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# 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.*

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*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

**Jack Liles, Choir Director**

**Liturgist: Judy Schiller**

(On cover: Image from the 2019 Russian Mission Partnership Journey inspired by today's scripture "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." Photo by Dr. Robert S. Smith)

**CHIMES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MOMENT FOR MINISTRY** – CCNS

**PRELUDE**

*"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"*  
arr. Christopher Uehlein

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*"Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes"*  
B.F. White

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 121:1, 5, 8)

One: From where will our help come?

**All: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Who is our keeper?

**The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.**

How long will God protect us?

**God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

**\*HYMN** – *"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*

#645

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**John 3:16-17**

Friends, God is for us and not against us!

For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God!**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

(In this season, we ask you to care for yourself and one another by refraining from the traditional handshake. Instead share the Peace of Christ with an elbow bump or a fist bump. Hand sanitizer is available in each pew rack.)

**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**

**John 3:1-15**

**God of signs and wonders, we come to your word again and again, seeking understanding and the new life it offers. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our hearts and minds so that we may believe this testimony and have eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior, we pray. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE**

In the beginning was the Word  
**And the Word was with God.**

A reading from Matthew 5:4-5

For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – *"You Know The Meek Are Gonna*

*Get What's Comin' To Them..."*

Pastor Marc

## WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**\*HYMN** – *"I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes"*

#45

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

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"*  
Gilbert M. Martin

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**COMMISSIONING FOR MOSAIC OF PEACE PILGRIM**

Questions of the Pilgrim

Prayer

**O God, who called your servants Abraham and Sarah to leave their homes, guiding them in their journey into the unknown, we ask that you watch over Marc, your servant, as he walks in the love of your name to the land called holy.**

**Be for him a companion on the journey, a guide at the crossroads, a breath in times of weariness, a protection in danger, a home on your Way, a light in the darkness, and a hope in the midst of brokenness. With your guidance, may he journey safe and sound in your footsteps. Enriched with grace and discovery, may he return safely home filled with joy. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**\*HYMN** – *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

#12

**\*BLESSING**

**Psalm 121:8**

As you go out and come in,  
may God keep you by sunlight and moonlight;  
may Christ encompass you with love;  
and may the Holy Spirit empower you with new life;  
now and forever.

**Amen, and amen, and amen.**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

*"Holy Lamb of God"*  
Yusuf Khill

**\*POSTLUDE**

*"Glory Be to Jesus"*  
arr. Robert Lau

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Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers. **Please sign the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass them to our neighbors.**

**Greeters:** Chuck Crain and Janet Ziegler

**Acolyte:** Bryson Fears

**The flowers** on the communion table are given by Debbie Davidson to the glory of God.

**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, Jim Baird, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Chris & Hank Krueger, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, Joan Teckman, Stacey Winn, John & Jean Woodruff.

Email request to Judy Fisher, [fisherrh@miamioh.edu](mailto:fisherrh@miamioh.edu), or email the church office, [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

**Fellowship Hour** hosted by Cia Beal and Janet Ziegler on behalf of Oxford Presbyterian Women. Please join us in the Molyneaux Lounge following worship.

MINISTRY NEWS

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** On Sunday, March 1 Fish Banks were distributed to our Church School children. Fish Banks are available to "kids of all ages." We encourage everyone who wants to contribute in this way to take one home. We will be collecting them back Palm Sunday, April 5.

\*\*\*\*\* (tear here) \*\*\*\*\*

Tear this portion of your bulletin and place in the offering plate or Administrative Assistant mailbox.

**Maundy Thursday:** The Maundy Thursday meal and service will be held at The Knolls on Thursday, April 9. The meal, served at 5:30 p.m., consists of soup, salad, assorted sandwiches, cookies, and a drink. **Reservations are needed for the meal and the prepaid cost is \$11.95 per person**, which can be given to Bridgite Dickerson, Pam Deahl, or Karen Shearer. **Reservations need to be made by March 30.**

The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. You do not have to attend both the service and the meal. We hope to see you there.

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\* (tear here) \*\*\*\*\*

Tear this portion of your bulletin and place in the offering plate or Administrative Assistant mailbox.

**Easter Special Music Fund and Spring Flower Fundraiser:** This year Spring flowers will be placed at the front of the church on Easter Sunday. Cost is \$16.00. **Please place your order by April 1st.**

I would like to donate to the:

Special Music Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Spring Flower \_\_\_\_\_  
(Amount) How Many?

Please indicate what you would like in the bulletin (in celebration of, in honor of, in memory of, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate my flower to the Deacons to deliver to their 'angels.' \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone or e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Orders are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Youth Group:** Service project night! Join us in the youth room upstairs for dinner at 6:30 P.M. Bring a friend, and we'll see you there!

**Lunch on Us** is back **Sunday, March 29**, so mark your calendars! Join us in the Molyneaux Lounge after worship, and we'll see you there!

**Deacon Lenten Food Drive:** Our traditional Lenten Food Drive will take place from **March 8 through Palm Sunday, April 5.** The following items are needed and much appreciated: peanut butter, spaghetti, tuna and personal items customers are not able to purchase with SNAP benefits such as, body wash (no bar soap, please), shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, laundry detergent and toilet paper. You may drop your donations off in the narthex. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plates with the note "Lenten Food Drive" on the memo line of the check or on the outside of the envelope if the donation is cash.

**Adult Christian Education - 2020 Lenten Series:** We warmly welcome you to join the discussion sessions, based on the book: "Beatitudes from the Back Side A Different Take on What it Means to be Blessed" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. **Discussion begins TODAY** at 11:45 a.m. in the Seminary Community Room. Please feel free to bring your brown bag lunch. **Next discussion: March 15.**

**Seminary Cinema Series - The Beatitudes:** Join us in the Seminary Sanctuary, today - **March 8, 2020 - 4:00 p.m. - Philomena (PG-13).** *Philomena* is a true story based on the efforts of Philomena Lee, mother to a boy conceived out of wedlock who was forced to give her child away for adoption. After starting a family years later and moving on with her life, Lee meets a BBC reporter with whom she decides to discover her long-lost son. *Matthew 5:5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.* **Next film: March 15 - Dark Waters (PG13).**

**OPC Book Club:** In March, we will be reading *I Was Hungry* by Jeremy Everett which focuses on how we can actively address food security within our communities. Our book discussion will be on **Thursday, March 19** at 6:00 p.m. in the Molyneaux lounge.

**Third Thirty Gathering:** The first gathering of the Third Thirty (those 60 years of age and onward) will take place after worship on **Sunday, March 29, at 11:30 a.m. in the Seminary.** We will have a light lunch and talk about issues that arise in our lives today, those we might anticipate to come, and suggestions for future conversations. Let's move forward together to explore the challenges ahead and enjoy fellowship with one another.

**The Kirkmont Spring Retreat:** is **Friday-Sunday, April 17-19, and registration is open!** This year's theme is "I See You." The retreat is open to all youth grades 7-12 and adult leaders. Information and registration forms are available from Pastor Marc or on the church website. Registration forms are due to Pastor Marc (either by print or e-mail) by **Wednesday, April 1st.**

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**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 in Lent



**Sunday, March 8, 2020**



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[oxfordpresbychurch.org](http://oxfordpresbychurch.org)

Find us on