



# WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466  
(910) 285-2808

Visit our Website: [www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com)

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Holy Humor Day*

April 16, 2023

11:00 a.m.

### GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*(During this time the friendship pads are passed to be signed.)*

Choral Call to Worship "Open the Eyes of My Heart" Paul Baloche, 1967

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, I want to see You,  
To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy*

*"Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' 'The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy.'"  
Psalm 126: 2-3, NIV*

Opening Sentences

Windsor Farrow

*Leader: People of God, sing praise! Give thanks to his holy name!*

**All: You have turned our mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away our funeral clothes, and clothed us with joy instead, so that we might sing praises to you and not be silent! O Lord, our God, we will give you thanks forever!**

\*Hymn #233

"The Day of Resurrection!"

LANCASHIRE

*"If you're not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don't want to go there."*

*"Martin Luther (1483-1546), German priest, theologian, author, hymn writer, professor, and Protestant*

\*Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of joy, you know better than we do what important people we believe we are. Believing we have to be serious all the time, we miss out on the joy of your creation. Choosing to feast on the pain of the world, we skip the picnic offered in paradise. Clinging to the despair which is our best friend, we ignore Jesus who can bring us home to your heart. O God, forgive us and make us open to the startling and upside-down ways in which you work. Fill us with Easter's laughter; fill us with your healing joy; fill us with the love poured into us through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior. Amen.**

"We are nowhere forbidden to laugh."  
John Calvin (1509-1564),  
French theologian, pastor and Protestant reformer in Geneva

**\*Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

*Leader: The Gospels tell us over and over again of the joy which comes to us through Christ. When Jesus was around, lives were changed, the sick were healed, the sorrowful began to laugh with joy. The good news is that this joy is now given to us.*

**All: Through the Holy Spirit, we are gifted with joy. We are sent forth to bring good news to the oppressed, to bring healing to the broken, to anoint everyone with the oil of gladness. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

Gloria Patri

**Glory Be to the Father**

**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.**

**PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

Children's Sermon

\*Hymn #238

**"Thine Is the Glory"**

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Prayer for Illumination

**God, your words are so choice, so tasty; I prefer them to the best home cooking. By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path. I've committed myself and I'll never turn back from living by your righteous order. Everything's falling apart on me, GOD; put me together again with your Word. Adorn me with your finest sayings, GOD; teach me your holy rules. Amen.**

Gospel Lesson

*John 11:17-27*

Windsor Farrior

Anthem

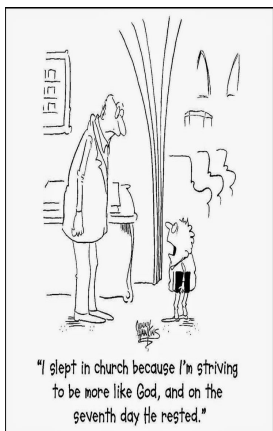
**"Joy on the Mountain"**

Pepper Choplin

*Let there be joy on the mountain, singing in the valley.  
Join the holy hosts of angels shouting, "Christ the Lord is born."  
Shepherds on the hillside, watching all their sheep,  
Everyone is weary, but there will be no sleep.  
Angels down from heaven bring the news to earth:  
A child is born now celebrate His birth.  
When the shepherds heard the angels, they went into town.  
They followed their directions and when the child was found,  
They were so happy when they had seen the boy,  
They went out a-shouting for joy.  
Glory to God, peace on the earth. Christ the Lord is born!*



"Sermons and biscuits are both better with shortening."



Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:12-28

Sermon

“God Has the Last Laugh” Dr. Philip K. Gladden

A Time for Silent Reflection

Pastoral Prayer with 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.**



“Even people who believe in predestination look both ways before they cross the street.”  
Bumper sticker spotted in Wilmington

### GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

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

\*The Affirmation of Faith: *From “A Declaration of Faith” of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**Jesus was dead and buried,  
but God raised him from the dead.  
The risen Lord appeared to his followers.  
They recognized him as their Master  
who had been crucified.  
Before Jesus left them,  
he commissioned them to proclaim to all people  
the good news of his victory over death,  
and promised to be with them always.  
Jesus is Lord!  
He has been Lord from the beginning.  
He will be Lord at the end.  
Even now he is Lord.**



“God has made me laugh.  
Everyone who hears will laugh with me.”  
Sarah, when Isaac (“Laughter”) was born,  
Genesis 21:6

\*Hymn #250

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”  
(Hymn of Promise)

PROMISE

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction

“Amen”

African American

*Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.*

\*Postlude

*\*All who are able may stand.*



# WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, April 16	HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY
	9:30 am Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & Zoom
	10:00 am Sunday School Classes
	11:00 am Worship, in person & livestream
Monday, April 17	7:00-8:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom
Tuesday, April 18	7:00 pm Session Meeting, Room 304
Wednesday, April 19	10:00-11:00 am Bible Study, Room 304 & Zoom
	6:00 pm Handbells
	7:00 pm Choir Practice
Friday, April 21	5:00 pm-10:00 pm Confirmation 2023
Saturday, April 22	1:00-3:00 pm Rise Against Hunger Experience

## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* **Please join** the minister for our weekly Bible Study on Monday night, April 17 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. via Zoom or Wednesday morning, April 19 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in Room 304 and via Zoom. This week we will read and talk about 1 Peter 1:13-25, what it means to live a holy life. Check your email on Monday for the Zoom links.

\* **The session** will meet on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 304. If you have any business or concerns for the session to consider, please speak to one of the elders or the minister.

**Kirkwood Creation Camp: June 4-8. Registration-March 19-April 30 on Church website or in Fellowship Hall. Forms are online or on table in fellowship hall. Place finished forms in baskets provided.**

\* **SAVE THE DATE!** “Rise Against Hunger”- Saturday, April 22 in the Currie Building. Sign-up sheet and detailed information on church website.

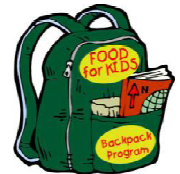


*The beautiful flowers in the sanctuary today are given in loving memory of Mary Glyn Johnson by Tommy Johnson and family.*



### FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN/ BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING

Sunday, April 23



We will receive our monthly (school year) Feed Our Hungry Children/ Backpack Ministry Offering during worship on Sunday, April 23. This offering is an extension of Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries and provides lunches and weekend food for students in Duplin County Schools. You may contribute to the offering in worship, by mailing a check to the church at P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466, by dropping your contribution through the mail slot of the front door of the church office building, or by giving online at [www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com).

**Today  
April 16**

**Nursery**

04/16/23:  
**Royal &  
Jennifer  
Johnson**

**USHERS**  
THIS MONTH  
**Greg Maready  
Royal  
Johnson  
Curt Simpson**

**Opening  
Church  
Building  
April 16-30  
Dave Wells**

**Children's  
Church  
04/16/23  
Emily  
Ludlum**



12-8  
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*"Hear that? People in heaven have ever-laughing life."*