
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.

Liturgist: Joy Russell

(Image on cover: Dove ascending from the Jordan River at the traditional site of Jesus' baptism. Photo by Greg Hughes on the Mosaic of Peace, May 2018)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Baptized and Set Free"
setting, Jacob B. Weber

CHORAL INTROIT

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"
John C. Ylvisaker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sisters and brothers, today we recall:
Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

**All: In baptism, our Creator claims us
and frees us from the power of hatred and death.**

In baptism we are joined to Christ
and we are joined together in unity, recalling

**"There is no longer Jew or Greek
there is no longer slave or free
there is no longer male or female
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."**

In baptism, the Spirit of God anoints us for ministry
and makes us signs of divine love.
It is the mark of acceptance into the church
and the beginning of our growth
into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**Therefore on this day,
the whole church, the Body of Christ,
remembers and celebrates.**

Let us worship God!

***HYMN** – *"Out of Deep, Unordered Water"*

#484

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus our Christ, we confess that too often
we live as though we are fearful, not faithful.**

**When we encounter the waters
of chaos and confusion,
we don't easily pass through them,
but we obsess about the height of the water
instead of the sight of the other side.**

**You promised to walk
through the rivers with us.
Help us believe.
And help our unbelief.**

Forgive us once more, O Lord, amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Thus says the Lord who created you
and formed us in God's image:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you."

This is the good news!

**Truly, each one is Christ's beloved.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

*SHARING THE PEACE

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT
Invitation*

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

And so I ask you,
will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?
**We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of our sin.**

Will you let the Spirit use you
as prophets to the powers that be?
**We accept the freedom and power God gives us
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves.**

Will you proclaim the good news
and live as disciples of Jesus Christ,
members of his body on earth?
**We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior,
put our whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as our Lord,
in union with the church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water
The Spirit of the Lord is with us.
Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Let us pray.
O God, the life you birthed in us by baptism
into Jesus Christ will never die...
... Speak to us once more your great good news of life,
and pour into us afresh your love, stronger than death,
until we can all rise, and each in our own voice proclaim,
I am a child of God.

**Come upon us, Holy Spirit!
Come upon these waters.**

Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy.
**Let these waters remind us of your
righteousness and justice.**

Let these waters renew in us the
resurrection power of Jesus.
**Let these waters fill us with hope
for your now and coming reign.**

Most Holy God!
Glory to you!

Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!
Glory to you!

Spirit of fire, Spirit over the waters, Spirit of holiness!
Glory to you!

Eternal God, One in Three and Three in One!
All glory is yours, now and forever. Amen!

*All are invited to come to the baptismal font
dip your hands into the water,
and renew your baptismal vows
with joy and thanksgiving.
Please take a stone to remind you
of this reaffirmation of your baptismal covenant.*

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak with authority in our lives, Christ.

**Speak to us, and to what is in us,
so that we might be whole.**

**Speak to us, with love,
with hope and with strength,
so that we might hear you,
and know, deep inside,
that we are your people,
and that you are our God. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Luke 3:15-22

Holy wisdom, holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE – "What do I want to give myself to?" Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***HYMN** – "Take, O Take Me as I Am" (sung three times) #698

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Down to the River to Pray"
Traditional American, arr. Sheldon Curry

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN** – "Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing" #475

***BLESSING**

Remember this week whose you are. And remember,
"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you."
Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God!
Alleluia! Amen.

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Amen"
Traditional African-American

***POSTLUDE** "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"
arr. Kenneth T. Kosche

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 our neighbors.**

Greeters: Jack and Pat Gifford

Acolyte: Eric Staley

The flowers on the communion table are given by Joe and Kate Wespiser in celebration of 65 years of marriage.

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

Email prayer request to Janet Holmes, holmest2@frontier.com, call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org.

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Lisa Brunckhorst and Candace Crist on behalf of the Elders of Session.

MINISTRY NEWS

Tuesday Afternoon Circle: The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will meet on January 15 in the Country Kitchen at 1:30 p.m. Visitors and guests are always welcome.



TODAY - SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND INFORMATIONAL MEETING: The Spirit of Scotland, an eight-day guided tour exploring our sacred heritage, led by Pastor Lawrence in coordination with Rev. James Wallace (Church of Scotland). Ecumenical and welcoming, interested friends and neighboring

congregations are invited to join us in May 2020 for this exciting spiritual journey.

Tour Informational Meetings: TODAY - Sunday, January 13, at 11:30 a.m., and Thursday, January 24, at 6:30 PM, in The Seminary.

Inquiries can be addressed to the following:
Rev. Lawrence Bartel, pastorlawrence@oxfordpresbychurch.org;
Ellen Buerk, ebuerk@hotmail.com, or Will Hazleton, hazletwa@miamioh.edu

Updating our Picture Directory! If you are new members and aren't in the directory, if you missed having your picture taken last time, if you have had a life change, if you are a student affiliate, or just want a new picture ...we've got you covered. We are updating our picture directory! Lifetouch photographers will be at the Seminary, Saturday, February 16th from 11:30 to 5:00. You can register for your appointment online now by going to <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/ykh4g8yx/>. MEF members will also be available to register you after worship on Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, and 10. Register soon, as we only have one day for photography sessions.

Please note that those of you currently in the directory do not need to have pictures taken again.

In addition to new and updated pictures, we will be able to add new information and make corrections to the current directory. If you have changes, please contact Bridgite Dickerson in the Church office at 523-6364. All those in the directory will get a new copy with the additions later this year.

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Oxford Presbyterian Church
for a full ministry calendar, please visit:
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>

Lawrence H. Bartel, Pastor
Marcel van Bulck, Associate Pastor

Baptism of the Lord



Sunday, January 13, 2019



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on