
Welcome, we're glad you joined us!

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.

Mary Alice Mawer, guest pianist
Sherrie Skipper, liturgist

(Image on cover: Pilgrims' boots in O'Cebreiro on the Camino de Santiago. Photo by Elliott Jones Boyle.)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – *"For the Beauty of the Earth"* arr. Laurence Lyon

CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 8:1-5)

One: O Lord, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: **You have set your glory above the heavens**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;

**What are human beings
that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor!

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

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life, and health, and peace.**

**Christ speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice;
the poor in heart believe.**

**My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.**

PRAYER of CONFESSION (Romans 8:12-25)

**Merciful God,
your creatures cry—creation groans—
but we turn away;
we surround ourselves with noise.
We are quick to excuse ourselves
from responsibility:
we are young; we are old;
we are tired; we are busy.
It is hard to imagine
that we might make a difference.**

**Life-giving God, wash us clean.
Restore our imaginations and our hearts.
Let your courage and compassion
flow through our veins
until we love with abandon
and our hands reach out in blessing,
for the creation waits
with eager longing for the
revealing of the children of God. Amen.**

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Sisters and brothers, hear the word of the Lord.
In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
God says unequivocally, irrevocably:
you are my own;
you are forgiven;
and I need you to be about my business in the world.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Holy One,
you love with a father's tenderness,
a mother's zeal.
Move now in our hearts.
Breathe through the words we hear,
the songs we share,
the burdens we carry,
until we discover our purpose in
your liberating love,
for we long to join creation's praise
and to shine with the mercy of the Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Genesis 28:10-19a

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON – *"The Impossible Journey:*

When God Walks Into the Room"

Pastor Marc

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN – *"Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being!"* (vs. 1-3) #34

**Bless the Lord, my soul and being!
Lord my God, you have such might.
Cloaked with honor, grand and glorious,
you are clothed with purest light.
Stretching out the heavens like tent cloth,
you are chambered on the deep.
Riding on the wings of windstorm,
flame and fire your bidding keep.**

**Lord, you laid the earth's foundation
that it would be always sound.
By the word of your commanding,
you set forth each ocean's bound.
Springs gush forth at your own bidding,
giving drink to every field.
Bird and beast and all your creatures
in that coolness find thirst healed.**

**Grass you cause to grow for cattle,
plants for us to cultivate.
Food you bring forth from our labor,
wine for joy and bread for plate.
Trees you give the birds for shelter,
mountain rock and cave for beast.
Sun and moon both mark the seasons;
in their light we work and feast.**

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

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING –

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" arr. Jerry Van Der Pol

Click here <https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/-/give/now>
to give online

PRAYER of DEDICATION

HYMN – *"Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being!"* (vs. 4-5) #34

**Lord, how great are all your workings;
wisdom marks them through and through.
All the earth is your possession;
great and small belong to you.
Food you give in each due season;
at your hand come all good things.
By your Spirit you create us;
Lord, your breath renewal brings.**

May your glory reign forever.
Lord, rejoice in all you make!
As you look on your creation,
mountains smoke, foundations shake.
May these words and thoughts be pleasing,
for in you my joy is found.
Bless the Lord, my soul and being!
With this song let praise abound.

BLESSING

Sisters and brothers,
however dark the night gets—
whatever you have stolen or squandered—
know that you are held by a love like this:

The Creator who made us claims us in covenant love.

The Redeemer who died for your sake lives again
by the word of God;

**The Sustainer of all creation yet breathes courage
into our hearts.**

Sisters and brothers, the triune God still traffics in mercy.
We serve, then, with boldness and joy!

POSTLUDE Presto from *Organ Concerto No. 5*
G. F. Handel

The flowers on the communion table are given by Scott and Nancy Parkinson in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary on June 30.

Congregational Concerns

Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, Joan Teckman, Stacey Winn, John & Jean Woodruff.

Email request to Judy Fisher, fisherrh@miamioh.edu, or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org.

MINISTRY NEWS:

Summer Small Group Book Discussions

- **"Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning."** Join us for a special discussion for MS/HS youth, parents, and community members. Wednesday night, July 22 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

If you are interested in participating, please contact [Pastor Marc](#).

- **"I'll Push You"** is an inspirational exploration of the true meaning of friendship and generosity. It is the story of Justin and Patrick, two friends who embark on an 'Impossible Journey' when Patrick agrees to push his lifelong best friend Justin in a wheelchair across the 500-mile pilgrimage of the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain.

Join us for a fellowship-oriented discussion on the book *Sunday*, August 9 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. With extra copies of the book available and a thematic approach in which you may share your reflections on as much or little of the reading as you wish, it's not too late to let us know of your interest in participating. Simply contact [Pastor Lawrence](#) for more details.

August Newsletter

Please share for the August newsletter, deadline July 20, fun things you have been able to do during the pandemic. Did you hike in the woods, read a good book, have a picnic at social distance, wear out the dog walking, make a permanent dent in your lay-z-boy, invent something cool? Send your stories to Nancy Moeckel (moeckenj@miamioh.edu).

The Voice

Are you receiving "The Voice from Church and Main" every Friday? This e-newsletter is great way to connect and stay up-to-date on the latest ministry information throughout the pandemic. Contact the church office (office@oxfordpresbychurch.org) to sign up or track down a missing edition.

School Bags

Church World Service School Bags may be picked up at the church. Contact Prue Dana (513-462-3404) if you would like to fill a bag that gives children in impoverished schools, refugee camps, or other difficult settings some of the basic tools for learning.

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

Lawrence Bartel, Pastor
Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor
Kent Peterson, Music Director
Lynn Jacobs, Organist

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, July 19, 2020



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on