



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday

Preparing for worship

I was recently asked, “What is your favorite church season to plan music for?” As a musician who has spent most of my working life leading worship, you’d think that would be an easy question. It wasn’t. And honestly, I’m still not sure I have an answer.

But as I reflect on this Palm Sunday, I find myself moved by the memory of the very first time I experienced a service like ours.

I grew up in a faith tradition that didn’t really celebrate Palm Sunday. I knew the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem days before his crucifixion, but it was just that: a story. It wasn’t until I was an adult, working in music ministry, that I truly experienced it. Watching an entire congregation exuberantly wave palm branches, singing hymns of faith while children carried their palms to the cross, it took my breath away. It still does. The story of Jesus came alive for me that day.

And while my understanding of its complexities has deepened over the years, the story remains just as real. What irony: a humble servant, riding a donkey, celebrated as king by his neighbors, only to be crucified by those same

people days later. This arc of the Passion is one we rarely get to sit with. Palm Sunday invites us to do exactly that.

In today’s anthem, *A New Jerusalem Arise*, we are called to imagine a city where sickness, hatred and indifference have no place, where justice, peace and real unity take root. In a world full of war, loss and daily distress, it can feel impossible to hold that vision alongside a jubilant procession.

And yet, I believe that’s precisely the point.

As we carry palm branches into this space today, dancing with the signs of spring and new life, may we see in them a reminder that the Spirit of God is still alive and moving in and through us. May these branches be a sign of what we are called to become.

May Wilshire be a new Jerusalem rising, a city on a hill, a light to Dallas and beyond, a community that lives out kindness, goodness and compassion for all people, so that all might know the redeeming love of a God who is in the business of saving. Saving all people.

—Ariel Merivil



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

Building a Community of Faith Shaped by the Spirit of Jesus Christ
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship | Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists

We acknowledge that this land where we gather once held the sacred voices of Indigenous peoples and bore the suffering of the enslaved.

On the cover: *Palm Leaf, Tangier*, Henri Matisse, 1912, oil on canvas, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

March 29, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday

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

Maggie Morey

Prelude

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

arr. Sandra Eithun

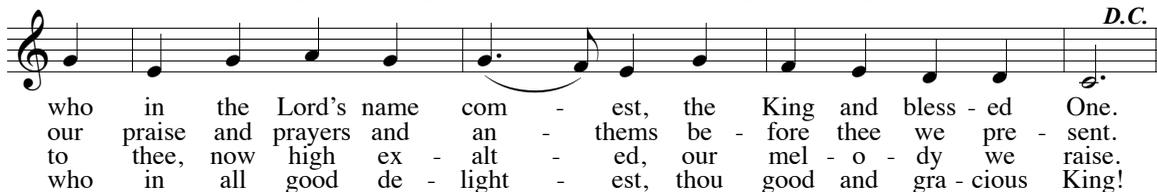
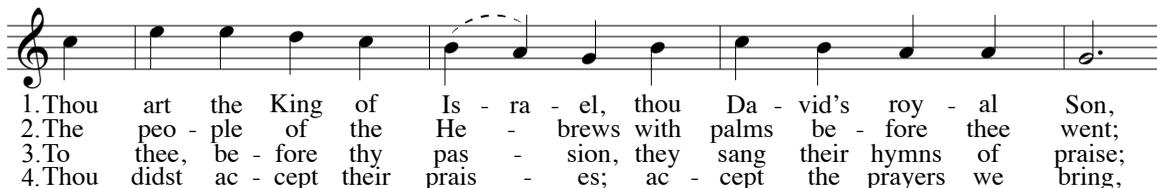
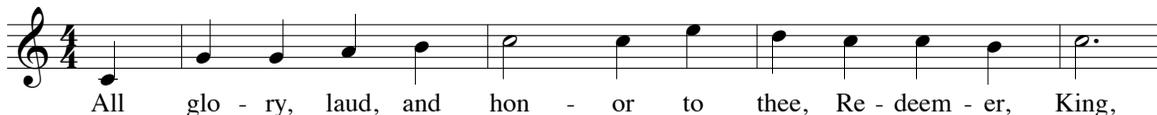
Carillon Ringers

Ralph Manuel, director

+Processional Song

All Glory, Laud and Honor

ST. THEODOLPH



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

+Call to Worship

Percy Parrish

One: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.

