



July 14, 2024
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparing for worship

I have to admit that I did not choose to write this preparation for worship based on the Gospel reading from which Timothy is preaching today. While the Richard Strauss ballet *Salome* is based on it, the beheading of Jesus' cousin is not one of those stories that necessarily calls us to worship.

However, Ariel's anthem choice for today is more appropriate! The interpretation of Psalm 8 in the lyrics by Linda Lee Johnson definitely calls us to worship ... calls us to praise.

I've conducted this anthem on innumerable occasions, and each time I've rehearsed it or taught it to a choir, the phrase that has caught my attention and affected me profoundly is "Little children praise you perfectly, and so would we."

Small children are great artists because they express themselves so honestly and without boundaries. They dance with abandon until some adult tells them they need to be still. They splatter watercolors all over the place with some of it landing on the paper until someone tells

them to stay on the sheet and make their drawings look like something we might recognize ... a feat Jackson Pollock never learned!

When the young grandkids start ad-libbing at our piano — you might call it "banging" — I never stop them. I notice that in the haphazard arrangement of notes and clusters, patterns begin to appear. My music composition professors would not likely call them songs, but maybe they are ... because "little children praise you perfectly."

I think maybe this is why Jesus said that if we are truly going to find the kingdom, we need to come like children: wide-eyed, excited, hopeful, accepting, open-armed ... simply.

Today, could we let down our adult-i-ness a bit and return to a childlike faith ... and a childlike expression of our faith? Come on, let's give it a try, shall we?

"Little children praise you perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia. Alleluia."

—R.G. Huff



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Building a Community of Faith Shaped by the Spirit of Jesus Christ

Partnered with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Member, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

On the cover: *Psalm 24:1. The Earth is the Lord's*, Mark Lawrence, 2023. Used by permission.

July 14, 2024
11:00 a.m.
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming of the Hour

We gather in community this morning to worship God.
To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to Worshipers

Jeff Brummel

Prelude

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

James Biery

Opening Sentences

Linda Garner

The kingdom of God is justice. The kingdom of God is joy. The kingdom of God is peace. See now the working of the Spirit. Respond in freedom to the voice of the Spirit. Ground your heart in the stillness of the Spirit as we celebrate and worship God, the Creating Spirit, who moves over the earth and everything in it.

+Congregational Song

All Creatures of Our God and King
No. 307

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Psalm Reading — Psalm 24

John Parnell

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it,
for the LORD has founded it on the seas
and established it on the rivers.
Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in God's holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.
They will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from the God of their salvation.
Such is the company of those who seek the LORD,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!
Who is the King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts
is the King of glory.

+All congregants who are able are invited to stand.
Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

Offertory

God and God Alone
Ariel Merivil, soloist

Phill McHugh

God and God alone
Created all these things we call our own.
From the mighty to the small,
The glory in them all
Is God's and God's alone.

God and God alone
Reveals the truth of all we call unknown.
And the best and worst of man
Won't change the Master's plan.
It's God's and God's alone.

God and God alone
Is fit to take the universe's throne.
Let everything that lives
Reserve its truest praise
For God and God alone.

God and God alone
Will be the joy of our eternal home.
God will be our one desire.
Our hearts will never tire
Of God and God alone.

God and God alone
Is fit to take the universe's throne.
Let everything that lives
Reserve its truest praise
For God and God alone.

