



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

July 13, 2025

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Preparing for worship

“This Is My Song” is a hymn of quiet reverence, not for flags or empires, but for the earth itself and the deep longing for peace that lives in every human heart. Written in the early 20th century and set to the moving tune of Jean Sibelius’s *FINLANDIA*, the hymn has resonated across generations as a prayer for a more compassionate and interconnected world. It is a song that acknowledges the beauty of one’s own homeland while widening the lens to see and honor the sacredness of all lands and all peoples.

The opening words — “This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine” — set a tone of gratitude and humility. There is love for the familiar landscape, for the place one calls home, but it is not possessive or prideful. Instead, it recognizes that others around the world feel that same connection to their homes. Their skies, their mountains, their streets are just as cherished. This mutual recognition forms the foundation for empathy.

“This Is My Song” does something quietly radical: it invites the singer to care about people they’ve never met, living in lands they may never visit. It refuses to rank the worth of one country above another. Instead, it suggests that all hearts are shaped by similar dreams — peace, safety, love and justice — and that God holds each of these longings with equal care.

As the hymn continues, it deepens this vision. The third verse is especially poignant: “May truth and freedom come to every nation; may peace abound where strife has raged so long.” Here, the hymn shifts from simple recognition to a global prayer. It names God not as the protector of one group, but as the God who desires justice everywhere. The plea is not just for peace in the singer’s own land but for healing and restoration across all lands.

This universalism speaks to a theology that emphasizes shared humanity, interconnectedness and a God whose love knows no borders. It offers a powerful counternarrative to division, fear and isolationism. It becomes not just a song of reflection, but a call to action — to live as people shaped by compassion and global responsibility.

“This Is My Song” is not a patriotic anthem dressed up in church language. It is something gentler, and perhaps more courageous: a confession that we belong to each other, and that God’s dream is not for domination but for peace that embraces all creation. It is a hymn that invites us to hold our love of place lightly and our love for others deeply, and to trust that the God who made every land also longs to bring all peoples together in peace.

—Heather Mustain



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

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: *The Good Samaritan*, Gilbert Pauli, 1999, mixed media, used by permission of Gijssel Galerie, Geneva. galeriegijssel.com

July 13, 2025
11:00 a.m.
Fifth 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

Julie Girards

Prelude

Children of the Heavenly Father

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

+Congregational Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
No. 285
Stanzas 1–3

CWM RHONDDA

+Call to Worship

Rachel Marsellus

One: To you, O Lord, we lift up our hearts in worship. O God, in you we trust.

All: O Lord, grant us wisdom and courage for the facing of this hour.

One: Help us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.

All: O Lord, grant us wisdom and courage for the living of these days.

One: You lead the humble in what is right, and teach them your ways. Your path,
O Lord, is steadfast love and faithfulness. We worship you in spirit and in truth.

All: O Lord, grant us wisdom and courage, serving you whom we adore.

+Response in Song

God of Grace and God of Glory
Stanza 4

CWM RHONDDA

**Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christlike graces in the fight to set all free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor thee!
That we fail not man nor thee!**

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

God has taken God's place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods God holds judgment:
"How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked?
Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.
Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."
They have neither knowledge nor understanding;
they walk around in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
I say, "You are gods,
children of the Most High, all of you;
nevertheless, you shall die like mortals
and fall like any prince."
Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
for all the nations belong to you!

Offertory

Grandioso

Darrell Day

Handbell Quintet

Kevin Cabaniss, Laurie Diffie, Juliana Moore, Price Tinsley, Rachel Woods

+Gospel Reading — Luke 10:25–37

Mark McKenzie

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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	“The Samaritan”	Timothy Peoples
Anthem	<i>Will There Really Be a Morning?</i> Audrey Pottkotter Amy Pottkotter, piano	Ricky Ian Gordon Text: Emily Dickinson
<p>Will there really be a morning? Is there such a thing as day? Could I see it from the mountains, if I were as tall as they? Has it feet like water lilies? Has it feathers like a bird? Does it come from famous places of which I have never heard?</p> <p>Oh, some scholar, oh some sailor, oh some wise man from the skies, Please to tell this little pilgrim where the place called morning lies.</p>		
Prayers of the People		Tim Cruise
Silence	We pause in silence to reflect and to be attentive to the Spirit of God.	
The Lord’s Prayer	<p>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.</p>	
+Congregational Song	<i>This Is My Song</i> No. 697	FINLANDIA
Sharing of Decisions		Timothy Peoples
Benediction		Timothy Peoples
Postlude	Improvisation on themes of the day	Jeff Brummel

Shana Gaines, guest music director

Meet today's worship leaders

Tim Cruise joined Wilshire in 2014 and served as a student ministry intern in summer 2012 and from 2014 to 2016. He teaches English at Roosevelt High School in DISD and previously taught in public schools in Fort Worth and Chicago. Tim recently completed a master's degree in theological studies from TCU's Brite Divinity School and lives in Dallas with his wife, Dr. Sydney Curtis.

