



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

October 25, 2026
Reformation Sunday

Preparing for worship

Let's travel back in time for a moment to the early years of the 16th century. Something happened that changed the course of Christian history. At this time, many took issue with the way the Church was running things. Many felt it was prioritizing power and money over pastoral care. A German monk and theologian named Martin Luther had a few things to say publicly against the Church — 95, to be exact. As a result, Luther was kicked out of the Church, jump-starting what we now call the Protestant Reformation.

Anyone who knows anything about the origins of Protestant Christianity knows a thing or two about this story. But the Reformation happened so long ago. Why does it still matter to us today?

I can think of a few reasons.

We all have a story. We all have a history. The story of the Reformation gives us the chance to tell the family history of our faith. We get to tell and hear stories about all those who came before us and taught us about our tradition, both Baptist and the broader Christian tradition. We get to tell and hear stories about

people who risked everything so we can gather where we do in the way we do.

We are given a reminder. A reminder of why we gather. Not just because we get to hear some words preached from the pulpit or because we get to sit next to familiar faces each week. Today, we are reminded why those who took the first steps toward reformation did: God's love is free and for everyone.

We are challenged. Through retelling our story, Reformation Sunday also challenges us to do better each day. We are called to be more loving, more grace-filled people. We are called to remember that each piece of who we are was knitted together by God. And we are called to treat each other as such.

So, as you go through worship this morning, I hope you take a moment to consider what it means to be in a space that would not have been dreamed of six centuries ago yet exists because someone dared to speak up and do something different.

—James Dolph



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: *The Open Window*, Pierre Bonnard, 1921, oil on canvas.

October 25, 2026
11:00 a.m.
Reformation 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

Annette Owen

Prelude

Prelude on "Londonderry Air"

Noel Rawsthorne

+Call to Worship

Barry Preston

One: Let us worship the Lord, the Almighty, our refuge and creator.

All: We give you praise, our health and salvation.

One: From generation to generation, you have generously given your guidance and care.
In love, you graciously gave yourself to our ancestors and continue to pour yourself
out to us today.

All: We give you praise, our shelter and sustainer.

One: But we are easily distracted, we do not always understand, and we sometimes struggle
to imagine the future you have put before us. Despite the ways we have wandered, you
are generous and lead us back to walk in your ways.

All: We give you praise, our ever-present source of goodness and mercy.

One: Let us ponder anew the path you have set before us. As we journey together, remind us
that you hear our prayers and accept our worship regardless of belief or doubt.

All: We give you praise, for you have renewed us, and we are still being renewed.

+Congregational Song

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
No. 319

LOBE DEN HERREN

+Passing of the Peace

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

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

+Response in Song*God Welcomes All*

THEMBA AMEN

1-2 God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics '1-2 God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' and '3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.' and 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. A dashed line connects the notes for 'and' and 'it' in the second line of the second staff.

Psalms Reading — Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17

Tim Cruise

Lord, you have been our help,
generation after generation.
Before the mountains were born,
before you birthed the earth and the inhabited world —
from forever in the past
to forever in the future, you are God.
You return people to dust,
saying, “Go back, humans,”
because in your perspective a thousand years
are like yesterday past,
like a short period during the night watch.
You sweep humans away like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning.
True, in the morning it thrives, renewed,
but come evening it withers, all dried up.
...
Come back to us, LORD!
Please, quick!
Have some compassion for your servants!
Fill us full every morning with your faithful love
so we can rejoice and celebrate our whole life long.
Make us happy for the same amount of time that you afflicted us —
for the same number of years that we saw only trouble.
Let your acts be seen by your servants;
let your glory be seen by their children.
Let the kindness of the Lord our God be over us.
Make the work of our hands last.
Make the work of our hands last!

Offertory

Speak, O Lord
Carillon Ringers
Dave Schaefer, director

arr. Peggy Bettcher

Thanks to your continued generosity, Wilshire provides meaningful music in worship each week. Through guest musicians, special music and, of course, our talented lay musicians and choral scholars, we uniquely enjoy some of the finest musical talent in Dallas.

+Gospel Reading — Matthew 22:34–46

Alison Wingfield

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire
No. 440

GIFT OF LOVE

Message

“A Reformation of Humility”

Timothy Peoples

Anthem

You Are My Refuge
Nova
Candy McComb, director

Michael John Trotta

You are my refuge and my strength. You are my shelter from the storm, from every storm.
I will not fear when the ground shakes or mountains fall into the sea.
I will not fear when oceans roar or mountains shake from swelling tide.
There is a river filled with life, filled with life. A sacred place in which you dwell.
Within its streams I find you there. I find your help at break of dawn.
Though nations fear and kingdoms fade, your voice brings hope when morning comes.
You are with me, my fortress, and strength!
Be still and know that I am. Be still and know. Be still. Be.

