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# 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.*

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**\*Please rise in body or in spirit**      Liturgist: Janet Holmes

(Note on Image: The emblem of an Amsterdam civic orphanage with widows and orphans grouped around a descending dove, representing the Holy Spirit.)

## WE GATHER in GOD'S NAME

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION – Nominating Comm.      Buzz Green

PRELUDE      "As We Gather at Your Table"      arr. Donald Busarow

CHORAL INTROIT      "The Feast is Ready"      Graham Kendrick

**\*CALL to WORSHIP**

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

All: **We recognize the Lord as the source of all goodness.**

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, and gentleness are all of God.**

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who Jesus Christ is.

**We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

**\*HYMN** – "Come Sing, O Church in Joy!"      #305

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Jesus, you call us to be doers of the Word, not hearers only.

You call us to love the world with your passion, and to let that love be expressed in justice, forgiveness, and peace.

Forgive us when our hearts are constricted with fear and do not let your transforming grace open us to the world you cherish.

Forgive us when we honor you only with our lips and not with our actions. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Holy God, in Christ you have shown us the way into your Beloved Community of mercy, love and peace, in which you are making all things new.

We come to affirm our covenant and sacred promise to be in loving relationship with you.

Thank you for giving us life.

Open us, body, mind and spirit to your truth.

Fill us with your grace so we can fall in love with your world

and offer--and experience--forgiveness, reconciliation and hope.

Alleluia! 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**

O God, the Three in One, you draw us into your community of love with people across the ages and around the world.

By the same Spirit that binds us together speak to us that what we read and ponder may enliven us and inspire us to trust and follow you; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE**

A reading from Acts 6:1-9

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON** – "The World Around Us"      Pastor Lawrence

## WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**ANTHEM**      "An Invitation to Communion"      Deborah Govenor

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**INVITATION**

Do you want to have communion with me?

Everyone is welcome!

Everyone is accepted!

We come here to share Jesus' body and blood.

The bread represents Jesus' body and the juice represents Jesus' blood.

We come here to be more holy, to be closer to Jesus.

Come and eat with us!

One: (Singing) The Lord be with you.

All: **(Singing) And also with you.**

**Lift up your hearts.**

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

Gracious God, it is right to give you thanks.

We thank you for providing what we need in our lives...

So now, in gratitude, we join our voices to the children of your kingdom, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All: (Singing)

**Holy, Holy, holy Lord; God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

Thank you God, for Jesus...

for his wisdom and guidance...

for the way he taught us to live...

...send down your Holy Spirit upon us

and on these gifts of bread and cup

that they may become for us

the body and blood of Christ,

healing, forgiving,

and making us whole.

So, we lift up the prayers upon our hearts...

(Joys and Concerns will be offered up at this time.)

And now as your daughters and sons whom you have reconciled to yourself, we pray: *Our Father in heaven,*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

*(All are welcome to approach the communion stewards at the front or back of the sanctuary. Receive the gift of Bread, then dip it into the Cup. Please return to your seat by the outer aisles. If it's not comfortable for you to walk, a steward will joyfully offer you communion in your seat. The crackers on the communion plates are gluten free. Help yourself to these if you have a gluten allergy)*

**OFFERING**      "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"      arr. Frederick Frahm

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**HYMN** – "Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"      #546

**\*BLESSING**

Go back into the world assured of the

Lord's love for you and for us all.

Go back into the world with joy and energy to create

God's Beloved Community wherever you are.

**May the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation give us joy for the journey as we go to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ with our whole lives. Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**      "Go Now in Love and Peace"      Patrick M. Liebergen

**\*POSTLUDE**      "A Trumpet Alleluia"      Franklin D. Ashdown

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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:** Tom, Janet and Grady Holmes

**Mission Partners Prayer List:**

**Presbytery of the Miami Valley:** Southminster Presbyterian

**Sister Churches:** The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, John Curry, Tracy DeGood, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Breanna Kinneman, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Charles Skipper, Sarah Soika, Joan Teckman, Dave Wilson, Stacey Winn, John and Jean Woodruff

Email prayer requests to Janet Holmes, [holmest2@frontier.com](mailto:holmest2@frontier.com), call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

**Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Mission and Outreach.**

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**MINISTRY NEWS:**

**The Tuesday Evening Circle** will meet at the home of Jean O'Connell, 1277 Elizabeth Drive, Hamilton, OH on September 4 at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Karen Simpson, 523-8363 for more info.

