



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

October 13, 2024

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Preparing for worship

“Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace.”

The first time I went to the symphony, my father took me for my 11th birthday. I was excited, shifting in my seat amongst the babble of voices, and unsure what to expect. Suddenly, a single note was played, and the crowd fell silent. In the wake of voices was a cacophony of sound, each of the instruments on stage meeting or moving around that first piercing note.

Seeing how my eyes widened and I nearly jumped out of my seat, my father leaned over and whispered, “They’re tuning their instruments.” Tuning — ensuring that each instrument shares pitch and frequency, so that melodies and harmonies do not clash but rather embrace one another.

In service today, we will sing “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” When Robert Robinson first penned the words “tune my heart to sing thy grace” in 1757, it was a deeply personal statement. After being sent to apprentice in London and falling into a period of wandering,

he found hope in Scripture and community. Just as the tuning of a symphony, the tuning of his life was not done in isolation.

What does it mean to tune our hearts to sing of God’s grace this morning? Maybe, like a young child at the start of the symphony, you are jumping out of your seat at the sound of all that is going on. Or perhaps it is difficult to hear the note that sets the tone. In the cacophony that is the tuning of the symphony, a musician may tune their instrument too high or too low, sharp or flat. As we prepare for worship, perhaps we worry or find our attention drawn to work, school, family. We may dance around hope, the call to love our neighbors, the presence of peace.

As we settle in and breathe deep in this space and time set aside to gather with one another in the presence of the Lord, may we hold on to the knowledge that we are not alone. That as we tune into this time, we do so with God and with one another.

—Maggie Morey



4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | wilshirebc.org

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: *Oppressors & Oppressed*, P. Solomon Raj, wood block print, 2006. eyekons.com.

October 13, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Twenty-First 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

Timothy Peoples

Prelude

Assurance
Wilshire Winds
Shana Gaines, director

John Ness Beck/arr. Andy Clark

Opening Sentences

Abigail Gaines

We gather with open hearts, with God and each other. We may not be perfect, but we are here to grow in faith and love. In this time of worship, may we learn to show kindness and live in peace with one another.

+Congregational Song

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
No. 58

ST. DENIO

Psalm Reading — Psalm 90:12–17

Sue McElveen

So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.
Turn, O LORD! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us
and as many years as we have seen evil.
Let your work be manifest to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us
and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!

Offertory

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Wilshire Winds

arr. Alfred Reed

+All congregants are invited to stand in body or spirit.
Hearing devices are available in the Narthex and South Atrium.

Indeed, the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before God no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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!

Congregational Song

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
No. 295

NETTLETON

Message

“Liberating Scripture”

Rob Lee

Anthem

All the Way My Savior Leads Me
New Song Community Choir
Sarah Stafford, director
Crysta Jones, piano

arr. Mary McDonald

All the way my Savior leads me, what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell!
For I know whatever befall me, Jesus doeth all things well!

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, lo! a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Savior leads me, oh, the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!

This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way, all the way!

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

My Faith Looks Up to Thee
No. 407

OLIVET

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Rob Lee

Postlude

Postlude on "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
Bill Jernberg, guest organist

arr. Jack W. Jones

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Rev. Dr. Timothy Peoples and Valerie Lott, whose generous friendship has meant so much to so many, by the Rev. Dr. Robert W. Lee.

The flowers today are given in praise to God for the life of Adam Townsend Malcik by his parents, Vy and Michael Malcik. Adam was a Wilshire member all his life, 1978–1987.



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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Meet today's worship leaders

Joannah DeMent is married to Associate Pastor Darren DeMent, and they are the parents to Virginia, a young adult, and Elias, a senior at Lake Highlands High School. Joannah is a deacon and teaches youth Sunday School. She has worked in Richardson Independent School District for seven years and is currently the nurse at White Rock Elementary School.

Abigail Gaines is a fourth grader at Akin Elementary School in Wylie, where she serves on the student leadership team. Her parents are Shana and Ron Gaines. Abigail sings in Children's Choir at Wilshire and participates in the cheer program for Wylie Football League.

