



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**July 20, 2025**

*Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

# Preparing for worship

Have you ever looked at something familiar and noticed something you've never seen before? Maybe it's the weathered trunk of the tree outside your window you thought you knew by heart. Or maybe it's that faint freckle on your child's arm caught in an unexpected slant of sunlight. Sometimes these surprises arrive not because the thing itself has changed, but because you have. Your gaze shifts, if only for a second, and what was familiar becomes new.

Week after week, we make our way here carrying the well-worn stories of our lives. Yet stepping into worship is a gentle interruption, an invitation to set our bundles down and see our own stories, and the world around us, through a clearer, more tender lens.

It feels deeply fitting that today two of our songs — “Open Our Eyes, Lord” and “Be Thou My Vision” — are about our sight, and that “His Eye is on the Sparrow,” serving as our offertory, is a song about God's sight.

In organizations or teams, a clear vision determines the difference between wandering and purposeful motion. Are the actions we are taking leading us to fulfill our mission? Or are they taking away from what we're trying to accomplish? A trip back to your vision can often

give you your answer. The same is true for us, not just as a congregation, but as individual pilgrims.

We will never be able to fully see through the eyes of God, but we can try. Every time we show up to worship, whether it's at Wilshire or in our daily lives, we are taking steps to see the world — and ourselves — more honestly and with more divinity.

As Richard Rohr says, “Once I can recognize the divine image where I don't want to see the divine image, then I have learned how to see. It's really that simple. And here's the rub: I'm not the one that is doing the seeing. It's like there is another pair of eyes inside of me seeing through me, seeing with me, seeing in me. God can see God everywhere, and God in me can see God everywhere.”

May we enter this hour with open hearts and expectant eyes. May we notice new beauty in the ordinary and soften our gaze to what has grown hard or routine. Let us be willing, even if just for one hour, to have our sight renewed — not only by what we choose to see, but by what God so graciously reveals.

—Georgia McKee



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

4316 Abrams Road | Dallas, Texas 75214 | 214-452-3100 | [wilshirebc.org](http://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

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**On the cover:** *St. Martha the Dragon Slayer*, Faracy Moon Grouse, used by permission.  
[faracymoongrouse.com](http://faracymoongrouse.com)

**July 20, 2025**  
11:00 a.m.  
Sixth 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**

Heather Mustain

**Prelude**

*Adagio*

Gustav Merkel

**+Congregational Song**

*To God Be the Glory*  
No. 349

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**+Call to Worship**

Louis Moore

One: Lord, when we are met with stranger or friend

**All: Help us set the table.**

One: And when we are met with your Word

**All: Remind us to listen.**

One: Lord, open our mouths and unstop our ears

**All: So we may raise our voices in worship and listen for your call. Amen.**

**+Response in Song**

*To God Be the Glory*  
Refrain

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!**  
**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!**  
**O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,**  
**and give him the glory, great things he hath done.**

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

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on — since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

**Offertory**

*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*  
Ralph Manuel, piano

arr. Mary McDonald

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

**+Gospel Reading** — Luke 10:38–42

Lauren Anne Cove

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed — indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

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**

“St. Martha the Dragon Slayer”

Katie Murray

**Anthem**

*Open Our Eyes, Lord*  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Jack Schraeder

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch him and say that we love him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen;  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

**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**

*Be Thou My Vision*  
No. 71

SLANE

**Sharing of Decisions**

Katie Murray

**Benediction**

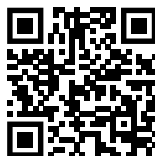
Katie Murray

**Postlude**

*Fugue in G Minor*

Jean-Jacques Charpentier

Candy McComb, guest music director  
Bill Jernberg, guest organist



**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.

# Meet today's worship leaders

**Lauren Anne Cove** joined Wilshire in 2020 and attends Ithaka Class along with her partner, Collin Yarbrough. Lauren serves on the Personnel Committee, sings in Sanctuary Choir and was ordained as a deacon in 2024. She works as a learning and development professional and is completing her doctorate in education from the University of Southern California.

**Grady Hinton** joined Wilshire in 1993 and is a member of Compass Class and the Fellowship of the Ordained. He is a retired chaplain and also worked as a pastor and a chemical engineer. Many of Grady's humorous stories are collected in his book, *Three Ministers and a Designated Liar*.

**Ralph Manuel** and his wife, Donna, joined Wilshire in 2018. They are members of Cord of Three Class, and Ralph sings in Sanctuary Choir. A composer, former minister of music and missionary, Ralph serves as handbell coordinator at Wilshire and directs Carillon Ringers.