One: Before Jesus meets betrayal and sacrifice, we are called to remember this journey into Jerusalem.

All: We are called to remember that he comes with humility and power, to turn the world upside down.

One: Hosanna!

All: Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven. Amen.

Choral Response

Blessed Is He
Children's Choir
Candy McComb, director
Bill Jernberg, accompanist

IsaBeall Hudson

Blessed is he, O blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Wave your palms and sing.
Hosanna, sing hosanna! Come and praise the King!

Psalm Reading — Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

Pat Cullum

O give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!
Let Israel say,
"God's steadfast love endures forever."
...

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.
This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of
the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
The LORD is God,
and God has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.
O give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Offertory

What Wondrous Love Is This
Carillon Ringers

arr. Anna Laura Page

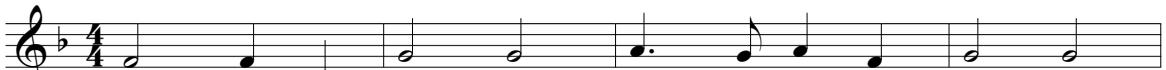
When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: “Tell the daughter of Zion, look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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

There in God's Garden

SHADES MOUNTAIN



Choir 1. There in God's gar - den stands the tree of Wis - dom,
 All 2. Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 All 3. Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 All 4. See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - fering;
 our greed has starved it; our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



tree of all knowl - edge, tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man -
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness; give me all your



pas - sion, tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row; I will give bless - ing."

Message

“Who Is This?”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

A New Jerusalem Arise
Youth and Sanctuary Choirs
Noémie Golubovic, cello; Jonah Payne, percussion

Kyle Pederson

No more sickness, no more crying, your mourning will turn to dancing;
I will make a pathway in the wilderness, and a river in the dry land.
No more hatred, no indifference, unfairness will yield to justice;
I will make a passage to a free land, where all colors there are blessings.

I will wipe all your tears, I will wipe all your tears from your eyes.
A new Jerusalem arise, a new creation come alive;
Into the dawning after dark, arise.

Only kindness, only goodness, all people will live compassion,
Hand in hand they love and work together, walking in the spirit.

I will wipe all your tears, I will wipe all your tears from your eyes.
A new Jerusalem arise, a new creation come alive;
Into the dawning after dark, arise!

I am making all things new.
After fire, after flood, after rain, I am making all things new.
Through the dark, through the doubt, through the pain, I am making all things new.
After fire, after flood, after rain, I am making all things new!

A new Jerusalem arise, a new creation come alive;
Into the dawning after dark, arise!
Come people, all people, arise!
A new Jerusalem arise!

Prayers of the People

Jordann McMahan

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

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
No. 172

ELLACOMBE/arr. Dennis Klophaus

Family Dedication — Kit and Weldon Sloan with Barrett Warren

Timothy Peoples

We welcome into the life of the church Barrett Warren Sloan, son of Kit and Weldon Sloan. Present for today's dedication are big sister Betty Sloan; grandparents David and Iva Nell Rhea; grandparents Brad and Britt Sloan; aunt Kallie Rhea; uncles Soren, Knox and Campbell Sloan; the Shaw family; and friends the Bufkin and Shepard families.

