
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.

Judy Schiller, Liturgist

(Image on cover: October's Stewardship Focus on the second aspect of our congregation's mission "Serving Others." See the article in "Ministry News" for more information.)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT for STEWARDSHIP

PRELUDE

"Praise the Almighty!"
Setting, Robert J. Powell

CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 100)

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness.
Come into God's presence with singing!

**All: For the Lord is a gracious God,
whose mercy is everlasting;
and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.**

HYMN – *"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"* #1

**Holy, holy, holy
Lord God Almighty!**
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy!
merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!
all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim
falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy!
merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

PRAYER of CONFESSION

(from the Confession of 1967)

The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ exposes the evil in people as sin in the sight of God. In sin, people claim mastery of their own lives, turn against God and each other, and become exploiters and despoilers of the world. They lose their humanity in futile striving and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation.

Wise and virtuous men and women through the ages have sought the highest good in devotion to freedom, justice, peace, truth and beauty. Yet all human virtue, when seen in the light of God's love in Jesus Christ, is found to be infected by self-interest and hostility. All people, good and bad alike, are in the wrong before God and helpless without God's forgiveness. Thus everyone falls under God's judgment. No one is more subject to that judgment than those who assume they are guiltless before God or morally superior to others.

God's love never changes. Against all who oppose the divine will, God expresses love in wrath. In the same love, God bore judgment and shameful death in Jesus Christ, to bring all people to repentance and new life. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

(from the Brief Statement of Faith)

Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.
Alleluia! Amen!

A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

*Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands –
O prosper the work of our hands!" (Psalm 90:17)*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**God of grace and glory,
give us ears to hear your story
in these words of Scripture;
give us eyes to see your story
in the faces of those that surround us;
and give us faith enough, that by your grace,
we might serve you until the end of our days. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON – *"Summons to Faith"*

Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN – *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

#275

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.**

**That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.
His Kingdom is forever.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING – "Offertory" John Ness Beck
Aaron Garner, soloist

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

PRAYER of DEDICATION

HYMN – "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #306

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear.
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.**

**When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

BLESSING (from the *Carmina Gadelica*, an anthology of prayers
from the Scottish Hebrides)

May God's blessing be with you,
**and the blessing of God be with you,
the blessing of the saints be with you
and the peace of the life eternal,
unto the peace of life eternal.
Amen.**

POSTLUDE "A Mighty Fortress" Martin Luther
Setting by K. Lee Scott

The special arrangements on the communion table are given in
celebration of the 195th birthday of the Oxford Presbyterian
Church by the members of the 175th Committee.

Congregational Concerns

Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger Cromer, John Curry, Bob
Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Sean Krueger, Ruth Miller,
Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, Don Snow, John &
Jean Woodruff.

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

MINISTRY NEWS:

October Stewardship Focus on "Serving Others"

Oxford Presbyterian Women's commitment to mission is quite
simply extraordinary. Through mission giving and fundraisers
OPW serves others through generous support of mission partners
in the community and around the world. A favorite OPW
fundraiser is the Cookie Walk. This event in early December
features handcrafted cookies and specialty candy made by the
wonderful bakers and artisans in our congregation. Fairly traded
coffee, tea, and gifts from SERRV round out this sweet mission
fundraiser that deepens our congregational commitment in
"Serving Others."

**"Faith and Science" at Youth Group!
Social Distance Cinema - "Cosmos: The Immortals"**

Youth Group will be meeting in the sanctuary of the Seminary
Building Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. as we continue our 3-week
series, "Faith and Science." This week is Social Distance Cinema
with a special screening of "Cosmos: The Immortals" starring
astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse-Tyson with a short discussion to
follow.

*Please note: all seating in the Seminary Building will be spaced
apart for social distancing. Facial coverings are required! In
observance of safety precautions, we will not be serving dinner,
so be sure to eat ahead of time!*

The following Sunday, November 1st, Dick Munson will be leading
the Youth Group in a Walk in the Woods at Hueston Woods. Check
your e-mail this weekend for details. If you would like to be
added to the Youth Ministry e-mail chain, please contact Pastor
Marc.

Confirmation Class on Monday night! Confirmation class will
be meeting at Carrie Ann Sharitt's on Monday night at 7:45 p.m.
(3751 Darrtown Rd, second barn on the right). We will be
meeting outside and social distancing. Facial coverings are
required! Please dress warmly. If you would like to learn more,
please contact [Pastor Marc](#).

New Member Experience This Fall! If you are interested in
learning more about membership at Oxford Presbyterian Church,
we invite you to join us for a New Member Experience facilitated
by Pastor Marc. We will be meeting in the downstairs community
room of the Seminary Building (as well as over Zoom for those
who would prefer to connect virtually) on November 8 and 15 at
11:30 a.m. New Member Sunday will be held on November 22. If
you would like to attend the meeting in person or over Zoom,
please contact the church office to sign-up so that we can help
connect you in the way that best meets your needs.

Special Congregational Meeting: On Sunday, November 8,
OPC will hold a Special Congregational Meeting immediately
following worship to elect the next classes of Elders, Deacons, and
Trustees.

**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**

Reformation & Heritage Sunday



October 25, 2020



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

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