**Louis Moore** and his wife, Kay, joined Wilshire in 2022 and attend Compass Class. Louis is a deacon emeritus and serves on Wilshire's In Deed and Truth racial reconciliation team. A career journalist specializing in religion, Louis is active in the civic life of Garland, where he has served on a planning commission and the boards of the library and the Salvation Army. He and Kay lead a nonprofit focused on spotlighting Garland's diversity. The Moores have two adult children and four grandchildren.

# 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

- Shaffon Alexander, 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)

# Tapestry



**Wilshire**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**News & Announcements**  
**July 20, 2025**

## Condolences to

**Rhonda and Gene Heatly** on the death of their son, **Ethan Heatly**, July 16. Sister is **Kyra Heatly**.

## Passport Kids! this week

A group of Wilshire children and leaders are on their way this morning to Passport Kids! camp in Glen Rose. Keep them in your prayers as they experience worship, Bible study, recreation and more. The group returns Wednesday.

## Hill Country flooding relief

As we follow the tragedy in the Texas Hill Country, we ask that you continue to pray for those suffering from catastrophic loss. Funding is the most impactful way to help. You can donate through Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Disaster Response or the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country. We've posted donation links at [wilshirebc.org/flood-relief](http://wilshirebc.org/flood-relief) and will keep the page updated as we learn more.

## Save the date for 75th anniversary

Wilshire will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2026, culminating with special events on Saturday, June 13, and Sunday, June 14. Planning is underway, and more information is coming soon about how you can get involved. For now, mark your calendars for next June 13 and 14, and plan your summer vacation so you don't miss the festivities.

**TAKE ME OUT  
TO THE**  
*Ball Game*

★ ★  
**SUNDAY  
JULY  
20**  
★ ★



## Bus leaves at 4:30 p.m.

Today's the day for Wilshire's outing to Arlington to see the Rangers play the Tigers at 6:10 p.m. Our chartered bus will depart from the north parking lot at 4:30. If you'd like to go but haven't yet bought a ticket, it may not be too late — contact Carolyn Murray at [cmurray@wilshirebc.org](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org).



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



## Visit racial justice timeline



Stop by James Gallery or the South Lobby in the coming weeks to explore a display tracing Wilshire's engagement with racial justice over the church's history. Created by our In

Deed and Truth team, the timeline reflects the ways Wilshire has shown up, sometimes imperfectly, in this work. You'll find space in the exhibit to add your own recollections, stories or reflections. In Deed and Truth is a project of the St. Charles Center for Faith + Action and E Pluribus Unum that helps predominantly white congregations engage faithfully in the work of racial reconciliation.

## Texas Impact panel Aug. 9

What decisions were made in the 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 for a day of learning, reflection and connection. Texas Impact's Bee Moorhead will moderate a talk with Texas Rep. John Bryant and Almas Muscatwalla 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 \$15 per person cost includes lunch. Please register by visiting [arapahoumc.org/texas](http://arapahoumc.org/texas) or scanning the QR code.

## Serve at Vickery Meadow Mobile Food Pantry

Help is needed on Friday, July 25, to serve with Wilshire at the Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation's Mobile Food Pantry. Wilshire serves the fourth Friday each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon. If you can help on July 25, contact Charlie Estee at [cesteedallas@gmail.com](mailto:cesteedallas@gmail.com) by Tuesday, July 22.

# Director of finance hired

**S**HAFFON ALEXANDER has been hired as Wilshire's new director of finance and is already at work training with outgoing finance director Lori Gooden. Lori's last day at Wilshire will be July 31.



Shaffon comes to Wilshire with extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors. Most recently she was director of finance and accounting for Goodwill of North Central Texas, and she previously held accounting roles at AIDS Services of Dallas, MHMR of Tarrant County and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Associate Pastor Heather Mustain said, "It was clear right away that Shaffon had both the technical and relational skills that will make her a great fit to both our staff and to Wilshire. We look forward to welcoming her and hope you will make her feel at home."

A native of Arkansas, Shaffon holds master's and bachelor's degrees in accounting from Colorado Technical University and the University of Arkansas at Monticello, respectively.

She is a member of the North Texas Business and Professional Women's League, the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW and the National Association of Tax Professionals. Shaffon has volunteered with AIDS Services of Dallas, the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance, Black Tie Dinner, the Purple Foundation of Dallas and the Prism Health LifeWalk.