Prayers of the People

Kelly Akins

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

More Love to Thee, O Christ
No. 365

MORE LOVE TO THEE

Sharing of Decisions

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

Postlude

Festival

Healey Willan

Candy McComb, Congregational Song Leader
Jacob Hord, Interim Organist

The flowers today are given in memory of Cathy Jones by her family.

Meet today's worship leaders

Tim Cruise became a Wilshire member in 2014 and recently joined the staff as part-time student ministry assistant. He served as a student ministry intern here in summer 2012 and from 2014 to 2016 and holds a master's degree in theology from TCU's Brite Divinity School. Tim teaches English at Roosevelt High School in DISD and previously taught in public schools in Fort Worth and Chicago. He lives in Dallas with his wife, Dr. Sydney Curtis.

Barry Preston and his wife, Natalie, first connected with Wilshire through their son, Evan, who attended youth activities here; Barry and Natalie officially joined Wilshire last December. Barry served many years as a language arts teacher and a minister of spiritual formation in Disciples of Christ churches. He is now a self-employed mindfulness and character strengths trainer and coach and a faculty member with Life Atlas. Barry serves on Wilshire's Visioning Team and enjoys teaching church groups about contemplative Christianity, mindfulness and spiritual growth.

Alison Wingfield and her husband, Mark, joined Wilshire in 1999. They are parents to twin adult sons, Luke and Garrett. Alison is a member of Epiphany Class and often teaches other adult classes. She is a deacon, directs Pre-K Choir, sings in Sanctuary Choir and Nova and has been a Faith in 3D participant. Alison works as a freelance editor.



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, submit a prayer request or join Wilshire as a member. 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. Staff members with phone extensions also have Wilshire email addresses, unless otherwise noted. **Email addresses** consist of first letter of first name and full last name followed by @wilshirebc.org (example: tpeoples@wilshirebc.org).

Communications

- Mark McKenzie, Communications Director (3169)

Congregational Care

- Barbara Clayton, Pastoral Care Assistant (3125)
- Charlie Fuller, Coach in Residence (3123)
- 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 McCrae, Director of Finance (3131)

Food Services

- Diego Arreguin, Steward
- Heather Bruhn, Sous Chef[†]
- 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

- Christina Evans, Interim Missions and Advocacy Coordinator (3159)
- Heather Mustain, Associate Pastor (3110)

Music and Worship

- J'Von Brown, Children's Choir Coordinator (3124)
- Carol Cabaniss, Music and Worship Coordinator (3106)
- Shana Gaines, Wilshire Winds Director (3163)
- Jacob Hord, Interim Organist
- Ariel Merivil, Minister of Music (3135)
- Dave Schaefer, Interim Carillon Ringers Director

Operations and Technology

- Rene Altamirano, Maintenance Technician
- Bryant Greer, Building Operations Manager (3146)
- Jim Tapley, Audio and Video Coordinator

Pathways to Ministry

- James Dolph, Pastoral Resident (3152)
- Amanda Hines, Pastoral Resident (3154)
- George Mason, Senior Pastor Emeritus and Pathways to Ministry Alumni Director (3133)
- Jordann McMahan, Pastoral Resident (3155)
- Annette Owen, Pathways to Ministry Director (3158)
- Bryce Shelton, Pastoral Resident (3153)

Senior Pastor

- Chelsea Hopkins, Executive Assistant (3132)
- Timothy Peoples, Senior Pastor (3132)

Spiritual Formation

- Kelly Akins, Minister to Preschoolers (3139)
- Tim Cruise, Student Ministry Assistant[†]
- 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)

[†]These staff members have Wilshire email addresses but do not have Wilshire phone extensions.

Tapestry



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

News & Announcements
October 25, 2026

Screening, talk this Thursday

Faith Commons is presenting a documentary screening and conversation at Wilshire on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. in Choral Hall. *The Other* is an award-winning film about Israelis and Palestinians working together toward a more peaceful future. The documentary was filmed both before and after the attacks of Oct. 7, 2023. The post-screening dialogue will feature Natali Levin-Schwarz, an Israeli-born political theorist, and Jadd Hashem, a Palestinian-American peace activist. Seating is limited. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/the-other or scan the code on this page. Faith Commons, founded by Wilshire Senior Pastor Emeritus George Mason, promotes public discourse rooted in the common values of many faiths.

A PRIVATE SCREENING OF
The Other

October 29, 2026 | 7:00 PM
at Wilshire Baptist Church
4316 Abrams Road
Dallas, TX 75214

Please stay after the film for a conversation
with Natali Levin-Schwarz and Jadd Hashem.