+Gospel Reading — Mark 6:14–29

Elle Sheaffer

Meanwhile Herod, the ruler of Judea, had heard about Jesus, whose reputation had become widespread. Some people were saying, "John the Baptizer has been raised from the dead, and that is why such miraculous powers are at work in him." Others said, "He is Elijah"; still others, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." When Herod heard of Jesus, he exclaimed, "John, whom I beheaded, has risen from the dead!" Now it was Herod who had ordered John arrested, chained and imprisoned on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, whom Herod had married. For John had told Herod, "It is against the Law for you to have your brother's wife." As for Herodias, she was furious with John and wanted to kill him but was

unable to do so. Herod feared John, knowing him to be good and holy, and kept him in custody. When Herod heard John speak he was very much disturbed; yet he was moved by John's words. Herodias had her chance one day when Herod on his birthday held a dinner for the court circle, military officers and leaders of Galilee. When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, this delighted Herod and the guests so much that he told the young woman, "Ask me anything you like and I will give it to you." And Herod swore an oath, "I will give you anything you ask, even half of my entire realm!" She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" Herodias replied, "The head of John the Baptizer." The woman hurried back to Herod and made her request: "I want you to give me the head of John the Baptizer on a platter." Herod was deeply distressed by this request, but remembering the oath he swore before the guests, he was reluctant to break his oath to her. So Herod immediately sent one of the bodyguards with orders to bring John's head. The guard beheaded John in prison, then brought the head in on a platter and gave it to the young woman, who gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard about this, they came and took the body away and laid it in a tomb.

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
And for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

Message

"Prison Blues"

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name
Sanctuary Choir

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.
But what is man that you are mindful of him.

O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God, little children praise you perfectly,
And so would we, and so would we.

Alleluia, Alleluia.
The majesty and glory of your name.
Alleluia!

Silence

We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God

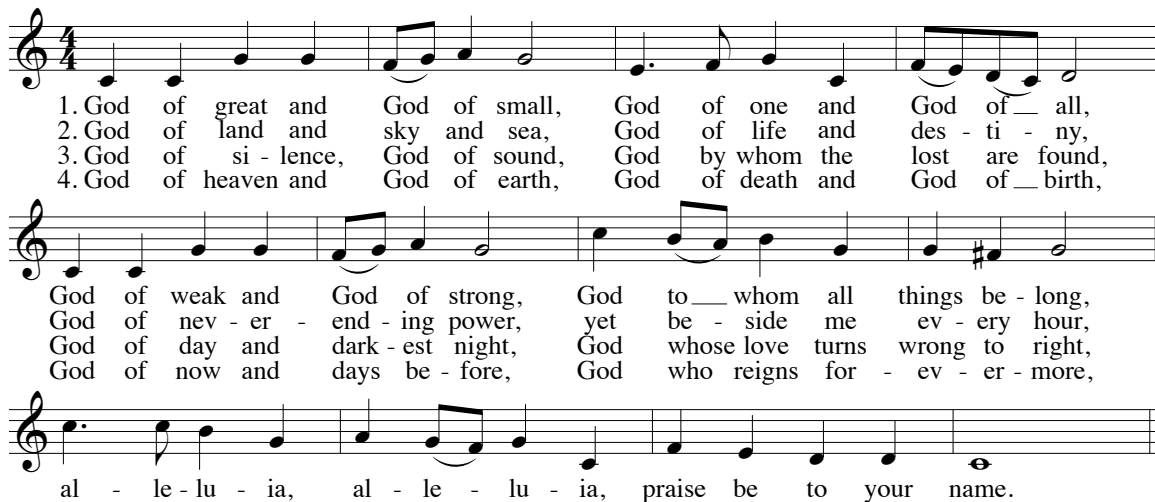
The Lord's Prayer

**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 sins,
 As we forgive those who sin against us;
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
 and the glory forever. Amen.**

+Congregational Song

God of Great and God of Small

GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL



1. God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
 2. God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,
 3. God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
 4. God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
 God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,
 God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,
 God of day and dark - est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
 God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Lasst uns erfreuen

arr. Emma Lou Diemer

Meet today's worship leaders

Linda Garner joined Wilshire in 1970. She is a deacon, teaches the Women's Bible Class, is a Stephen Ministry leader and coordinates Care Teams ministry. A retired professor at Baylor University School of Nursing, Linda has served as Wilshire's parish nurse since 2003.

