
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.

Liturgist: Ellen Buerk

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – "In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Wilbur Held

CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by John 1)

One: Here on the heels of Christmas,

All: **We speak of love.**

We speak of joy.

We speak of candle light and fireside.

We speak of dreams being fulfilled.

We speak of "glorias" and angel choruses.

We speak the words, "Do not be afraid."

Here on the heels of Christmas,

We are called to speak, for the world needs a light.

A light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness does not overcome it.

Let us worship and listen.

Then, let us speak Emmanuel's words of life.

HYMN – "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" #141

On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.

Refrain

Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o,
id-e-o gloria in excelsis Deo!

God's bright star, o'er his head,
wise men three to him led;
kneel they low by his bed,
lay their gifts before him,
praise him and adore him.

refrain

On this day angels sing;
with their song earth shall ring,
praising Christ, heaven's King,
born on earth to save us;
peace and love he gave us.

refrain

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of today and tomorrow,

We know

that your fingerprints are all over this world.

And we know

that those who dream cannot keep silent.

So today we pray -

give us eyes to see you.

Give us courage to trust you.

And give us lips to speak of you in our midst.

Gratefully we pray,

Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

May Jesus forgive you.

May God's guiding hand surround you.

May you know comfort. May you know peace.

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Creator God,

Scripture is flooded with dream-like images:

the lion lying down with the lamb,

justice rolling like a mighty river,

swords being beaten into plowshares,

the prisoner being set free,

good news to the oppressed,

the whole world rejoicing.

To our human ears,

there are times when these words can sound

like nothing more than a far-off dream.

However, what we know is that to dream is to hope,

and to hope is to imagine,

and to imagine is to wonder,

and to wonder is to believe,

and to believe is to live and breathe

for your promised day.

So give us the strength to listen as we dream, O God.

For deep down,

we know your words are the very thing we need.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE – John 1:1-9

HOMILY

Pastor Lawrence

SCRIPTURE – John 1:10-18

HOMILY

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN – "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

#121

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all on earth!

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him,
still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit
and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.

pg. 34

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

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

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING "You Are My All in All"
Dennis L. Jernigan | arr. Lloyd Larson
Kate Trybus, soprano soloist

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

PRAYER of DEDICATION

HYMN – "Angels We Have Heard on High" #113

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?
refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
refrain

BLESSING

Let all people sing praises to the Lord.
Let the whole world give glory to the Lord.
Let heaven rejoice. Let the whole world rejoice.
We sing for joy. The Lord has come
Christ is here. Hallelujah!

POSTLUDE "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"
setting, Franklin D. Ashdown

(Liturgy adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC
| sanctifiedart.org.)

Congregational Concerns: Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, John & Jean Woodruff.

Email request to Judy Fisher, fisherrh@miamioh.edu,
or contact the church office.

MINISTRY NEWS

Fellowship in the Virtual Molyneaux Lounge

Join us after worship at this [link](#) on Zoom as we explore deeper connections for fellowship in the midst of this pandemic.

Once again, [click here for the link](#).
Meeting ID: 836 5120 3672
Passcode: 916856

Confirmation Class Meets Monday, January 4th

Confirmation class will be meeting via Zoom this coming Monday, January 4th at 7:45 P.M. a lesson on election and predestination led by Pastor Marc. Check your e-mail over the weekend for login information. If you would like to be added to the confirmation class e-mail list, please contact Pastor Marc.

Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Oxford Presbyterian Church will take place on Sunday, January 17 following worship. **Please turn in Committee Reports to the church Office by Monday, January 4.**

Save the Date: January 16, 2021 for a "Realizing Our Congregational Calls" Retreat

Please join us as we come together to consider how best to move forward from our multiyear discernment process of individual and congregational call. Join us for an update on Eradicating Systemic Poverty and Caring for Creation, an inspirational reflection by Rebecca Barnes, Coordinator of the PCUSA Hunger Programs, and a call to commit to action in 2021. We will gather for a morning retreat via ZOOM on Saturday, January 16, at 9:00 am. [Follow this link](#) to participate.

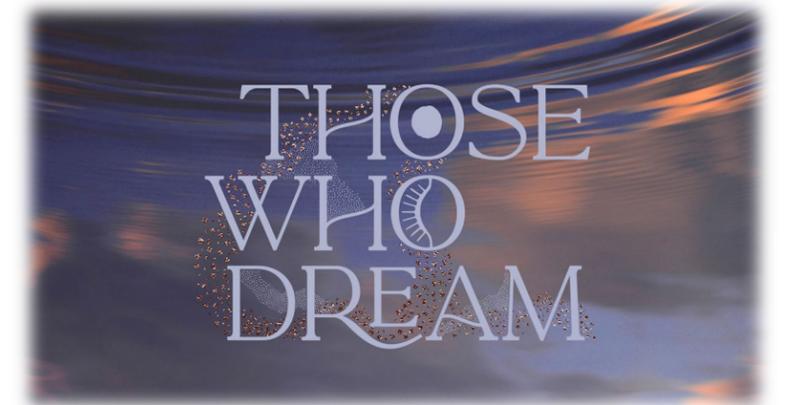
Meeting ID: 835 2936 8711
Passcode: 541576

Youth Group Meets on Sunday, January 17th

Youth Group is back on Sunday, January 17 at 7:45 P.M. with a new 6-week book club series entitled, "Worldchanging 101" based on the book (by the same title) written by David LaMotte. The book explores the complexities and ambiguities around how communities can affect real change and impact without feeling paralyzed or overwhelmed. The curriculum is co-written by author David LaMotte and Pastor Marc. If you are interested in participating in this 6-week series at youth group and would like a copy of the book, please contact Pastor Marc.

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

Second Sunday of Christmas



Sunday, January 3, 2021



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on