**OPW Rummage Sale planning meeting:** Wednesday, September 5 at 10:00 a.m. in the Molyneaux Lounge.

**Mustard Seed Investment Group:** If you would like to join a small investment group of fellow congregants, learn a little about investing, and support mission giving, please consider joining the Mustard Seed Investment group. Join us September 5 at 7:30 at the Logsdon home, 5470 Brown Rd., Oxford. Call Joe Simpson, 523.8363 if you would like to discuss the group or arrange a ride.

**Sunday School Kickoff: September 9 is a BIG DAY!** We will be kicking off our Sunday school program and celebrating this new school year! OPC is also hosting a Confirmation class this year for all 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders, or any high school youth who have not yet experienced Confirmation. Also, on September 9 at 8:45 a.m., CE will be hosting a light breakfast for interested youth and parents/guardians.

**Welcome Back Picnic:** Welcome Back!! Miami Students, summer vacationers, new and continuing members of the congregation...EVERYONE is WELCOME!! Please join us for a celebration picnic after worship on Sunday, September 9 in the courtyard. LaRosa's finest pizza, salad, and cookies will highlight this time of food and fellowship. Bring a friend or two!!

\*\*\*\*\* (tear here) \*\*\*\*\*

Tear this portion of your bulletin and place in the offering plate or Administrative Assistant mailbox.

**Presbytery Stated Meeting at OPC - Tuesday, September 11**

**Presbytery meal:** if you plan to join us, please sign-up in the Molyneaux Lounge, September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Or fill out this portion of your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

Yes, I/we will be staying for the meal.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult Christian Education:**

- Lectionary Bible Study Called "Feasting on the Word" - begins Sunday, September 9 at 9:00-9:45 a.m. Meets twice a month -- every 2nd and 4th Sunday before church in the Preschool Room. Led by Mary Shinn.
- Emotionally Healthy Spirituality" - Informational meeting on Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Molyneaux Lounge. This will be an 8-week series (weekly commitment) beginning end of September through Thanksgiving. Led by Billie Maynard. Anyone in the choir who wants to be part of the study but can't make the informational meeting, please email the church office, [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org) if you are interested.

**Memorial Service:** A Service of Witness to the Resurrection of Tom Wilson will be held on Saturday, September 15 at 11:00 a.m. at OPC.

**The Tuesday Afternoon Circle** will meet on September 18<sup>th</sup> in The Knolls Country Kitchen at 1:30 p.m. If you wish lunch, please contact Rosemary Fisher by Friday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**CROP Hunger Walk:** Sunday, September 23, 12:30 p.m. at the Uptown Parks. Please see Prue Dana to sign up.

**Welcome, Miami Students!** Our church is offering Bed and Breakfast accommodations for Family weekend September 28-29, 2018 and for graduation 2019. Call the church office, 513-523-6364, for details.

**MINISTRY CALENDAR**

**Sunday, September 2**

- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00am MEF (Christian Ed. Office)
- 10:00am Worship
- 10:20am Crafts with Carol
- 11:10am Fellowship in the Molyneaux

**Monday, September 3**

Labor Day – Office Closed

**Tuesday, September 4**

- 5:30pm Worship & Music (2<sup>nd</sup> Pastor's Office)
- 6:30pm Trustees (Seminary)
- 7:30pm Tuesday Evening Circle

**Wednesday, September 5**

10:00am Rummage Team Meeting (Molyneaux)

**Thursday, September 6**

- 1:00pm Seminary Open House and Rededication Team Meeting (Molyneaux)
- 5:30pm Mission & Outreach (2<sup>nd</sup> Pastor's Office)
- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Geneva)

**Saturday, September 8**

10:00am A.A. (Molyneaux)

**Sunday, September 9**

- 8:45am Confirmation Breakfast Meeting (Art Classroom)
- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00am Lectionary Bible Study (Preschool Room)
- 10:00am Worship
- 10:20am Sunday School
- 11:10am Welcome Back Picnic (Courtyard)

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**Sunday, September 2, 2018**



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[oxfordpresbychurch.org](http://oxfordpresbychurch.org)

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