
Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We welcome you to join us on a transformative journey.

Seeking God, we strive to know God and love God.

Serving others, we follow our Servant Savior to help bring fullness of life to others.

Sharing Christ's love with all we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ filled with joy and hope.

If you are a Miami student, we invite you to make this your church home away from home during your time at Miami.

Leonard Lunsford, Guest Pianist

Liturgist: Susan King

(Image on cover: "Christ in the Wilderness" by Russian artist, Ivan Nikolaevich Kramskoi, in 1872.)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR MISSION

Deacon's Food Drive
Oxford Presbyterian Women – Honored Women Award

PRELUDE

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
Charles Converse / arr. Fred Bock

CHORAL INTROIT

"You Are My All in All"
Dennis L. Jerrigan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here, at the outer limits of Lent,
we are called to walk:

All: **to the paper-thin edges which cut us to the soul;
to the workplaces which weary us;
to the people who confound us;
to the faith which never lets us go.**

Here, at the corner of Steadfast Love and Faithfulness,
we are called to wait:

**when our clenched stomachs awaken us;
in the moments of unbearable sorrow;
with the angels who would carry us.**

Here, where time is fulfilled,
where God's Kingdom is as near to us
as our neighbor,
we begin Lent:

**with the Beloved,
whose tears wash away our fears,
with Jesus who will not let go
of our hands.**

*HYMN – "Come Great God of All the Ages"

#309

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(An adaption from St. Augustine's *Confessions*, in which he laments his hesitant confession that then led to his embrace of faith in Jesus Christ.)

**Lord, late have I loved you,
beauty so ancient and so new,
late have I loved you!**

**Lo, you were within,
but I outside, seeking there for you,
and upon the shapely things you have made
I rushed headlong – I, misshapen.
You were with me, but I was not with you.
They held me back far from you,
those things which would have no being,
were they not in you.**

**You called, shouted, broke through my deafness;
you flared, blazed, banished my blindness;
you lavished your fragrance, I gasped;
and now I pant for you;
I tasted you,
and now I hunger and thirst;
you touched me,
and I burned for your peace.**

**When at last I cling to you with my whole being
there will be no more anguish or labor for me,
and my life will be alive indeed,
alive because filled with you. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**This Lent, God helps us
to examine our attachments,
and to sense where the Lord invite us
to live more simply and deeply.**

**This Lent, Jesus grants us the strength
to free ourselves from appetites and needs
that drive us into taking, having and wanting
more than we need or have time for.**

**This Lent, the Spirit teaches us that in letting go
we become free, rather than deprived,
generous rather than covetous,
and spacious rather than restricted.**

**Today we offer the Lord our Lenten observance,
and we place our feet on the road to Easter,
and walk the Way that Christ walked before us.
Amen.**

*SHARING THE PEACE

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children in Preschool through Grade 8
are dismissed to class following the children's message.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Shine upon us, God of glory,
And by your Spirit reveal to us
The grace and truth of Jesus Christ,
Your Word made flesh. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Mark 1:9-15

SERMON

"Called by the Lord of the Dance"

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*HYMN – "I Danced in the Morning"

#157

*A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (Parts 1, 2)

pg. 37

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Father, Forgive Us"
Pamela Martin and Craig Courtney

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN – "The Glory of These Forty Days"

#165

*BLESSING

**Step by careful step,
we journey through Lent
led by the Holy Spirit.
For this time of worship
has filled our hearts with story,
our mouths with prayer, and
our breath with song.
Thankful for companions by our side,
the Lord's love will sustain us
for the journey ahead.
Amen.**

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"Jesus, Remember Me"
Jacques Berthier

*POSTLUDE

"Because He Lives"
Bill Gaither / arr. Fred Bock

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Large-print bulletins and hearing assistance units are available from the ushers. **Please sign the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass them to your neighbors.**

Greeters: Nancy Moeckel and Karen Shearer

Acolyte: Bella Walter

The flowers on the communion table are given by Larry and Kathy Hardy in celebration of their 53rd Wedding Anniversary.

Mission Partners Prayer List:

Presbytery of the Miami Valley: Jamestown Presbyterian
Sister Churches: The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

Congregational Prayer Concerns: Betty Barnhart, Roberta Crain, Tracy DeGood, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Breanna Kinneman, Betty Reinhart, Jan Reinhart, Sarah Soika, Dave Wilson, Stacey Winn

Email prayer requests call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Stewardship and Finance Committee.

