

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.

Jack Liles, Guest Conductor

Liturgist: Steve Flee

(Image on cover: A level plain near the Sea of Galilee perhaps not so different from the one where Jesus might have preached in this morning's Scripture reading.)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION – M&O Introducing TOPSS
(Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services)

PRELUDE "Our Hope, Our Life"
arr. Raymond H. Haan

CHORAL INTROIT "Come, Let Us Joyfully Sing"
Allen Pote

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

**All: Creator God,
This is the day that you have made!
This is the day you have called Holy:
Sabbath day, a rest day, a time-out,
out of the world and into your presence:
a day for rejoicing.**

**Make us glad this morning in the house of the Lord.
Remove from us our distractions, our heart-worries,
our to-dos and should-haves and
all the constant stress & strain.
And in its place, Jesus Christ, give us more of you.
Here in your House, our hearts are filled with peace
our mouths with laughter,
our tongues with shouts of joy.**

**Fill us to brimming and overflowing
with the joy of the Lord:
A good measure of the Holy Spirit, pressed down,
shaken together and running over.
We are glad, yes, we are glad indeed,
to be together in the House of the Lord!**

***HYMN – "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"** #610

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: O Lord, strength is commanding
the wind and sea to obey,
Strength is standing firm
in the face of a raging giant.
Strength is accepting vulnerability
from inside the boat.
Strength is standing in solidarity
with the powerless.
Strength is praying for our enemies
and those who wish us ill.

**All: Jesus, take from us the tension that makes peace
impossible for the spiritual journey inward.
Take from us the fears that do not allow to answer
your call on the missional journey outward.**

**Take from us the worries that blind our sight.
Take from us the distress that hides your joy.**

**Help us to know
that we are forgiven,
that we are with you,
that we are in your care,
that we are in your love.
Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Family of God,
lift up your spirits with thanksgiving to the Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
All who have come clean and sought forgiveness
shall never need to revisit old shame again.
The untarnished future is in Jesus Christ
and it is now offered to you with open hands.
You are forgiven, all things have become new!

**O give thanks to God who is so good,
whose love goes on forever!
Thanks be to God! 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

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 6:27-38

Holy wisdom, holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE – "Weaving the Golden Rule into the Stories We Live" Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***HYMN – "Why Should I Feel Discouraged?"** #661

***THE APOSTLES' CREED** pg. 35

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Shall We Gather at the River"
Robert Lowry, arr. Hal H. Hopson

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN – "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"** #182

***BLESSING**

As people of faith we have gathered for worship.
As people of faith we now return to the world.

Go out to share the story of faith,
the story of life, with the world around you.
**We share the faith in word and in deed,
in speech and in action.**

**As we go out to give a living witness,
as we go out to testify to Jesus'
love active in the world,
we go knowing that the Holy Spirit goes with us,
sharing the laughter and the hope,
the fears and the tears.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "A Parting Blessing"
J. Jerome Williams

***POSTLUDE** March on the Old Hundredth Psalm Tune
Brenda Portman

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: Gene and Jan Krebs

Acolyte: Gabriel Jones

The flowers on the communion table are given by Jo and Jan
Reinhart in loving memory of their mother, Betty Reinhart.

*Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Katie Payne and Sue
Skillings on behalf of Stewardship & Finance Committee.*

MINISTRY NEWS

Greyfriars Bobby – Seminary Cinema: Join us TODAY - Sunday, February 24 in the Sanctuary of the Seminary Church for this film for ALL ages. This handicap accessible facility is located at the corner of Church and Poplar at 104 E. Church St. Pre-film discussion begins at 3:30 p.m. Film starts at 4 p.m.

MEF Hosts Food, Fun & Fellowship!!! Everyone is welcome to STAY for a potluck TODAY - February 24, following the Sunday Seminary Cinema family-friendly movie, *Greyfriars Bobby*. Bring your crock pot creation, side dishes, or dessert to the Seminary kitchen prior to the movie.

Church Services at The Knolls: Recent church services on DVD will be shown at 10:00 on Tuesday, February 26.