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

The Lord God Reigneth
Festival Brass and Organ

Johann Pachelbel

Brian Walker, trumpet
Brian Mendez, trumpet
Alex Kienle, horn
Matt Ethier, trombone
Ryan Tran, trombone
Jonah Payne, percussion
Noémie Golubovic, cello



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

Pat Cullum first joined Wilshire with her parents in 1954 and rejoined with her husband, Fred, in 1977. The Cullums attend Compass Class, and Pat is a deacon emerita. Pat is retired from Dallas College Richland Campus, where she was the circulation librarian, and she is currently helping in the Wilshire Library while Barbara Peterson recovers from surgery. Pat has three adult sons and is a cousin to Wilshire member Steve Melton.

Percy Parrish joined Wilshire in January with his wife, Marcia, and their daughters, Jayda and Jasmine. Percy is a member of Epiphany Class and the Men's Book Club. A graduate of Tuskegee University, he spent four decades working in higher education as an administrator and teacher of business and self-development classes.

Mark Wingfield and his wife, Alison, joined Wilshire in 1999. Mark teaches in Discovery Class and served as Wilshire's associate pastor from 2004 to 2020, when he became executive director of Baptist News Global, an independent news organization. Mark and Alison are parents to twin adult sons, Luke and Garrett.

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)
- Katie Murray, Minister of Pastoral Care and to Senior Adults (3129)

Finance

- Shaffon Alexander, Director of Finance (3131)

Food Services

- Haley Garcia, Food Service Director (3117)
- 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

- Charlie Fuller, Pathways to Ministry Director and Coach in Residence (3123)
- Amanda Hines, Pastoral Resident (3154)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)
- Jordann McMahan, Pastoral Resident (3155)
- Maggie Morey, Pastoral Resident (3153)

Senior Pastor

- Chelsea Hopkins, Executive Assistant (3132)
- 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 of Pastoral Care and to Senior Adults (3129)
- Barbara Peterson, Librarian (3114)

Tapestry



News & Announcements
March 29, 2026



Easter Sunrise Service

6:45 a.m. | T. & P. Hill, White Rock Lake | Offered in partnership with Northway Christian Church. Come as you are.

Service of Remembrance

9:45 a.m. | Columbarium | This brief service is geared toward those with loved ones memorialized in the Columbarium, which will be open for visits from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Easter Sunday Worship

8:30 and 11 a.m. | The Sanctuary shutters, closed during Lent, will be opened as we celebrate Easter. We'll hear music from Sanctuary Choir and orchestra plus Jeff Brummel's traditional organ postlude, the Widor *Toccata*. (Our 9 a.m. service will not meet on Easter.)

Flowering Cross

Stop by to place a flower into the mesh-wrapped wooden cross outside the Sanctuary. Bring your own flowers or take one from a limited supply provided by the church.

Good Friday service to feature choir, soloist

April 3 | 7 p.m. | Sanctuary | At the heart of Holy Week lies Good Friday, a day we set apart to stop, remember and be present to what Christ bore for our sake. We invite you to observe it with us through the ancient service of *Tenebrae*, in which candles are extinguished gradually as we keep watch together through the gathering darkness and the silence of the tomb. Sanctuary Choir will present excerpts from Fauré's *Requiem* woven throughout the service with anthems and hymns. Joining the choir as soloist will be **Lwazi Dlamini**, baritone with the Dallas Opera, whose voice has graced stages across South Africa and the United States. Come, keep watch and pray.

■ Preschool childcare will be offered; sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/good-friday-service.



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

New member

Neal Sanders

Last day to order Easter lilies



You are invited to provide Easter lilies for the Sanctuary in honor or memory of loved ones. Dedications will be listed in the worship folder on Easter Sunday. Each plant costs \$20. Order in the office or at wilshirebc.org/easter-lilies by midnight tonight, March 29.

Make our Lenten playlist part of your Holy Week

Our eclectic Lenten playlist is available on the digital music service Spotify. For the best experience, listen to the playlist in order. Visit wilshirebc.org/lent to find the link or search for “Rooted - Wilshire Lent 2026.”

Art auction and more to support Youth Choir tour

You can support the Youth Choir’s summer tour to Kansas City by bidding on artwork donated by Wilshire member Larry Harrington, currently on display in the South Lobby. Many reserve prices have been lowered. Bidding on the art will be open through Easter, April 5.