UPCOMING DATES:

Tuesday Afternoon Circle: The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will meet on February 20th with Special Guests Dave and Sue Wilson speaking about "Angels". After their talk, Lynn Cronk will be presenting the lesson, "Cloud of Witnesses the Community of Christ in Hebrews". The optional lunch at the Commons is at 12:00 p.m. with the Circle beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Country Kitchen. Visitors are always welcome.

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School for preschoolers through 5th graders TODAY. In lieu of Sunday school, Carol Klumb will be hosting a "Crafts with Carol" upstairs in the Geneva room for this age group.

The Honored Woman Award Deadline Drawing Near

Nominations are due by March 1 for the Honored Woman Award! Each year the Oxford Presbyterian Women present this award to a special woman who has dedicated her time and talent to the work of the church. The selection is made through nominations from the congregation. If you have seen or worked beside a woman who has faithfully served the Lord and His church, please send a letter of nomination to Pat Gifford, at gifforp@miamioh.edu, drop in my mailbox at church, or send to 6511 Morning Sun Rd., Oxford, 45056. A new letter of nomination is needed each year, even if a woman has been nominated previously. We are so grateful for the continued service of our Past Honored Women; however, the award is only given once to an individual. If you are unsure if a special woman has received the award previously, please contact Pat. Other members of the Honored Woman Committee are Johanna Reinhart and Carol Burkhalter will also gladly accept letters of nomination.

The Deacon's Lenten Food Drive: Please leave the donated items for the Oxford Choice Pantry in the Narthex, (the front entrance to the Sanctuary) from February 18 -March 24. Monetary donations can be made during offering by writing a check with "Deacon's Food Drive" in the note field or placing cash in a pew envelope with the "Deacon's Food Drive" on the front.

Items needed: "Big Three": Spaghetti, Tuna & Peanut Butter
Other Items: Canned meals (Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, Chef Boyardee). Varieties of cereal, canned fruit and vegetables.
Personal Care Items: Toilet paper, body wash, deodorant, shampoo and hair conditioner

Lenten Materials: As we prepare for Lent, materials are available in the Molyneaux Lounge. There are Lenten Calendars and devotionals for adults and children.

Spring Retreat: If your student is interested in attending Spring Retreat, you must fill out the Google Form by **Sunday, March 4**. The retreat is April 6-8 and takes place at Kirkmont Retreat Center. Sign-up link: <https://goo.gl/forms/hfN340zzdfBzcai52>

Summer Camp: The Youth Ministry at Oxford Presbyterian Church is offering an opportunity for students having completed grades 7-12 to attend the Presbyterian Youth Connection Camp at Kirkmont Center (PYC Jr. for those students having just completed 6th grade). From June 24-30, students will spend time engaged in activities within their selected track (Sports, Science, Art, Robotics or Music) and will learn more about their faith. Check out the Kirkmont Center website for more information. **Please email Mitch Hardy if your student is interested in attending by Sunday, March 4.**

Mission Trip: We are in need of **one male chaperone** for the 2018 Sr. High Mission Trip to Charleston, SC. If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to Mitch Hardy ASAP!

2018 World Day of Prayer All God's Creation is Very Good will be celebrated Sunday March 4, 3 to 5 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, February 18 First Sunday in Lent

9:00 Chancel Choir
10:00 Worship
10:20 Crafts with Carol
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux
7:00 Lent Study-Way of Life
Hostess: Ellen Buerk

Monday, February 19

7:00 Art Class (Seminary)

Tuesday, February 20 Newsletter Deadline

1:30 Tuesday Afternoon Circle (Knolls)
6:00 Dinner & Conversation with Stephen Keizer Presbyterian Foundation
8:00 Session (Molyneaux)

Wednesday, February 21

7:00 Deacons (Molyneaux)

Thursday, February 22

6:30 APNC (Molyneaux)
7:00 Youth Group (Seminary)
7:30 Chancel Choir (Geneva Room)

Friday, February 23

Saturday, February 24
10:00 A.A. (Molyneaux)

Sunday, February 25

9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday School
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux

First Sunday of Lent



Sunday, February 18, 2018



Oxford
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Church U.S.A.

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Find us on 