John Parnell has been a Wilshire member since 2011. He is a deacon, teaches in Genesis Class and plays percussion in Wilshire Winds. John teaches history and government and leads faculty mentoring at Bishop Lynch High School.

Elle Sheaffer is the daughter of Dawn and Michael Sheaffer. The family joined Wilshire in 2009. Elle is a rising junior at Woodrow Wilson High School, where she is active in cross country, student council and performing arts. Outside of school she is a member of the Greater Dallas Choral Society, where she sings in the Mixed Youth Choir. Elle is active in Wilshire Student Ministry and sings in Youth Choir and Shekinah.



We're glad you're here. If you're a guest today and would like to let us know, please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to access our online response card. You can also scan the code to make a financial contribution or submit a prayer request. Response cards and offering envelopes are available in the pew racks and can be placed in the offering plate or offering boxes.

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Staff contacts

Phone numbers: 214-452- followed by extension shown below. **Email addresses:** first letter of first name and full last name followed by @wilshirebc.org (example: tpeoples@wilshirebc.org). Staff members with phone extensions have Wilshire email addresses.

Communications

- Mark McKenzie, Communications Director (3169)

Congregational Care

- Barbara Clayton, Pastoral Care Assistant (3125)
- Linda Garner, Parish Nurse (3151)
- Carolyn Murray, Coordinator of Congregational Life (3170)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

Early Childhood Learning Center

- Kelly Akins, ECLC Assistant Director and Curriculum Specialist (3139)
- Carole McClung, ECLC Administrative Assistant (3115)
- Ramona Randle, ECLC Director (3140)

Finance

- Lori Gooden, Director of Finance (3131)

Food Services

- Luke Munion, Food Service Staff
- Haley Robinson, Food Service Director (3117)
- Shari Spell, Food Service Staff
- Gillian Tinsley, Food Service Staff
- Wilfredo Velasquez-Cruz, Food Service Staff

Hospitality and Facilities

- Maricela Escutia, Facilities Supervisor
- Holly Irvin, Director of Hospitality (3150)
- Daniel Latin, Facilities
- Leticia Medina, Facilities
- Rachel Oney, Receptionist (3165)
- Kevin Sierra, Facilities
- Leticia Vega, Facilities

Missions and Advocacy

- Abbey Adcox, Missions and Advocacy Coordinator (3127)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

Music and Worship

- Jeff Brummel, Associate Minister of Music/Organist (3122)
- Carol Cabaniss, Music and Worship Coordinator (3106)
- Shana Gaines, Wilshire Winds Director (3163)
- Ralph Manuel, Handbell Coordinator (3161)
- Candy McComb, Children's Choir Coordinator (3124)
- Ariel Merivil, Minister of Music (3135)

Operations and Technology

- Rene Altamirano, Maintenance Technician
- Jim Tapley, Audio and Video Coordinator

Pathways to Ministry

- Debby Burton, Pathways to Ministry Assistant (3158)
- Charlie Fuller, Pathways to Ministry Director and Coach in Residence (3123)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)

Senior Pastor

- Chelsea Hopkins, Executive Assistant (3132)
- Geri McKenzie, Executive Director of Administration (3159)
- Timothy Peoples, Senior Pastor (3132)

Spiritual Formation

- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Staci Langley, Childcare Coordinator
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)
- Sarah Yodh, Spiritual Formation Coordinator (3130)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
July 14, 2024

Condolences to:

■ **Amy Duval** on the death of her daughter, Lindsay Hyder, July 4. Brother is **Landon Hyder**; grandparents are **Jerry and Carole Duval**; aunts and uncle **Alexia and Bobby Louder** and **Dana Duval**; cousins **Peyton Louder, Lydia Louder, Levi Louder** and **Silas Louder**.

■ Ramona Randle (ECLC director) on the death of her father-in-law, Rene Randle, July 5.