Brought to you by:

faith commons

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HUMAN RIGHTS DALLAS
Dignity For All Y'all

DALLAS VIDEOFEST

allmep
Alliance for Middle East Peace

Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH



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

Condolences to

Family and friends on the death of **Stephen King**.

Columbarium service next week



Wilshire will conduct a service of remembrance in the Columbarium on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 9:45 a.m. The Columbarium service — held twice each year, on All Saints Sunday and

Easter — is geared toward the families and friends of loved ones who are inurned or have been memorialized in the Columbarium.

Add your sticker to voting displays



The Missions and Advocacy Committee invites you to take five minutes today to make a plan to vote in the midterm election. Early voting runs through Oct. 30, and Election Day is Nov. 3. Once

you've voted, look for our "I Voted" displays throughout the building and add your sticker. If you don't have a sticker, use one of ours. Together, let's create a visual reminder of the many ways our Wilshire community shows up and makes its voice heard.

■ Midterms are the nationwide elections half-way through a president's four-year term where voters choose federal, state and local leaders and may vote on important amendments and propositions. Decisions made in the midterms will affect taxes, schools, public safety and more, yet fewer than half of registered Texas voters voted in the last midterms.

Join in celebrating PEP grads

The Wilshire-supported Prison Entrepreneurship Program helps incarcerated men prepare for reentry through character development and business training, and you are invited to a celebration of the latest graduates. The event, set for Oct. 30 at the Sanders Estes Unit in Venus, will include a business plan competition, graduation ceremony and reception. Your presence offers encouragement and a powerful reminder that these men are valued and welcomed home. Registration is required at pep.org/estes-fall-2026-bpc-and-graduation-rsvp. Can't attend? Submit an encouraging note. Contact: Judy Ward (judyward430@gmail.com)

Midday on Abrams is Nov. 4



Paul Markowitz, founder of Senior Living Specialists, will be our guest speaker for Midday on Abrams on Wednesday, Nov. 4. New this fall, Midday on Abrams includes lunch, fellowship and informative speakers on the first Wednesday every month. Lunch (\$10) starts at 11:30 a.m.; the program begins at noon. Open to everyone.

Paid childcare workers sought

Wilshire is looking for childcare workers to work Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m., Friday mornings about once a month for MomCo meetings and occasional Friday evenings for Preschool Night Out. The pay is \$15 per hour. Candidates should contact Minister to Preschoolers Kelly Akins (kakins@wilshirebc.org).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Oct. 28: Family Dinner will feature a Halloween-themed menu and fun for the kids. Costumes optional!

Family Dinner

5 p.m. | Community Hall | Dinner and fellowship for all ages. Cash/check/credit accepted. See prices at wilshirebc.org/events/wnl. **Oct. 28 menu:** Sloppy joes, mummy dogs, deviled eggs, roasted cauliflower and mushrooms, salad, Halloween cupcakes, spooky jello.

Preschool Music & More

6 p.m. | Age 3–Pre-K | Preschool choir plus activities and lessons focused on God's love.

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. Includes choir for kindergartners.

Spookyshed

6:30 p.m. | Grades 6–12 | Halloween edition of Wilshire Student Ministry's Watershed.

Sanctuary Choir

7 p.m. | Choral Hall | New singers are always welcome. No audition.



Resident-Led Vespers: Changing of Seasons

6 p.m. | McIver Chapel | As we see and feel the physical changing of seasons around us in the leaves and the air, we also see and feel how life continuously changes around us, leading us through our own personal seasons of life. On Oct. 28, our pastoral residents will lead a Vespers service exploring these themes at 6 p.m. in McIver Chapel. All are welcome.

■ **Coming Nov. 4:** Resident's Choice resumes with Jordann McMahan leading.

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

Wilshire Welcome meets Nov. 8

Wilshire Welcome, a one-hour session to help guests and new members learn about the church, will meet Sunday, Nov. 8, at 9:45 a.m. in the Prayer Room near McIver Chapel. No RSVP needed; to learn more, contact Carolyn Murray at cmurray@wilshirebc.org.

Health experts to speak at Nov. 7 WOW brunch

“Filter The Noise: A Conversation about Women’s Health and Wellness” is the theme for a Women of Wilshire brunch on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9:30 a.m. to noon in James Gallery. A panel of nutrition, health and wellness professionals will be on hand to help us navigate the messages found on social media. \$15 per person. Register at wilshirebc.org/events/wow-brunch.

