



**April 26, 2026**

*The Woodlands Reformed Church exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that the knowledge of the glory of God will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.*

# *The Service of Entrance*

## **\*Invocation**

**Psalm 92:1-2**

**Minister:** It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High

**People:** to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night

## **\*Hymn #230**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

## **\*Prayer of Adoration**

## **\*The Lord's Prayer**

**All:** 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 debts as we forgive  
our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil:  
for thine is the kingdom, and the  
power,  
and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

\*Please stand if you are able.

## Corporate Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

## Private Confession of Sin

### Declaration of Pardon

Psalm 42:5

Minister: Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you in turmoil within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my salvation

**People: Amen!**

Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: the maker of heaven and earth.**

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

**People: and our mouth will declare your praise.**

**\*Psalm 23A**

**The Lord's My Shepherd**

## Prayer for Christ's Church and the World

\*Please stand if you are able.

## **\*Gloria Patri**

**All:            Glory be to the Father,  
                  and to the Son,  
                  and to the Holy Ghost;  
                  as it was in the beginning,  
                  is now, and ever shall be,  
                  world without end.  
                  Amen, amen.**

## *The Service of the Word*

### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

### *The Nicene Creed*

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

## **\*The Passing of the Peace**

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Tithes and Offerings**



## **\*Doxology**

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures, here below;  
Praise him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Amen!**

## **\*Prayer of Dedication & Illumination**

### **\*Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 32**

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon Title**

*The Blessing of Confessing*

**\*Hymn #287**

*Lift High the Cross*

**\*Blessing**

\*Please stand if you are able.

# Announcements

## Sunday School: Basic Christianity

Our 12-week Sunday School journey titled "Basic Christianity: The Foundations of the Christian Faith" takes place at 9:30 AM, prior to the Sunday Service. Using the Nicene Creed as our guide, we'll dive deep into the core truths of the Gospel. It's the perfect time to invite a friend, ask those "big questions," and grow in our knowledge of the Christian faith.

## Women's Hebrews Bible Study | April 28, May 6

### Morning (weekly)

Join our weekly morning women's Bible study through the book of Hebrews on Tuesday, April 28 from 10 to 11:30 AM-12 PM. The women will meet at Marlys Mulky's home: 172 Silverwood Ranch Dr, Shenandoah, TX 77384.

### Evening (bi-weekly)

Join our bi-weekly evening women's Bible study through the book of Hebrews on Wednesday, May 6 from 6 – 7:30 PM. The women will meet at Alex Gray's home: 58 Lakeridge Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381.

## Men's Westminster Confession of Faith Study | April 29

Join us as we walk through the Westminster Confession, one of the most precise summaries of what the Bible teaches—not just for head knowledge, but to better know the God we serve—on Wednesday, April 29 from 7 – 8:15 PM at Zach Richmond's home: 6 Wild Ginger Ct, Spring, TX 77380. Whether you're a lifelong theology student or have never picked up a confession, you're welcome.

## Men's Ephesians Morning Bible Study | May 2

Join us on Saturdays at 7:00 AM at the Stollberg's home: 38 Beacons Light Place, The Woodlands, 77375 (please enter through the front door). The gathering begins with an optional breakfast from 7 – 7:30 AM. Then, from 7:30 – 8:00 AM, we will have our study and discussion and conclude with prayer. If you plan to attend, please register and join the men's group chat on Church Center. Men and their sons are encouraged to attend.

*Stay up-to-date by visiting [woodlandsreformed.org/events](https://www.woodlandsreformed.org/events).  
You can browse our church calendar, view event details, and register directly for events.*

# Order of Worship

Our service is intentionally structured to reflect reverence for God and His Word as we seek to glorify Him with our worship. Because our worship is intentionally trinitarian, our liturgy is composed of three parts: the Service of Entrance, the Service of the Word, and the Service of the Table.

## The Service of Entrance

The Service of Entrance centers on the redemptive work of God the Father. It begins with the Prayer of Invocation, in which we use God's Word to invoke His presence among His people. We then join voices to praise and adore God by singing a psalm or a hymn, and by praying the Lord's Prayer. In all of this, we are mindful of the great contrast between God's majesty and holiness, and of our sin and need for grace. For this reason, we confess our sin before our listening Lord, and we hear a declaration of pardon from God's Word. This leads us to rise from our seats as we joyously sing the Gloria Patri.

## The Service of the Word

The Service of the Word centers on the redemptive work of God the Son. It commences with a Prayer of Illumination, where we ask God to enable us to hear His voice as we proceed to read Scripture. During the sermon, the pastor faithfully expositis the text, proclaiming the saving work of Jesus Christ to the congregation. The congregation responds to the sermon by standing and singing the refrain from Lift High the Cross.

## The Service of the Table

The Service of the Table centers on the redemptive work of God the Holy Spirit. It begins when the congregation affirms its faith by reciting the Nicene Creed. Since we are not to approach the Lord's Table in an unworthy manner, we continue with the Prayer of Reliance on God's Mercy and with the Passing of the Peace. After this, we bring our tithes and offerings to God, and offer a prayer of dedication. This leads us to the formal eucharistic liturgy, beginning with the Great Thanksgiving, and continuing with the Fencing of the Table, in which the pastor welcomes to the table all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith, are resting and relying on Christ alone for salvation, and are members in good standing of a local Christian church. The liturgy then proceeds with the Words of Institution, the Invitation to the Lord's Feast, and the actual partaking of the Sacrament, in which the Holy Spirit enables believers to feed on Christ by faith – not in a physical manner, but in a real, spiritual manner. The service concludes with the singing of a psalm or hymn, and with a Benediction from God's Word.