Virtual Time with Tim today

Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples will offer a "Virtual Time with Tim" via Zoom on Sunday, July 14, at 5 p.m. CDT. The event is geared toward anyone, member or guest, who mainly engages with Wilshire online. To find the Zoom information, visit wilshirebc.org/events/virtual-time-with-tim.

Join Drop-In Choir on Aug. 4 or 11

Do you want to sing in choir but feel you're not able to make the weekly commitment? Join the Summer Drop-In Choir on August 4 or 11 in Choral Hall at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome both days. No dress code, choir robes or prior rehearsal is needed. We'll have a quick 30-minute rehearsal, go to our Sunday School classes and then sing for worship together. Invite your friends, neighbors or favorite youth to join you. Contact Ariel Merivil at amerivil@wilshirebc.org with any questions.



Tanzania transformation

Yusuph Emmanuel, founder and CEO of Twelve21 Global, provided this update about work supported by Wilshire in Tanzania:

This photo captures 230 parents and pastors of our students on Kome Island who were provided a five-day training on Community Transformation (CT). Ms. Paulina, one of the parents, said, "The training has instilled in me a sense of empowerment and determination to strive for a better life for my family. I am confident we can bring about positive change in our community." Thanks to your support, our CT program continues to empower vulnerable families to identify and address their most pressing health and economic needs using their resources for sustainable development. Your support is instrumental in making this possible.



Sundays: Worship at 11 a.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Our service livestreams at youtube.com/wilshirebaptist and at wilshirebc.org/worship/livestream. Keep up with Wilshire by subscribing to our YouTube channel and following us on Facebook and Instagram.

Christmas in July this week for Lunch & Learn, Adventurers



This summer's monthly Lunch & Learn events are focused on Wilshire's mission partners. On Wednesday, July 17, participants will join

with Wilshire Adventurers in Community Hall at 11:30 a.m. to prepare cutlery packs for the Christmas meal at Cornerstone Baptist Church. Cornerstone Pastor Chris Simmons will speak. Lunch is only \$5 each — a Christmas special. The final of three summer Lunch & Learns will be held Wednesday, Aug. 7.

Wilshire Welcome next Sunday

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn more about the church, will meet Sunday, July 21, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near the chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

Register by today for Creation Station camp



Creation Station, a four-day camp set for July 22–25 from 9 a.m. to noon, includes art, music, movement, cooking and more. For preschoolers who were 3

by Sept. 1, 2023, up through children who have completed kindergarten. Register by July 14 at wilshirebc.org/events/creation-station.

Men's Book Club update

Wilshire's new Men's Book Club will take July off and hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. A book title will be announced soon. Contact: Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net) or Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com).

Preteen Camp registration



There are still a few spots available for completed third through sixth graders to register for Passport Kids preteen camp, set for Saturday, July 27, to

Tuesday, July 30. The group will travel by bus to the Heart of Texas Baptist Camp and Conference Center near Brownwood, where they will experience high-energy worship, interactive Bible study, recreation, missions and more. Register by July 20 at wilshirebc.org/events/preteen-camp.

WOW: Women of Wilshire

Women of Wilshire has new T-shirts (\$15) and fun summer activities planned. To order a shirt and RSVP for events, see the SignUpGenius link at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-summer.

■ **WOW Brown Bag Book Club** | Aug. 1 | Noon | 1205-L | *Secrets of a Charmed Life* by Susan Meissner. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **WOW Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Aug. 13 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Will the Circle Be Unbroken?: A Memoir of Learning to Believe You're Gonna Be Okay* by Sean Dietrich. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

■ Join Women of Wilshire for **mahjong** the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/mahjong.

Save these dates and stay tuned!

■ **Aug. 11:** Blessing of the Backpacks during worship.

■ **Aug. 18:** Promotion Sunday: preschoolers, children and youth move to new classes.

■ **Aug. 21:** Wednesday Night Live resumes with dinner and faith formation for all ages.

■ **Sept. 4:** Lunch & Learn resumes and will be offered twice a month on the first and third Wednesdays.