Rob Lee, our guest preacher today, is an author, pastor and public theologian. A collateral descendant of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, Rob has been active at the intersection of faith and the public square since the 2017 protests in Charlottesville, Virginia. In 2020 he testified before Congress regarding Confederate monuments, and he has appeared on MTV, MSNBC, ABC, NBC, CNN and NPR. He has preached at Harvard's Memorial Church, the University of Chicago's Rockefeller Chapel, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Boston's Old North Church and the American Cathedral in Paris.

Sue McElveen and her husband, Jerry, joined Wilshire in 2018. Sue is a co-director of Compass Class, a member of the Belong Team and serves as a greeter. Sue is retired but remains active in community organizations.

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

- 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
- Bryant Greer, Building Operations Manager (3146)
- 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)
- Georgia McKee, Pastoral Resident (3152)
- Maggie Morey, Pastoral Resident (3153)

Senior Pastor

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

Spiritual Formation

- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Darren DeMent, Associate Pastor (3102)
- Julie Girards, Minister to Children (3104)
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
October 13, 2024

Exercise and wellness classes

Physical therapy students from Texas Woman's University are leading a series of free exercise and wellness classes at Wilshire starting Monday, Oct. 14. The classes will be a great way to stay active and have fun in a supportive environment. Classes will be held Mondays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Room 3301. For more information, contact Parish Nurse Linda Garner (l Garner@wilshirebc.org).


- **Oct. 14:** Step class
- **Oct. 21:** Chair yoga
- **Oct. 28:** Fall prevention
- **Nov. 4:** Circuit training
- **Nov. 11:** Dancing
- **Nov. 18:** Tai chi and balloon volleyball

Men's Book Club Tuesday night

Wilshire's Men's Book Club will discuss *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. The group meets the third Tuesday each month. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net).

New here? Try Wilshire Welcome


Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn more about the church, will meet Sunday, Oct. 27, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near the chapel. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)




Joey & Billy Schewee
[@enneagramparents](https://www.instagram.com/enneagramparents)

Children and the Enneagram

Saturday, Nov. 2
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Wilshire Baptist Church



Parents, grandparents, teachers or anyone who engages with children will benefit from this special event at Wilshire on Saturday, Nov. 2. Joey and Billy Schewee ([@enneagramparents](https://www.instagram.com/enneagramparents) on Instagram) will lead us in exploring how your Enneagram type and that of children in your life inform your relationships. Prior Enneagram knowledge is not required. The seminar will be held in Community Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A \$10 per-person cost will cover lunch and snacks. To register, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/events/children-enneagram.



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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE OCTOBER 16

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit accepted. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl.
Oct. 16: Pasta marinara with meatballs, broccoli, garlic bread, creamy tomato soup, salad, deserts. **Kids:** Pasta with marinara.

Preschool Music & Missions

6 p.m. | Age 3–Pre-K | Preschool choir plus fun activities and lessons focused on God’s love and caring for others.

KidConnect

6 p.m. | K–Grade 5 | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others with every part of themselves. Activities include art, music, recreation and more. Kindergartners will have choir as part of KidConnect.

Watershed

6:30 p.m. | Grades 6–12 | Wilshire Student Ministry’s weekly time of Bible study and music in the Youth Center.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | New singers are always welcome in our main adult choir. No audition.

Two 6 p.m. options



■ **Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23** | **Children’s Stories All Grown Up** continues in Community Hall. Have you encountered a Bible story from childhood and thought, “This doesn’t sound the same

as an adult”? In this series, Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples and our residents will help us see these stories with fresh eyes as the cautionary tales they were intended to be.

■ **Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23** | **Navigating the Election** Led by Associate Pastor Heather Mustain and meeting in the Parlor, this series will focus on building community, offering ways we can find hope and love during this tumultuous season and beyond.



WNL: Virtual Edition is Nov. 13

Those who engage with Wilshire primarily online are invited to a monthly Zoom discussion. Associate Pastor Heather Mustain will host the next session on Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. Central. The Zoom link will be posted at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl-virtual closer to the event.

Childcare is offered from 6 to 7:15 p.m. for infants to 2-year-olds with parents involved in church activities.

Next Blood Drive is Oct. 30



Carter BloodCare will be at Wilshire for a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 30. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended.

Visit wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive or scan the QR code to make an appointment.

Women of Wilshire

■ Join Women of Wilshire for **dinner at Olivella's** in Hillside Village just south of the church on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 6:30 p.m.

