

1st Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026



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 Kathleen
Haunty in loving memory
of Jack Haunty.*

Serving Us Today

Ushers: **Team E:** Ken &
Elizabeth Short, Co-
Captains; Andy Balsler;
Dennis Decker; Jack
Dicke; John Gray; Joyce
Hinkle; Simmey
Ketchum; Larry Snyder;
Leslie Snyder; Joann
Sudduth; Dury Sudduth

Video: Bill Yost

Carillon: Debb Wilson

Church Office

Hours: M - Thurs: 8AM
-4PM; Fri: 8AM-2PM

Web: wpcnow.org

Ph: 614.885.5355

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? You're invited to stay after the service. Join us downstairs in the Youth Room today for refreshments and conversation.

Children & Youth

Children are invited to a Lenten Workshop in Fellowship Hall after a brief children's message. Nursery care begins at 9:45AM in the Nursery located outside Fellowship Hall.

Youth will go to Sunday School (Living Room) or Confirmation / Baptism Class (Youth Room). Please pick up your children after the worship service.

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.

Youth Band Participants

- Tristan Arthur - acoustic guitar
- Katie Becker - vocals, bass guitar
- Thomas Becker - piano
- Mary Joyce Evans - guitar
- Lara Frederick - piano
- Caleb Okeyere - piano
- Will Frederick - cajon
- Ohenewaa Okeyere - vocals

Mentors:

- Robert Boyd, vocals
- LingLing Chen, percussion
- Tom Shaffer, guitar

Worthington Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
1st Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

10:00 AM

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

** Please stand*

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

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

Passing of the Peace

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

All: **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Prelude on "Hursley"
Kim Anderson, organist

Lani Smith

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

OPENING SENTENCES *(From Child of Blessing)*

Please repeat after the leader where indicated.

*All may begin with open hands placed gently on the chest
and stretch them outward during the Opening Sentences.*

One: We begin this journey together— ***(All repeat)***

One: It is a journey into the wilderness. ***(All repeat)***

One: It is a journey of questions and quiet. ***(All repeat)***

One: It is a journey of courage and trust. ***(All repeat)***

One: Let us receive this journey together.

All: **Let us worship God!**

* **HYMN #415** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Companion God, we are tempted by pride; we don't always admit when we are wrong. We are tempted by power; we want to be the best, even at the expense of others. Still, you promise to stay with us. Forgive us. Lead us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

(Silent Confession)

* Lenten Kyrie (#576)

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy on us.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Lenten Response to Forgiveness (#434, v. 3)

***Bring us, O Christ, to share
the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life
that death cannot destroy.***

ANTHEM

“The Good Shepherd”

Shine Robison

Cornerstone Youth Band – Shine Robison, Director

Verse 1:

*Lord, You see our suffering
Your heart grieves with us
We've turned aside and wandered in our
own ways
Christ have mercy on us*

Verse 2:

*You redeem us and call us Your own
Though we stray, Lord You find us
We confess our brokenness and our
weakness
Jesus have mercy on us*

Verse 3:

*You are the Good Shepherd
Laid Your life for all
Help us to know Your voice in the blur
Christ have mercy on us*

Chorus:

*You redeem us and call us Your own
Though we stray, Lord You find us
We confess our brokenness and our
weakness
Jesus have mercy on us*

Ending:

*God we come now humbly before You
To seek justice, mercy and love
Help us to be lights in the darkness
Jesus have mercy on us*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

Annie Barner

Children will attend the Lenten Workshop (Fellowship Hall) after the message. Youth will attend Sunday School (Living Room) and Confirmation (Youth Room).

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faye Spratley

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 104:24, 27-30

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

These all look to you

to give them their food in due season;

when you give to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
**when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.**

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Take My Life, That I May Be

arr. Scott Perkins

The Chancel Choir - Russell Nagy, Director

*Take my life, that I may be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:1-44

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "**This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**" Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "**Let us go to Judea again.**" The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "**Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.**" After saying this, he told them, "**Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.**" The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "**Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.**" Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, **"Your brother will rise again."** Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, **"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"** She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, **"Where have you laid him?"** They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, **"Take away the stone."** Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, **"Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"** So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, **"Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."** When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, **"Lazarus, come out!"** The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, **"Unbind him, and let him go."**

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

SERMON

"Downwind from the Tomb"

Pastor Matt

Downward Glory

First in a Six-Part Series

* **HYMN #803** “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Betsy 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

“’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

Emma Lou Diemer

* Song of Dedication (#698)

Take, O take me as I am;

summon out what I shall be;

set your seal upon my heart and live in me.



* Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Scan the QR code to give online or visit wpcnow.org/give

GOING IN GOD’S NAME

* **HYMN #166** “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Pastor Matt

POSTLUDE

“Lord of All Power and Might”

Lani Smith

Please remain seated during the postlude as it is the final “Amen” to our worship. Those who need to leave before the end of the postlude are free to do so quietly.

On the Cover

Crucifixion 1 - Detail 2 © 2016 John August Swanson | Eyekons

John August Swanson (1938–2021) was an American artist and printmaker known for vivid, narrative works exploring human values, spirituality, and everyday life. His art is held in major collections worldwide. Next week, we’ll share his own reflections on the cover image, which began as a pencil drawing and took over 24 years to complete.

Lent, meaning “spring,” is a time to prepare for celebrating Jesus' resurrection and God's renewal of all things. Our theme, “**Downward Glory**,” will show how Jesus’ glory is different from worldly glory. It’s about humility, not triumph; service, not power. Other opportunities to grow in Jesus’ style of glory during Lent:



Join us for our Children’s Lenten Workshop on Sunday, Feb. 22 during the Sunday School hour!

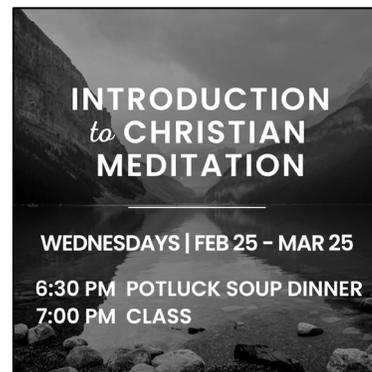
Snacks, crafts, and family Lent bags available to pick up after worship.

Location: Fellowship Hall



On Sunday evenings, groups are gathering for dinner, Bible study, and communion at church members’ homes. Each group consists of: six attendees, two hosts & a pastor.

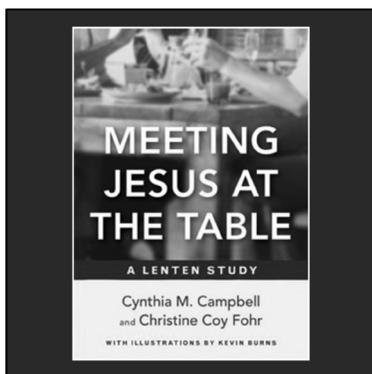
Starts: Tonight at 6PM



Join Pastor Matt for a class on an ancient way of prayer, focusing on silence and simplicity. A potluck soup dinner starts at 6:30PM, followed by the class at 7PM.

Starts: Wednesday, Feb. 25

Location: Chapel



Join Pastor Tom for a 9 AM adult Sunday School class focusing on Jesus’ radical hospitality during meals.

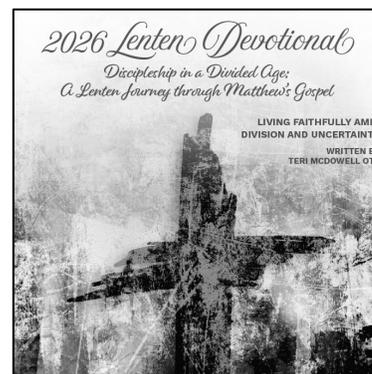
Starts: Sunday, March 1

Location: Rm. 222 / Zoom



Join us for an evening of table fellowship and Bible study focused on the themes "Do Not Fear" and "Worship God."

Next TNT: Feb. 24 at 6PM



Discipleship in a Divided Age invites readers to examine the teachings of Matthew’s Gospel while pursuing God’s kingdom amid today's societal divisions.

Scan this code to RSVP or to learn more about these opportunities:

