
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.*

***Please rise in body or in spirit** **Liturgist: Katie Curry**

(Image on cover: Chapel of Thanks-Giving in Dallas, Texas.
Chapel design by Philip Johnson and stained-glass design by
Gabriel Loire.)

WE GATHER in GOD'S NAME

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION – Cookie Walk / Advent Workshop Backpack Fundraiser

PRELUDES 'Flute of the Andes' by Faber
Amabel Jones (piano)

'Also sprach Zarathustra' by Richard Strauss
Gabriel Jones (piano) arr. Alfred

CHORAL INTROIT "Lord, Give Your Peace
Throughout Our Earthly Life"
Henry Purcell / arr. Hal H. Hopson

*CALL to WORSHIP

One: To the Thanksgiving table of plenty,

All: Come, thankful people, come!

To the kitchen where familiar hands
prepare with love,
Come, thankful people, come!

To the farm where calloused hands plant and tend,
Come, thankful people, come!

To the rich earth,
where roots stretch and seeds grow,
Come, thankful people, come!

To this service of worship and
praise of the Lord God of creation,
Come, thankful people, come!

***HYMN – "We Gather Together"** #336

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, hear our confession of our sins.

Sower of Creation,
We admit that we are not sure
where all our food comes from.

**We do not always know who prepared it,
or whether those who grow and prepare
our food have enough food themselves.**

To You, who crafted each of us by hand,
We confess that we do not always
care for our bodies,

**That we sometimes eat what is easy
rather than what is healthy,
and that in doing so we have
disrespected your gifts to us.**

Help us to appreciate the good food
you have provided for us,
Heighten our awareness of the ways we benefit
From labor in farm and factory,
**Remind us of the miracle that brings us
nourishment each day,
And make us truly thankful
today and every day. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us pray:
We haven't always trusted you, Christ.
But now we do.

**We acknowledge the richness of your blessings
we see your flowing river of love
and we wade into your grace.**

**In this beloved community,
we know that your everlasting faithfulness
reaches out to each and every one of us
to give us hope for a better harvest
in the changing seasons of our lives.
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

**Holy Spirit, settle our hearts and minds as we read
the scriptures today. Help us to hear them in a new
way. May our meditations and actions be acceptable
to our Lord God and may the peace of Christ be with
us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Revelation 22:1-6

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 – "Real, Relevant & Reformed: Pastor Lawrence
For the Healing of the Nations"

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***HYMN – "O Holy City, Seen of John"** #374

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "A Jubilant Thanksgiving"
Jean Anne Shafferman / arr. Patti Drennan

(This Anthem concludes with the first verse of "Now Thank We All
Our God" p.643 in the Hymnal. The congregation is invited to join
the choir in the singing of this hymn.)

LITANY FOR THE OFFERING OF LETTERS

Our hearts desire to be in right relationship
with God and one another.
Therefore, we advocate to our
lawmakers to support a budget
that invests in programs that move people
out of hunger and poverty. Let us act with a
mind and heart for justice, love, and mercy.
**Lord, teach us to respond with your justice, love,
and mercy in our endeavors.**

Lord, source of wisdom, ensure in each of us
Gathered, the desire to speak with authenticity,
compassion, and directness to change structures
in place that keep people hungry.
**Lord, teach us to respond with your justice, love,
and mercy in our endeavors.**

Jesus Christ, source of abundance, we pray for those who
today will not have enough food to sustain themselves,
their families, their neighbors.
Challenge us to live in the spirit of
your abundance to sustain and provide for all.
**Lord, teach us to respond with your justice, love,
and mercy in our endeavors.**

Holy Spirit, source of life,
may our call to stewardship be a worthy testament
to what is most important in your heart:
the care and protection of your most vulnerable people.
**Lord, teach us to respond with your justice, love,
and mercy in our endeavors. Amen**

***HYMN – "O for a World"** #372

*BLESSING

Go now as children of the light:

**Ready to serve,
Eager to give,
Delighted to love.**

**As we celebrate this Thanksgiving,
May the depth of our gratitude give us hope
To work toward a better harvest of the ground
And fruits of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, Amen!**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Peace, I Give to You"
Michael Larkin

***POSTLUDE**

Choral from Cantata No. 79,
"Now We Thank We All Our God"
J.S. Bach

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: Cia Beal and Jane Kelly

Acolyte: Abby Curry

The flowers on the communion table are given by Candace Crist with grateful thanks to Lynn Jacobs, Kent Peterson and all of the church musicians.