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Nov. 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Nov. 7 | Noon | 1205-L | *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

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

Marriage Connections is Nov. 8

Marriage Connections on Friday, Nov. 8, will feature Wilshire member Micki Lacker leading a presentation called “Feelings: Identify, Embrace and Respectfully Respond.” In this monthly event, free childcare (infant–grade 5) is provided while parents enjoy a short program at the church and then have the rest of the night, until 9:30, to themselves. Registration for childcare is required by Nov. 3; visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

Single, Adoptive, Foster Parents Night Out

Wilshire will offer free childcare (infant–grade 5) for single, adoptive and foster parents on Friday, Nov. 8, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Registration is required and closes Nov. 3; visit wilshirebc.org/events/pno.



CenterPeace conference

Wilshire will host the 2024 CenterPeace Conference, a warm-hearted gathering of LGBTQ+ Christians, their churches and families, from Thursday, Oct. 24, through Saturday, Oct. 26. The conference will feature speakers, worship leaders and storytellers exploring topics related to faith and sexuality. George Mason will lead a pre-conference workshop for pastors and church leaders, and Ariel Merivil will help lead worship. Wilshire member Sally Gary is executive director of CenterPeace. Register at centerpeace.net/conference-2024.



Wednesday, Oct. 16

All are invited the first and third Wednesdays every month for lunch (\$10 ea.) and Bible study. On Oct. 16, Pastoral Resident Georgia McKee will teach on 1 Samuel 16–20. See the fall schedule at wilshirebc.org/events/lunch-learn.

Abigail Hrbacek

Hometown: Temple

Present City: Dallas

Education: B.A. in Arts and Technologies,
University of Texas at Dallas

Profession: Marketing Specialist II (Graphic
Designer) at Aon

Tell us about your family.

I live with my cat, Agatha, in my one-bedroom apartment. My fiancé, John, lives two buildings over. He's a software engineer and a Dallas native. We met at UTD in 2016 and started dating in March 2020 (yes, that March 2020). We're getting married in March 2025!

Any favorite hobbies?

I love, love, love to make punch needle rugs and to paint. I also perform improv. I am currently doing competitive improv (yes, it's a real thing) with the Alternative Comedy Theater.

What are your favorite places to travel?

I frequently camp at the state parks surrounding Dallas! I enjoy waking up in nature and hiking all day. It's like a spa day for your brain!

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

I came to Wilshire in December of last year. A relative of my fiancé recommended Wilshire specifically because of its inclusivity of LGBTQ+ people. Wilshire met me with open arms and listening ears. For that, I am so grateful.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

You can find me in Ithaka!



What has surprised you most about Wilshire?

It's so traditional! I never thought I would sing hymns and listen to a traditional choir at a church that holds such contemporary values. Also, how do so many of you have multiple degrees? Y'all

are all so smart, it's crazy!

Tell us about your faith journey.

I grew up in an evangelistic church that I grew apart from as I went to college. Being exposed to different religions and people who could never be a part of my church because of their identity caused me to become confused and angry. LGBTQ+ issues were particularly important to me. For seven years, I lived without God and struggled with mental health issues. One day I called my father, whom I deeply respect, after an anxiety episode, and after a deep discussion, I picked up my Bible again for the first time in years. Now, I'm spending a lot of time learning and unlearning and trying to figure out how this whole Christianity thing works.

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

I love anime (Japanese cartoons)! My best friend and I host a podcast where we talk about and review anime movies.

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, Oct. 13

- *The Sacred Art of Ethiopia*, South Lobby, through Nov. 17
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Youth Choir Snack Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Building and Grounds Comm., 1205-L, noon
- Deacon Nominating Comm., 1205-G, noon
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Shekinah, Choral Hall, 1:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 2:15 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 14

- Fall Prevention, 3101 & 3103, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 15

- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- Men's Book Club, Parlor, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Adventurers Comm., 1205-G, 1 p.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- Committee on Committees, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- Navigating the Election, Parlor, 6 p.m.
- Risk Management Comm., 1205 L, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 17

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

Friday, Oct. 18

- MomCo, James Gallery, 9 a.m.
- Lifeline Screening, 3301, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 19

- Nova, Choral Hall, 9 a.m.
- MomCo Trunk or Treat, North Lot, 10 a.m.