

Unison Prayer

**Holy God, thank you for calling us to be your people and joining us to Christ's body, the church. We praise you for leading Jeff, Connie, Terry, and Jennifer to this congregation. Empower us by your Spirit, that we might love one another as Christ loved us, honoring him in all that we say and do, giving our lives in service to others, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Pastor Matt

*Children & youth will attend Sunday School after the message. See inside cover for locations.*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Joey Cucksey

### SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 40:1-5

I waited patiently for the Lord;  
**he inclined to me and heard my cry.**

He drew me up from the desolate pit,  
out of the miry bog,  
**and set my feet upon a rock,  
making my steps secure.**

He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.

**Many will see and fear  
and put their trust in the Lord.**

Happy are those who make  
the Lord their trust,  
**who do not turn to the proud,  
to those who go astray after false gods.**

You have multiplied, O Lord my God,  
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
none can compare with you.

**Were I to proclaim and tell of them,  
they would be more than can be counted.**

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

*Baptized in Jordan*

arr. William Pasch

The Chancel Choir - Russell Nagy, Director

*Take me to the water, take me to the  
water, take me to the water to be baptized.*

*Lord Jesus came to the River Jordan,  
heeding his Father's quiet calling. Saint  
John the Baptist bathed him then and  
there, washing away our sin and pain of  
death.*

*God gave us this as his sign of promise, not  
just with water but with the Word. His only  
Son, his delight and dearest love is whom  
we listen to, obey, and trust.*

*Though earthly eyes see only water the  
Spirit gives grace to see beyond to our*

*salvation and our sweet freedom to be the  
people God knew we could be.*

*Rise up with Jesus from the river, reborn  
to new life and new beginnings. Now let  
the flood of peace and justice roll down  
upon a world redeemed by love!*

*As we go forth from this gracious river, we  
keep in mind our new life's mission: to  
spread good news to all the nations,  
calling them all to Christ to be baptized,  
and be baptized.*

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:46-54

Hudson Isaac

Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way. As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him." The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household. Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

"Stepping toward Home"

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves

## \* HYMN #846

"Fight the Good Fight"

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

Sharing of Prayer Requests & Blessings

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory

"Cleansing Fountain"

Gilbert M. Martin

\* Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\* Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Scan the QR code to give online or visit [wpcnow.org/give](http://wpcnow.org/give)



## GOING IN GOD'S NAME

\*HYMN #837 "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Pastor Matt

POSTLUDE "A Theme of Brotherhood"

Lani Smith

*Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship.  
Those who need to leave early are free to do so quietly.*



In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

**"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."**

Since then, over \$220 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need.

Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country.

Share in God's love for our neighbors in need and drop a few dollars into the soup pots as you leave worship. The 'winning team' will be announced next week. All donations will go to the Worthington Resource Pantry.