■ You can also support Youth Choir tour by buying remaining items from the recent Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction. Items include gift certificates and fun sign-and-go events; no bidding. Scan the QR code.



Lunch & Learn meets April 1



Everyone is invited to Community Hall the first and third Wednesdays every month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch (\$10) and Bible study. No registration or RSVP necessary.



Marriage Connections is April 10

Marriage Connections will be held Friday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m. Free childcare (infant–grade 5) will be provided while parents enjoy a short program and then have the rest of the night to themselves. Registration is required for childcare and closes April 5. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/marriage-connections.

■ The same childcare is available to single, adoptive and foster parents. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/pno by April 5.

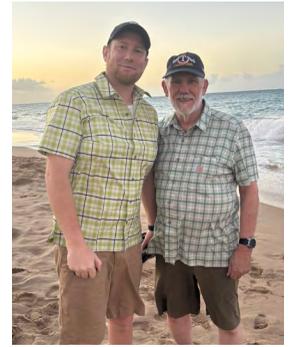
■ Note: Instead of going out, consider attending Wilshire’s free **Trivia & Tacos** event in Community Hall.

Firearm disposal event April 18



Wilshire is co-hosting a Guns to Gardens firearm disposal event on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Royal Lane Baptist Church. This is a chance for anyone with unwanted firearms to anonymously and safely dispose of them. The guns will be disabled and later forged into garden tools, art and jewelry that the participant will receive. Guns to Gardens is a national movement working to reduce gun violence, and Wilshire helped start a local chapter last year.

■ Volunteers are needed to staff the event. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/guns-to-gardens to sign up. Contact: Pastoral Resident Jordann McMahan (jmcmahan@wilshirebc.org)



Relationships made Puerto Rico trip special

Associate Pastor Heather Mustain reports, “Six of us traveled last week for our fourth year to Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, where we worked with Primera Iglesia Bautista and their local and disaster-relief ministries. We helped clear trees, seal a roof, paint the church fellowship hall and serve 150 local university students lunch. But more than what we did, we enjoyed friendships across cultural and language divides. We spoke broken Spanish to Aida, Joselin, Adrian and Jose. We laughed and played and realized how special our time together was as we deliberately paused our lives at home and intentionally lived and loved in the present moment. As one team member reflected, ‘I’ve always looked forward to the work and the chance to help out, but this year really showed me that the people and the relationships we build matter even more. That’s what made this trip so special.’”



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE APRIL 1

Koinonia Café

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Buffet dinner with kid-friendly options. Cash/check/credit. Prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **April 1:** Pot roast, white rice, rolls, butternut squash soup, salad, lemon bars, cookies and jello.

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

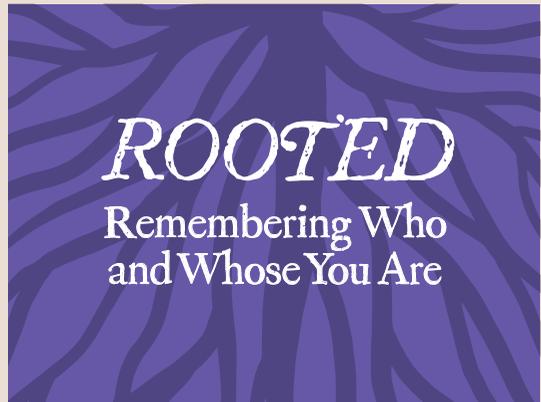
6 p.m. | K–Grade 5 | A rotation of activities to help kids learn how to love God and others.

Watershed

6:30 p.m. | Grades 6–12 | Bible study and music in the Youth Center.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | Wilshire's main adult choir rehearses weekly. New singers are always welcome, and there's no audition.



Bible Study

6 p.m. | Community Hall | Join us April 1, the Wednesday of Holy Week, for the second of a two-part series based on our Lenten theme, *Rooted: Remembering Who and Whose You Are*.