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Robert and Marjorie Smith on behalf of the Worship and Music Committee.

***** (tear) *****
Please place this portion of your bulletin in the offering plate or Administrative Assistant mailbox.

Cookie Walk: Saturday, December 1 ~ Molyneaux Lounge

I will...bake cookies ___ make candy ___ donate crafts ___
Assist Prue (SERRV gifts) ___
Café Hostess 10am ___ 11am ___ Noon ___
Cashier Assistant ___ Customer Helper 10-11:30 ___ 11:30-1pm ___
Receive Cookies Friday November 30
11am ___ Noon ___ 1pm ___ 2pm ___ 3pm ___
Contribute Christmas items for re-sale ___ Help clean up at 1pm ___

Name: _____ Phone: _____

***** (tear) *****
Please place this portion of your bulletin in the offering plate or Administrative Assistant mailbox.

Special Music Fund and Poinsettias: Please use this form to order a flower or contribute to the special music fund. Checks should be marked for flowers or the Special Music Fund. **The cost of the poinsettias this year will be \$16.50**

_____ Poinsettia (Cost \$16.50) _____ Special Music Fund
_____ Donate Poinsettia to Deacons

Dedication to be put in bulletin:

Paid by check (no.) _____ or Cash _____

Signature _____

Last day to order is Wednesday, December 5, 2018

MINISTRY NEWS:

Bread for the world Offering of Letters: Stop in the Molyneaux Lounge following service to write letters for Bread for the world. Sample letters and pens and letter writing materials are all available.

Baptism Anniversary: On November 19, we will join the Todd family, Matt, Molly, Owen, and Aiden, in celebrating the first anniversary of Aiden's baptism.

Tuesday Afternoon Circle: The Afternoon Circle will meet November 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the Country Kitchen at the Knolls. Visitors and guests are welcome!

Safe Haven Farms: It's time to do some decorating at Safe Haven Farms! Sunday, November 25 at 1:30 p.m. This is an annual event for our church as our elves drive out to Middletown to decorate the community room with holiday attire. Please let Karen Shearer know if you can help.

Mitten Tree: Beginning Sunday, November 25 and lasting through December 16 the Annual Mitten Tree will be in our sanctuary. Help provide a Christmas gift to a needy child in Oxford. Please take a mitten from the tree. Questions? Contact Karen Shearer.

Backpack Food Program: Many children who receive free and reduced-price school meals are left without the nutrition they need on the weekends and holiday breaks. The Backpack Program, a partnership between St. Mary's and the Shared Harvest Food Bank, aims to reduce this nutrition gap by discreetly supplying 175 students from Kramer, Bogan and Marshall schools with a bag of food each Friday throughout the school year. The cost to sponsor one student for a year is \$50, though any amount is welcome. Checks can be made to OPC with "Backpack Food" in the memo line. This is a Mission and Outreach Committee collaboration with St. Mary's as we address local food insecurity. Any questions, please contact St. Mary's at 523-2153.

Advent Workshop: Sunday, December 2 at 11:30 a.m. ~ Seminary Building. Come and have some fun designing your own Make-n-Take crafts.

Youth Mission Trip Chili Lunch: Seminary Building ~ Sunday, December 2 at 11:30 a.m. Tickets \$5 per person or \$20 per family. All funds benefit youth mission trips.

Kiwanis request for Salvation Army Bell Ringers: There is a need for "Bell Ringers" during the Christmas season in support of the annual Salvation Army Red Kettle drive. Numerous 1-hour shifts remain available. Simply go to www.oxfordkiwanis.org, click on volunteer opportunities, and sign up for a vacant shift or shifts. This is a great experience to share with children and grandchildren. All proceeds are directed the Oxford Family Resource Center.

* * * * *

Oxford Presbyterian Church

For a full ministry calendar, please visit:

<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>

Lawrence H. Bartel, Pastor Julia R. Fisher, Clerk of Session

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, November 18, 2018



Oxford Presbyterian Church
U.S.A.

101 North Main Street | Oxford, Ohio 45056
513-523-6364 | office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on