## Liturgical Colors

Our liturgical colors, represented in the colored stole worn by the pastor throughout the service, serve as visual reminders of the Church calendar year, with specific colors used for certain seasons and occasions to magnify our sense of worship and symbolize theological truth.

### **White:**

Symbolizes joy, purity, and the glory of Christ. It is used for celebrating events in the life of Christ, such as Christmas, Easter, and the Ascension.

### **Green:**

Symbolizes life, our spiritual growth, and discipleship. It is used during Ordinary Time, in the weeks after Epiphany and Pentecost.

### **Red:**

Symbolizes the Holy Spirit, zeal, and sacrifice. It is used during Holy Week, Pentecost, and Reformation Sunday.

### **Purple:**

Symbolizes humility, preparation, and royalty. It is used during Advent and Lent.

## Fellowship Meal

It is our regular practice to celebrate a Fellowship Meal after the worship service. Whether you are a member or a visitor, we would love for you to stay and enjoy this fellowship meal with us on the Lord's Day!

# THE BLESSING OF CONFESSING: A JOURNEY THROUGH PSALM 32

From Misery to Delight: The Restorative Power of God's Forgiveness

## THE MISERY OF SILENCE



### The Weight of Unconfessed Sin

Silence leads to "wasted bones" and spiritual dehydration, like the heat of summer.



### The Heavy Hand of Grace

Internal agony is God's loving discipline intended to lead His children toward restoration.



### Failed Attempts to Hide

Secret sin is foolish because God knows our thoughts before we think them.



## THE PATH TO RELIEF

**Agreeing with God**  
Confession isn't informing God; it is seeing sin as the abomination He sees.



### Uncover and Acknowledge

True confession refuses to downplay sin or call it a more accident.

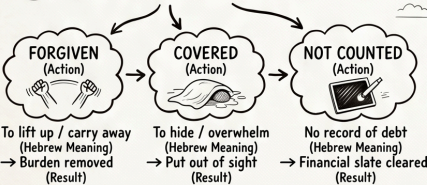


**Exposure is Life**  
Sin is like mold; it grows best in the dark.



## 100% COMPLETE FORGIVENESS

Sin is lifted away, put out of sight, and the debt record is cleared.



## THE MOUNTAIN OF DELIGHT



## The Meaning of "Blessed"



In Hebrew, this signifies "Happineses"—a plural, overflowing bundle of joy.

## From Criminal to Child

Forgiveness moves us from the courtroom to the Father's family table.



# THE JOY OF A CLEAN HEART: LEARNING FROM PSALM 32

## THE HEAVY HEART (THE PROBLEM)



SIN IS  
"MISSING  
THE MARK"  
(OR CHOOSING TO  
BREAK GOD'S GOOD  
RULES)



DRAINS YOUR  
STRENGTH &  
MAKES YOU  
MISERABLE



GOD ALREADY SEES  
(WE CAN'T HIDE!  
HE KNOWS OUR  
THOUGHTS BECAUSE  
HE LOVES US)



HIDING SIN  
FEELS LIKE BEING  
OUTSIDE IN THE  
HOT SUMMER  
SUN



MOUNTAIN-SIZED  
HAPPINESS!



## THE HAPPY HEART (THE SOLUTION)

PROCESS STEP:  
TELL THE  
TRUTH  
(CONFESS)



AGREEING  
WITH GOD  
(NOT MAKING  
EXCUSES)

100% FORGIVEN

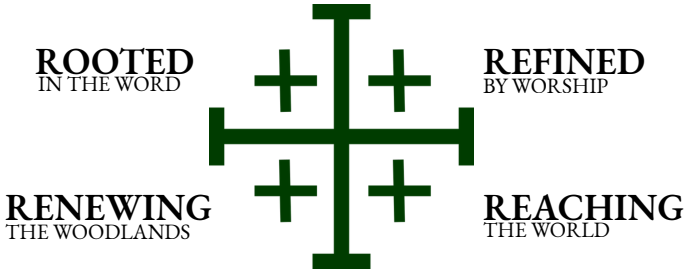
GOD LIFTS THE WEIGHT,  
PUTS SIN OUT OF SIGHT,  
& ERASES THE "DEBT"

GOD IS A HIDING PLACE



NOT A JUDGE  
TO FEAR, BUT A  
SAFE SHELTER  
WHO SURROUNDS  
US WITH LOVE

## VISION



The Woodlands Reformed Church envisions a vibrant, Christ-centered community rooted in the truth of God's Word, refined by the worship of the Triune God, renewing The Woodlands through gospel witness, and reaching the world with the hope of Christ.

## MISSION

The Woodlands Reformed Church exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that the knowledge of the glory of God will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

## MARKERS

Holiness | History | Hospitality | Hope

## MEANS

Scripture | Sacraments | Prayer | Fellowship

### Staff

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