Looking ahead

April 8, 15 & 22: Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will lead adults in *Sacredly Secular*, a three-week series that will invite us to reconsider the categories that have shaped how we understand meaning, purpose and presence in our everyday lives.

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

75TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



Friday, April 10 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Get ready for our 75th anniversary with this fun evening of Wilshire trivia in Community Hall (formerly called the Fellowship Hall, don'tcha know). Associate Pastor Darren DeMent will be our emcee, and all skill levels are welcome.

■ Childcare will be available. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/trivia-and-tacos.

75 Minutes of Service

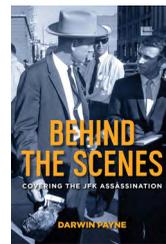
Saturday, April 25 | 8:30–10:30 a.m. | Save the date and join us for an hour or two of beautifying our campus as we look forward to our 75th anniversary weekend. There will be coffee and donuts, of course! Project coordinators are needed. Visit wilshirebc.org/75 to find the SignUpGenius link.

Sign up for emergency alerts

The Risk Management Committee has launched Alert Aware, a mass notification system designed to quickly share critical information during emergencies in or near our building. The system allows key staff to contact first responders and send location-specific alerts about security incidents, weather closures and other urgent updates. This is an opt-in service. To enroll, scan the QR code, complete the form and follow the emailed instructions to download the app and create an account. Once activated, you'll automatically receive Wilshire alerts. Contact Associate Pastor Heather Mustain (hmustain@wilshirebc.org) with questions.



Men's Book Club welcomes author



Darwin Payne, author of *Behind the Scenes: Covering the JFK Assassination*, will be in attendance to discuss the book at the next Men's Book Club meeting on Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. in the Parlor. Payne, a professor emeritus at SMU, covered the 1963 assassination as a young reporter for the *Dallas Times Herald*. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

Women of Wilshire book clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Thursday, April 2 | Noon | 1205-L | *Welcome to Murder Week* by Karen Dukess. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | April 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Parlor | *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. Contact: Debby Burton (debbyb0929@gmail.com)

Speaker named for June 14 anniversary worship service

REV. KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS will preach at Wilshire's 75th-anniversary worship service on Sunday, June 14.



Douglas is canon theologian at Washington National Cathedral and is currently a visiting professor at Harvard Divinity School. Her academic work has focused on womanist theology, racial justice issues and sexuality and the Black church, and her current research involves expanding the moral imagination in fostering a more just future.

Douglas's book *Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter* won the 2023 Grawemeyer Award for religion writing.

From 2017 to 2023, Douglas was dean of the Episcopal Divinity School and professor of theology at Union Seminary in New York.

Pulpit guests to reflect on 75th

The preachers who will cover for Senior Pastor Timothy Peoples during his sabbatical are all friends of Wilshire and have been invited to reflect on our 75th anniversary.

■ **April 26:** Rabbi David Stern, senior rabbi, Temple Emanu-El, Dallas

■ **May 3:** Pam Durso, president, Central Seminary, Overland Park, Kansas

■ **May 10:** Meredith Stone, executive director, Baptist Women in Ministry

■ **May 17:** Greg Garrett, professor of literature and culture, Baylor University

■ **May 24:** George Mason, senior pastor emeritus at Wilshire



Wilshire's 75th Anniversary Weekend

Saturday, June 13

Homecoming Celebration

■ **4:45-7:30 p.m.** | Catch up with friends, explore the building and browse history displays at featured stops, with reflections and remembrances in the Sanctuary at 6.

■ **7-10 p.m.** | Extended fellowship at Times Ten Cellars. 6324 Prospect Ave.

Sunday, June 14

Worship Celebration

■ **11 a.m.** | Our 75-minute service in the Sanctuary will include a message by Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas.



To see how you can be involved in our big celebration, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/75 for the link to our SignUpGenius.