Shaffon's phone number at Wilshire is 214-452-3131. You can email her at [salexander@wilshirebc.org](mailto:salexander@wilshirebc.org).

## 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](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

## Save these dates for fall starts

### Sunday, Aug. 17

- New Sunday School year begins
- Blessing of the Backpacks in worship
- Lunch after 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 Monday through Friday this week while Librarian Barbara Peterson is on vacation. The Library will be open every Sunday, and weekday hours will resume Monday, July 28.

## Life Line Screenings here Sept. 4



Life Line Screenings will screen for stroke and cardiovascular disease risks at Wilshire on Thursday, Sept. 4. For \$129, Life Line will screen for carotid artery disease, atrial fibrillation,

peripheral artery disease and abdominal aortic aneurysm. To make an appointment, call 800-324-9458 and use code HABC001 or visit [lisa.social/habc](https://lisa.social/habc).



## 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](mailto:cmurray@wilshirebc.org))

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Sept. 9 (no August meeting) | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan. Contact: Debby Burton ([dburton@wilshirebc.org](mailto:dburton@wilshirebc.org))

## Men's Book Club

The Men's Book Club will skip August and hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 16, to discuss *The Swerve* by Stephen Greenblatt. The group will meet in the Parlor at 7 p.m. Contact Scott Spreier ([swspreier@gmail.com](mailto:swspreier@gmail.com)) or Mike Meripolski ([meripolski@att.net](mailto:meripolski@att.net)).

## WAYS TO SERVE THIS SUMMER

Scan the QR code or visit [wilshirebc.org/serve](https://wilshirebc.org/serve) for details from our mission partners & sign up to serve.



# Mark Evans

**Hometown:** Garland

**Present City:** Murphy

**Education:** B.S. in legal studies from the United States Air Force Academy

**Profession:** Pilot

## **Tell us about your family.**

My wife, Christina, and I just celebrated 13 years of marriage. We have two beautiful children here with us and two more in heaven. Liam is 6, and Eliana is 4. We lost our twin boys, Emery and Jesse, in 2020. We're so fortunate that both of our parents are in the Dallas area.

## **How about your work?**

I spent 11 years in the Active-Duty Air Force flying fighter aircraft in assignments around the world. In 2023, I transitioned to the Air Force Reserves and became a pilot for Southwest Airlines.

## **Any favorite hobbies?**

I love to travel. I'm always looking for the next place we need to visit or destination we need to experience.

## **What are your favorite places to travel?**

During my time in the Air Force, I was stationed throughout the U.S. as well as Germany and South Korea. We made the most of those assignments and traveled any time we could. It's fun to experience other ways of life. A couple of years ago, Christina and I spent several days hiking around the southern island of New Zealand, which quickly became my favorite so



far. The views around every turn are endlessly breathtaking.

## **What brought you to Wilshire and when?**

We were looking for a church home in the Dallas area as I left active duty and we transitioned back to Texas. We visited Wilshire on the recommendation of my sister-in-law, a CBF field personnel. We immediately fell in love with the people in the church and Wilshire's love for Christ and God's people.

## **Where are you engaged at Wilshire?**

I am a member of the Labyrinth Sunday School Class.

## **Tell us about your faith journey.**

I grew up in a Baptist church in the Dallas area, and have had a close, personal relationship with Christ since I was a young child. Over the years, as I've moved around the world and interacted with other people, my calling as a follower of Christ changed. The worldview I was raised with became less fulfilling, and I searched for something deeper and more complex. I love Wilshire's atmosphere of acceptance, love, peace and hope in line with Christ's own message.

# 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.*

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**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](http://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](http://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 Shaffon Alexander's attention at Wilshire.

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

**DONATE STOCKS.** Contact Shaffon 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.

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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 20**

- Passport Kids! Departure from Wilshire, 9:30 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)

## **Monday, July 21**

- Passport Kids! Preteen Camp, Glen Rose

## **Tuesday, July 22**

- Passport Kids! Preteen Camp, Glen Rose

## **Wednesday, July 23**

- Passport Kids! Preteen Camp, Glen Rose
- History Committee, 3209, 5:30 p.m.
- WSM Study-n-Swim, Location TBA, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

## **Thursday, July 24**

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

## **Friday, July 25**

- WSM Friday Missions, Location TBA, 9 a.m.
- Friday Friends, 3103, 10 a.m.

## **Saturday, July 26**

- Nova, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.

## **Sunday, July 27**

- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.

## **Wednesday, July 30**

- WSM Study-n-Snow Cones, North Parking Lot, 6:30 p.m.