The Honored Woman Award 2019: Each year, Oxford Presbyterian Women present the Honored Woman Award to one or two women who have faithfully, willingly, and joyfully given their time and talents to the work of the church. Please consider thoughtfully any woman in our congregation whom you admire for their organizational skills, ability to lead or teach, willingness to participate regardless of task, and dedication to assisting those in need. Then write a letter of nomination detailing her work and send it to Jo Reinhart at jreinhart16@woh.rr.com, or mail it to 175 Stone Creek Drive, Oxford OH 45056. **The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2019.**

World Day of Prayer: All are invited to attend the Church Women United World Day of Prayer, Sunday, March 3, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Oxford United Methodist Church, 14 N. Poplar.

Pancake Dinner Fundraiser: Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be on Tuesday, March 5, 5:00-7:00pm, Seminary building, \$5/person or \$20/family. This is our youth's biggest fundraiser! Tickets can be purchased after worship service in the Molyneaux Lounge TODAY, next Sunday, March 3 or at the door on Tuesday, March 5. Visit our website to pay online: <https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/news-events/>

Ash Wednesday: Please join us for our Ash Wednesday worship service March 6th in the Seminary Building. We will gather together for a soup and bread supper in the Community Room at 5:30 p.m. with worship to follow in the Sanctuary at 6:15 p.m.

Kirkmont Sunday at Oxford Presbyterian Church: Join us on Sunday, March 17, to learn about the impact Kirkmont has on Youth that attend camp during the summer. Amanda Arks will be giving reflections on the transfiguration of Jesus and how Kirkmont Center shaped her own and others transfiguration. After service we will be having an informational meeting about summer camp 2019, in the 3rd-5th grade Sunday School classroom. All are welcome to the meeting. There are camps for all ages; children, adults, and families. Come join us to learn more about programming, dates, rates, and any other questions you might have! If you are unable to attend and would like more information, contact our Youth Director, Jake Smithers, at youth@oxfordpresbychurch.org.

Altar Flowers: Altar flowers are needed for March 31st and April 28th. Please sign up on the Flower Calendar next to the Molyneaux Lounge or contact Marge Smith (523-3895). The cost is \$20. It can be put in an offering envelope, labelled with name and purpose.

TOPSS: New building. New mission. New name. The Oxford Community Choice (OCCP) pantry is evolving into something bigger, better, and more visionary! Join us for worship on Sunday, March 10 to learn more about solving the problem of food insecurity. Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS) is about surviving and thriving in the community. Everybody eats!

OPC Lenten Study 2019:

Join in an exploration of Spiritual Practices

Spiritual Practices to Listen for the Voice of God...
Keeping the Sabbath between Sundays

Meeting times: Sundays, 11:30-1 PM, Seminary Church

- March 10 – Allyship and Activism as Spiritual Practice
- March 17 – Pilgrimage / Thin Places
- March 24 (labyrinth at OPC) – Walking the Labyrinth
- March 31 (labyrinth at OPC) – Meditation
- April 7 - Lectio Divina
- April 14 (Palm Sunday) – Caring for All Creation

Details: These will be informal sessions with lots of active group participation, suitable for mature middle schoolers and up. Childcare for younger children will be provided in the Memorial preschool and nursery areas. As it is over the lunch hour, please feel free to bring your lunch and eat it during the presentation. Beverages provided. **Join in and learn about Christian Spiritual Practices to deepen faith.**



Spirit of Scotland 2020: The Spirit of Scotland, an eight-day guided tour exploring our sacred heritage, led by Pastor Lawrence Bartel and Rev. Jim Wallace. Ecumenical and welcoming, interested friends and neighboring congregations are invited to join us in May 2020 for this exciting spiritual journey. A brochure, with the dates, itinerary, costs, booking form, and credit card payment information, is available on the OPC homepage: <https://oxfordpresbychurch.org>. Click on "Spirit of Scotland" under News, Events, and Calendar. **Informational Meeting:** Sunday, March 10, immediately after service in the Molyneaux Lounge.

Inquiries can be addressed to the following: Rev. Lawrence Bartel, pastorlawrence@oxfordpresbychurch.org, (315) 369-5225; Ellen Buerk, ebuerk@hotmail.com, or Will Hazleton, hazletwa@miamioh.edu, (513) 461-1812

* * * * *

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

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

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



Sunday, February 24, 2019



**Oxford
Presbyterian
Church**
U.S.A.

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

oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on 