Boston trip has room

Sign-ups are underway for the Adventurers Sept. 20–25 trip to Boston, and we still have room for a few more. Visit wilshirebc.org/events/boston-trip to learn more, and email Barbara Clayton (bclayton@wilshirebc.org) to learn how to register.

Do you have a Library book?

Due to a glitch in the Library's computer system, Librarian Barbara Peterson is asking anyone with a book currently on loan to bring it in or email her (bpeterson@wilshirebc.org) with the book title and a photo of the Library bar code. You will be able to keep the book checked out.

■ The Library is operating under **reduced hours** while Barbara recovers from surgery. The Library is open Sundays, 9:30–10:45 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6–7:15 p.m.

Monthly service opportunities

■ A Wilshire group serves the fourth Friday morning each month at the **Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation Mobile Food Pantry**. Contact: Charlie Estee (cesteedallas@gmail.com)

■ Wilshire volunteers serve as food pantry assistants at the **Wilkinson Center** the third Tuesday afternoon each month. Contact: Cindy Estee (cesteedallas@aol.com)

■ Wilshire volunteers serve lunch at the **Stewpot** the second Thursday every month. Contact: David Cossum (dc@cossum.com)

Friendly faces needed for Hospitality Team

It takes 20 people each Sunday to staff our Hospitality Ministry Team, and we're looking for additional greeters and ushers. Serve on your own schedule — often when you'd already be at church. Contact: Barbara Clayton (bclayton@wilshirebc.org)

Serve with our mission partners



To see ways you can serve alongside other Wilshire members with one of our mission or advocacy partners, scan the QR code or visit wilshirebc.org/serve.

Baptism Team seeks larger pool of volunteers

Looking for an easy way to serve? The Baptism Ministry Team is seeking volunteers. Team members are contacted as baptisms are scheduled and may serve as a baptism host — meeting with the individual being baptized, showing them to the baptistry and lighting the candle — or by helping with robe and towel laundry afterward. These roles require minimal time but offer meaningful support to those being baptized. Contact: Chelsea Hopkins (chopkins@wilshirebc.org)

Someone to talk with.

If you're facing a life challenge and would like a friend to walk alongside you for a season of healing, perhaps you would benefit from a Stephen Minister. This ministry pairs trained lay people with those in need of confidential companionship during times of crisis. To reach out, email stephenministry@wilshirebc.org or call 214-452-3176.

stephen
MINISTRY.



2026 Summer CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

VBS: #KIDSCONNECT

Mon.-Thu., June 15-18, 9 a.m.-noon. As kids learn and create, they'll connect with Jesus, build meaningful relationships and follow his example of welcoming all. Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/25) through completed grade 5. Free. Advance registration ends June 7. Walk-ins as space allows. *No Friday VBS due to Juneteenth holiday.*

KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL CAMP

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon With "In the Beginning" as our theme, we'll use Godly Play to explore Bible stories. Art and science too! Older preschool (age 3 by 9/1/25) through completed Kindergarten. \$50. Register by June 24.

COOKING CAMP

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Completed first through fifth graders will learn about food safety and nutrition and prepare a three-course lunch daily. \$125. *Sold Out! Waitlist available.*

LISTEN TO YOUR ART!

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 12:30-5 p.m. Creative arts camp with music, visual art, drama, movement, crafts and more. On Friday, kids stay for dinner, and families are invited to a 6:30 p.m. performance and art showcase. Lunch not provided; cost includes T-shirt. Completed first through fifth graders. \$125. Register by June 24.

FULL-DAY COOKING & ART

Mon.-Fri., July 6-10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Full-day option for grades 2-5. Lunch included. \$225. *Sold Out! Waitlist available.*

PASSPORT KIDS! PRETEEN CAMP

Sun.-Wed., July 19-22. Completed third through fifth graders will travel by chartered bus to Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat for high-energy worship, interactive Bible study, recreation and missions led by camp staff and Wilshire chaperones. \$450. \$50 nonrefundable deposit guarantees a spot; \$25 discount for those who register by April 30. Full payment due June 30.