Rachel Marsellus joined Wilshire in 2009 and is a member of Labyrinth Class. She has one son, Christian, who is 6. Rachel's mom, Nancy Stretch, also attends Wilshire. A hospitality industry professional, Rachel coaches Christian's baseball team and volunteers in the community garden at Wallace Elementary School.

Mark McKenzie joined Wilshire in 1992 with his wife, Geri. They are parents to Harper, a graduate student at Syracuse University. Mark and Geri attend Journey Class, and Mark is a deacon, plays saxophone in Wilshire Winds and serves on Wilshire's staff as communications director. An avocational musician, he leads his own jazz group and plays with other local bands.

Dylan Morgan began visiting Wilshire last fall and joined in February. He is a member of Shiloh Class. Dylan was raised near Houston in Magnolia, Texas, and graduated from Rice University in 2022. He works as a strategy consultant for Oliver Wyman and will begin applying for MBA programs later this year.

Audrey Pottkotter is serving as a music ministry intern at Wilshire for a second consecutive summer. She is a rising junior at Oklahoma City University, where she studies musical theater and vocal performance. During the school year, Audrey is a choral scholar at Oklahoma City's Westminster Presbyterian Church. She joined Wilshire in 2019 with her parents, Amy and Kurt Pottkotter, and siblings, Joshua and Katherine. In addition to her internship, Audrey is performing this summer with Garland Summer Musicals.



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.

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)

Finance

- Lori Gooden, Director of Finance (3131)

Food Services

- Haley Garcia, Food Service Director (3117)
- Luke Munion, Prep Cook
- Monique Roberts, Sous-Chef
- Wilfredo Velasquez-Cruz, Steward

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)
- Carole McClung, Spiritual Formation Ministry Assistant (3130)
- Katie Murray, Minister to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

Marking the Moments: A Living Timeline of Racial Justice at Wilshire

AS SHARED IN APRIL, Wilshire's In Deed and Truth cohort continues its work with the St. Charles Center for Faith + Action and E Pluribus Unum, deepening our study of how predominantly white congregations engage the work of justice in tangible and faithful ways.

As part of this journey, a new installation is now on display in both the South Lobby and James Gallery. *Marking the Moments* is a visual timeline tracing Wilshire's engagement with racial justice over the decades.

This timeline is both a record and an invitation. It highlights significant moments in Wilshire's story as we've sought to follow Christ in confronting racism and promoting equity. Covering the congregation's 74-year history, the timeline reflects the ways Wilshire has shown up, sometimes imperfectly, in the long work of justice and reconciliation.

The display begins with a land acknowledgment, recognizing that the ground we gather on today bears a history older than our congregation and was shaped by the stories of Indigenous peoples and enslaved persons. This grounds us and reminds us that justice begins with honesty — and that our faith calls us to remember, repent and repair.

We invite you to stop by the South Lobby or



James Gallery to explore *Marking the Moments* — and not just to read, but to contribute. You'll find space to add your own recollections, stories or reflections about Wilshire's journey with racial justice. Whether it's a personal memory, a turning point or a hope for our future, your voice matters. This timeline is not meant to be static, but a living testament to the Spirit's movement among us.

Let us continue to mark these moments — past, present and still to come — with humility and hope.

■ *Wilshire's IDAT team includes Abbey Adcox, Juliana Moore, Louis Moore, Shelby Patterson and Margaret Rice.*



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.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE *Ball Game*

★ ★
SUNDAY
JULY
20
★ ★



New time next Sunday!

Join Wilshire friends to see the Texas Rangers play the Detroit Tigers at Globe Life Field on July 20 at 6:10 p.m. Our group tickets cost \$20 each. For \$10 more, you can ride our chartered bus, which will leave Wilshire at 4:30 p.m. and bring you back after the game. Grab your ticket



and a spot on the bus at wilshirebc.org/events/rangers or scan the QR code. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

Condolences to

Elizabeth and Rob Thomas on the death of Rob's father, Don R. Thomas, July 3. Grandson is **Trey Thomas**.

Hill Country flooding relief

As we follow the unfolding tragedy in the Texas Hill Country, we ask that you continue to pray for the many who are suffering from catastrophic loss. What we know now is that funding is the most impactful way you can help. You can donate through Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Disaster Response or the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country. We have established a page on our website with links to donate to these organizations, and we will keep the page updated as we learn more. Visit wilshirebc.org/flood-relief.

Residency alumni moves

■ **Matthew Broyles** has been called as senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Plainview, Texas. He previously served First Baptist Abilene as pastor to college and young adults.

■ **Ryan Wilson** has been named senior pastor of the Congregation at Duke University Chapel in Durham, North Carolina. He was previously minister of spiritual formation and administration at Wake Forest Baptist Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Last call for Passport Kids! camp

Registration ends Tuesday, July 15, for Passport Kids!, our preteen camp for completed third through fifth graders. On Sunday, July 20, our group will travel by bus to Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center in Glen Rose for high-energy worship, interactive Bible study, recreation, missions and more. The group will return on Wednesday, July 23. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/preteen-camp.