Women of Wilshire Book Clubs

■ **Brown Bag Book Club** | Thursday, Nov. 5 | Noon | 1205-L | *The Queens of Crime* by Marie Benedict. Contact: Carolyn Murray (cmurray@wilshirebc.org)

■ **Tuesday Evening Book Club** | Nov. 10 | 6:30 p.m. | 1205-G | *Dead Man Blues* by Silas House. Contact: Debby Burton (debbyb0929@gmail.com)

Next blood drive is Nov. 15

Carter Blood Care will hold a blood drive at Wilshire on Sunday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Their bus will be located on Ravendale Lane. Carter reports a critical need for blood types B-, AB+ and AB- and an urgent need for types O-, A- and platelets. Walk-ins welcome; appointments recommended. Sign up at wilshirebc.org/events/blood-drive.

Men’s Book Club

Tuesday, Nov. 17 | 7 p.m. | Parlor | *Notes From Underground* by Fyodor Dostoevsky. Contact: Scott Spreier (swspreier@gmail.com) or Mike Meripolski (meripolski@att.net)

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

NOVEMBER 13

Friday Night Live is about connection, fun and making time for what matters. Register for all events by Nov. 12.



Marriage Connections

6:30–9 p.m. | Marriage Connections begins in James Gallery with a brief presentation with ideas and insights couples can put to work in their relationship. Then the evening is yours. Go to dinner, grab coffee, run errands — or find a quiet place to talk. Open to married, partnered and dating couples with or without kids. Children can attend free Preschool or Kids Night Out.

Kids Night Out

6:30–9 p.m. | All kindergartners through fifth graders are invited to the church for a fun evening with friends. Free.

Preschool Night Out

6:30–9 p.m. | Fun activities and play time for preschoolers from birth to pre-K. Free.

wilshirebc.org/events/fnl

Future dates: Jan. 15, Feb. 12, April 9.



Wilshire at CenterPeace

The CenterPeace Conference, held Oct. 15–17 at First United Methodist Church downtown, brought together LGBTQ+ Christians, families, allies, and church leaders for worship, storytelling and workshops. In addition to sponsoring the event, Wilshire folks led in several ways: Timothy Peoples led a session called “Becoming Open and Affirming”; Chelsea Hopkins shared her story in a session called “Inspired by Faith: How Trans Christians Experience God’s ‘More;’” and Ariel Merivil served as a worship leader. CenterPeace was founded by Wilshire member Sally Gary.

This Week

Sunday, Oct. 25

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Risk Management Committee, Parlor, noon
- Children’s Choir Lunch, 2223, noon
- Deacon Nominating Committee, 1205-G, noon
- Children’s Choir, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 26

- Fall Prevention, 3101, 10:30 a.m.
- Wilshire Winds, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

- New Song, Choral Hall, 9:30 a.m.
- Family Dinner, Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- Preschool Music and More, 6 p.m.
- KidConnect, 6 p.m.
- Vespers, McIver Chapel, 6 p.m.
- Committee on Committees, 1205-G, 6 p.m.
- SLSA Steering Committee, 1205-L, 6 p.m.
- WSM Watershed, Youth Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Sanctuary Choir, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 29

- Knit Unto Others, 1205-G, 1:30 p.m.
- Faith Commons Screening: *The Others*, Choral Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 30

- MomCo, James Gallery, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 1

- Worship Service, McIver Chapel, 9 a.m.
- Columbarium Service, 9:30 a.m.
- Fifth Grade Sunday School Open House, 2230, 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- Worship Service, Sanctuary, 11 a.m.
- Children’s Choir Lunch, 2223, noon
- Youth Choir Lunch, Youth Center, noon
- Children’s Choir, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Choir, Choral Hall, 12:30 p.m.
- Carillon Ringers, Handbell Room, 1:30 p.m.



BLOOD *Drive*



Receive a
Plush Blanket*

Izzy
from **Plano, TX**
Blood Recipient



Sunday, November 15, 2026
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wilshire Baptist Church
Carter BloodCare Bus
4316 Abrams
Dallas, TX 75214

Linda Garner, PhD, RN
lgarner@wilshirebc.org

**Schedule an
appointment**



CarterBloodCare.org
800-366-2834 | Text CBCDonate to 999-777

*While supplies last. Appreciation gifts may be substituted for a different gift.



Join us for

Fall Prevention

Functional Movement, Balance, Strength

10 AM - 11:30 AM
Every Monday from
Oct. 19th to Nov. 23rd

Wilshire Baptist Church
4316 Abrams Rd, Dallas, TX
75214

Conducted by TWU Physical Therapy Students

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 McCrae'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.



Contemplative Worship

**WEEKLY AT 9 A.M.
MCIVER CHAPEL**



Childcare available for preschoolers