Ann Hamm

Hometown: Beaumont. I grew up in West Texas, in and around Odessa.

Present City: Mesquite

Education: A.D. Nursing, Odessa College; B.S.N. Dallas Baptist University; Hands On Therapy massage school

Profession: Practicing massage therapist and retired R.N.

Tell us about your family.

I have two children. My daughter, LaGaytha Dorsett, lives in McKinney and is a project manager for Davaco. My son, David McPeak, lives in Richmond Hill, Georgia. He's retired military. I have four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. My husband, Ron, went to see Jesus in 2015.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I'm a practicing massage therapist. I believe God gave me the abilities I have. It's too wonderful to watch a happy, relaxed person appear after they've been in pain!

Any favorite hobbies?

I love to travel, hike and read. I'm a sports fanatic — football, golf, basketball and baseball, pretty much in that order. I was a walking scorekeeper for the Byron Nelson golf tournament for 25 years.

What are your favorite places to travel?

I like to say "the next place I get to go." But I really do believe God is in the mountains.

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

My husband and I came in 2008. We had been seeing the ad, "Wilshire: a Different Kind of



Baptist Church." We weren't attending anywhere, so we came and found this to be true.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

New Song Community Choir, Women's Bible Study Class and Women of Wilshire.

What do you think God is up to in your life right now?

God is still molding me and keeps saying, "Be still," but I want things to change now!

Tell us about your faith journey.

I was raised in a Southern Baptist minister's home, so a strict following of the beliefs was the only option. As I've grown away from that, I've found Jesus to be much more loving and accepting of who I am. He requires me to be me — not perfect.

What's something interesting most people would not know about you?

I have hiked across Nova Scotia, the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

What are your strengths?

According to StrengthsFinder, my top strength is Learner. I love knowing stuff, learning and seeking at my own pace. Mostly, I'm waiting to see what God might have in store for me next.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your gifts are changing lives inside and outside our walls. Here are some ways to make a financial contribution to Wilshire.

ONLINE. Set up a recurring or one-time gift charged to your debit or credit card or as an ACH from your checking account. Get started at wilshirebc.org/give.

REALM CONNECT APP. Easily make gifts and see past giving on your mobile device. Available at your device's app store. Find download links at wilshirebc.org/realms.

AUTOMATIC BANK PAY. Visit your bank's website and set up Wilshire as a payee. The bank will send the church a check.

MAIL. Send to Finance Director Lori Gooden's attention at Wilshire.

TEXT. Text WILSHIRE and a dollar amount (ex: WILSHIRE 50) to 73256.

DONATE STOCKS. Contact Lori to learn how to donate appreciated stocks.

FROM YOUR IRA. For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a financial benefit and may reduce future tax burdens.



Scan code with your smartphone camera to make an electronic contribution.

At Wilshire, we use a one-fund approach to giving called the Unified Budget. Your gifts support the basic mission, ministry and operations of the church. Once the Unified Budget is fulfilled, gifts overflow into visionary aspects of our mission.

This Week⁺

Sunday, July 14

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Enneagram with Heather, 1205-G, noon
- Passport Kids Meeting, 2230, noon
- Virtual Time with Tim, Zoom, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, July 16

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 17

- Lunch & Learn with Adventurers: Christmas in July, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Enneagram with Heather, 1205-G, noon
- Spanish with a Mission, 1205-L, 4 p.m.
- WSM: Study-n-Swim, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 18

- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 21

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Wilshire Welcome, Prayer Room (1100-B), 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Compass Class Curriculum Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Finance Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Missions and Christian Advocacy Committees, Community Hall, noon
- Personnel Committees, Community Hall, noon

Monday, July 22

- Creation Station, 9 a.m.
- Pathways to Ministry Lay Support Team Orientation, Parlor, 5 p.m.
- Deacons Meeting, Community Hall, 6:30 p.m.