Adventurers Tile Time on July 16



Wilshire Adventurers will meet for Tile Time — a social event dedicated to beloved tile games like Mahjong, dominoes and Scrabble — on Wednesday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to noon in James Gallery. Please register and indicate which games you want to play at wilshirebc.org/events/tile-time. Adventurers is a fellowship group for anyone 60 and up.

Sign up for July 16 Blood Drive



Carter BloodCare will hold a blood drive at Wilshire from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16. There is a critical need for several blood types, including A+, A-, O+, O- and B-. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive to make an appointment or scan the QR code.

Save these dates for fall starts

Sunday, Aug. 17

- New Sunday School year begins
- Blessing of the Backpacks in worship

Wednesday, Aug. 20

- Wednesday Night Live resumes

Sunday, Aug. 24

- Children's Choir begins
- Youth Choir begins

Wednesday, Sept. 3

- Lunch & Learn resumes

Library weekday hours on break

The Wilshire Library will be closed on weekdays for the next two weeks while Librarian Barbara Peterson is on vacation. The Library will be open every Sunday as usual, and weekday hours will resume Monday, July 28.

What just happened in the Texas legislature?

What decisions were made in the most recent Texas legislative session, and how do they impact people of faith committed to justice and public witness? Join Texas Impact and fellow faith advocates from across the area for a powerful day of learning, reflection and connection. We'll unpack key legislation, explore its implications for our communities and equip ourselves for faithful civic engagement moving forward. Texas Impact's Bee Moorhead will moderate a discussion with Texas Rep. John Bryant and Almas Muscatwalla, commissioner of the Dallas Housing Authority. Arapaho United Methodist Church will host the event on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. A cost of \$15 per person includes lunch. Please register at arapahoumc.org/texas.

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Aug. 7 | Noon | 1205-L | *Broken Country* by Clare Leslie Hall. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Aug. 26 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *Virgin Earth* by Philippa Gregory. Contact: Debby Burton (dburton@wilshirebc.org)

Men's Book Club meets July 15

The Men's Book Club will discuss Percival Everett's novel *James* on Tuesday, July 15, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Contact Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net).

Wilshire Welcome on Aug. 17

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn about the church, will be offered Sunday, Aug. 17, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. No RSVP necessary. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

Paige Pendency

Hometown: Dallas

Present City: Dallas

Education: BS, interdisciplinary studies, Texas A&M University, 2002; MS, counseling, Texas A&M University–Commerce, 2010.

Profession: Professional school counselor, Licensed Professional Counselor.

Tell us about your family.

Jeremy, and I have been married 18 years and have two kids. Luke is going into 7th grade at Parkhill Junior High, and Lucy is going into 4th grade at Bowie Elementary.

How about your work or volunteer life?

I am a professional school counselor at Northwood Hills Elementary School in Richardson ISD. I will be starting my 24th year in education this fall and am thankful that I have been able to spend my entire career at the same school. My students' eyes get pretty big when I tell them I've spent over half of my life at our school! I was honored as Richardson ISD's Elementary School Counselor of the Year in May 2024 and was recently named the Texas School Counselor of the Year by the Lone Star State School Counselor Association.

What are your favorite places to travel?

I love opportunities to travel with family and friends. We have many traditions, including spending a week in Red River, New Mexico, with my in-laws, floating the Comal River with friends Labor Day weekend and camping with



friends in November. We also try to go to at least one Aggie football game every fall. We're doing our best to raise two future Aggies!

What brought you to Wilshire and when?

Jeremy and I started coming after getting married in 2007. Not only did Jeremy grow up at Wilshire, but two of our best friends, Russell and Greta Buehrle, were connected to Wilshire, and we liked that Wilshire had a community for young adults. It was important to us to find a church home before having kids, and we loved the people we connected with in our Sunday School class.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

I have been involved by serving on Pastoral Resident Tasha Gibson's lay committee, serving on the Missions and Preschool Education committees, teaching preschoolers on Wednesday nights, helping with VBS, participating in local and international mission opportunities and, for the past 8 years, teaching 1st grade Sunday School with Bill and Janice Jernberg. Although our Sunday mornings are usually spent with our 1st graders, Jeremy and I are members of Genesis class.

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/realml.

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 13

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Passport Kids Meeting, 2220, noon

Monday, July 14

- Compass Class Women's Brunch, Parlor, 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 15

- WSM Tuesday Missions, Location TBA, 9 a.m.
- Wilkinson Center Pantry Assistants, noon
- Men's Book Club, Parlor, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 16

- Blood Drive, Parking Lot, 10 a.m.
- New Song Community Choir Social, Parlor, 10 a.m.
- Adventurers Tile Time, James Gallery, 10 a.m.
- WSM Study-n-Pickleball, North Parking Lot, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 17

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

Friday, July 18

- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.

Saturday, July 19

- WSM Girls Night In, Youth Center, Overnight

Sunday, July 20

- Passport Kids! Departure from Wilshire, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Compass Class Curriculum Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Finance Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Personnel Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Adventurers Committee, Community Hall, noon
- Rangers Game Bus Departure, 4:30 p.m. (Game at 6:10 p.m., Globe Life Field)