REGISTER AT [WILSHIREBC.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS](https://www.wilshirebc.org/summer-camps)



Rhona Phillips

Hometown: Seattle, Washington

Present City: Plano

Education: I'm in 6th grade at Schimelpfenig Middle School in Plano ISD.

Tell us about your family.

I have two mothers, Katie and Sarah Fuller, and a goldendoodle named Archie. My dad, Austin Phillips, still lives in my hometown, Seattle. My grandparents Nana and Pop (Tina and Steve Phillips) live in Ada, Oklahoma. My grandparents Marmee and Poppa (Cindy and Charlie Fuller) live here and go to Wilshire.

What do you like to do for fun?

I like to ride my bike, draw, craft, watch movies and spend time with my family.

What is your favorite school subject?

History.

Tell us about music or art that you enjoy.

I love pop music, and I really like to paint on canvases.

Do you play sports or have a favorite team?

I love to play basketball, and I've been playing for about three years. My favorite teams are the Dallas Wings and the Seattle Storm.



What are your aspirations for the future?

I want to go to college in Colorado or Washington and study either marine biology or photography.

Where would you like to travel?

Europe and Mexico.

Where are you engaged at Wilshire?

Wilshire Student Ministry and Youth Choir.

Tell us about your faith journey.

I'm always learning, asking questions and trying to decide what I believe.

Who do you look up to and why?

My mom, because she teaches me new things every day.

Who are the greatest influences in your life shaping who you are today?

My family and friends.

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 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.

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, March 29

- Road to Resurrection, Community Hall, 9 a.m.
- Worship, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Finance Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Pathways to Ministry Committee, 1205-L, noon

Monday, March 30

- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Lunch & Learn, Community Hall, 11:30 a.m.
- Koinonia Café, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Let's Organize! Immigration Group, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- Building, Interior and Grounds Committee, Parlor, 6 p.m.
- Bible Study, Community Hall, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Preschool Music & Missions, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 2

- WOW Brown Bag Book Club, 1205-L, noon
- Knit Unto Others, Parlor, 1:30 p.m.

Friday, April 3

- Good Friday Service, Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 5

- Easter Sunrise Service, T. & P. Hill at White Rock Lake, 6:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 8:30 a.m.
- Remembrance Service, Columbarium, 9:45 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.

Monday, April 6

- Staff Holiday, Building Closed

benedictio: a good word



**WSM
Youth Camp**
June 29–July 4
Ferncliff Camp
Little Rock

“Camp is such a phenomenal experience that everyone in the Wilshire Student Ministry should have a chance to enjoy.”

Crosby Cole, 8th grade

WE OFTEN THINK of a benediction as the final moment of a worship service — a blessing as we depart. But the term comes from the Latin *benedictio*, meaning “a good word.” At its core, a benediction is about speaking goodness over what comes next.

In Genesis, a steady refrain echoes through the creation story: “and it was good.” Those words ground us in the powerful truth that goodness lies at the heart of everything God made.

And yet, so much of our attention today settles on what

is wrong — what is broken, corrupted or evil.

Perhaps we need to be reminded that goodness is the original word spoken over creation. Brokenness is not the starting point; it is a distortion of what was first made good. Maybe we simply need to hear that good word again.

At camp this summer, we want to reimagine the benediction. What if it’s not just a conclusion, but a beginning — a good word that sends us out to live and see differently and to carry that goodness with us into whatever comes next?

Camp Pastor

We are excited that **Georgia McKee** will be our camp pastor this year. Georgia is no stranger to Wilshire; she recently completed her pastoral residency with us and now serves as Associate Pastor at Glencoe Union Church near Chicago. Georgia is married to Sophia, and they have two dogs, Goose and Dolly.



Registration:
[wilshirebc.org/
events/youth-
camp-2026](http://wilshirebc.org/events/youth-camp-2026)