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## 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.

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**Liturgist: Grady Holmes**

(Image on cover: A photo by Kim Logsdon for this Season of  
Easter.)

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** *"My Shepherd, You Supply My Need"*  
arr. Jerry van Der Pol

### CALL to WORSHIP

One: We are a Beloved Community;  
**All: each one of us uniquely created by God.**

Our Creator and Savior loves diversity and so –  
**we look different, sound different,  
think different thoughts,  
hold different opinions,  
feel different emotions.  
And yet, we gather together in a common faith.**

In this time of worship,  
**we re-member our common story,  
sing our common song,  
give to one common mission,  
and live into the truth we share:  
Christ is risen.  
Alleluia!**

**HYMN** – *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* #32

**I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.**

**I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.**

**I sing the goodness of the Lord  
who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
wher-e'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.**

**There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.**

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

**When self-serving agendas dismantle  
the heart of the ministry we share,  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**When interpersonal conflicts  
tear at the soul of community,  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**When history becomes exclusive  
and relationships become insular,  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**When expressions of faith  
erode the freedom of life-giving Spirit,  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**When the energy of the church  
is invested in self-preservation  
rather than acts of love,  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**When our differences destroy  
the foundation we share in Christ,  
Forgive us, O Lord,  
for the times we have failed to love. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Held in God's Spirit  
that is within, between, and beyond all,  
we know forgiveness  
and are formed into  
a community of love in all things.  
Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed!  
Alleluia! Amen!**

### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Resurrecting Lord, you conquered death  
and opened the gates of life everlasting.  
In the power of the Holy Spirit,  
raise us with Christ,  
open our ears and loosen our tongues  
that we, too, may proclaim your love,  
healing, and peace to the nations. Amen**

### SCRIPTURE

A reading from 1 Peter 3:13-22  
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – *"A Key that Opens Hearts  
& Opens Doors"* Pastor Lawrence

#### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**HYMN** – *"To God Be the Glory"* #634

**To God be the glory; great things He has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us His Son,  
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

(refrain)

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

(refrain)

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

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING** *"In Christ Alone"*  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend  
arr. Richard Kingsmore

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

### PRAYER of DEDICATION

**HYMN** – *"O for a World"* #372

**O for a World where everyone respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done  
with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,  
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family  
and struggle with each choice  
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich; the weak are strong;  
the foolish ones are wise.**

**Tell all who mourn:  
outcasts belong,  
who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more,  
and all but love will cease.**

**BLESSING**

Embodying a community of hospitality  
**we witness to the love of God.**

Responding in acts of generous compassion  
**we witness to the way of Christ.**

Encouraging a life-giving freedom and creativity  
**we witness to the work of Spirit.**  
**We are sent out to be the people of the Triune God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Hymn to Joy  
arr. Edwin T. Childs

**Congregational Concerns:** Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, 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](mailto:fisherrh@miamioh.edu), or email the church office, [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

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**June Newsletter:** If the Covid-19 virus miraculously went away and if the pandemic lock-down ended on Sunday night like a light switch going off, what would you do on Monday?

Please share your great ideas for the June newsletter.

Thank you. Nancy, Your Friendly Neighborhood Newsletter Editor.

P.S. As always, the newsletter deadline is the 20th of the month.

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**Youth Group This Sunday: Who is the Holy Spirit?** Youth Group will be meeting via Zoom this Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. for a discussion with Pastor Marc on the Holy Spirit as we get ready to celebrate Pentecost. Hope to see you there!

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**2020 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women:** The Birthday Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's offerings received in the spring each year. It gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds up to five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each.

This year's Birthday Offering will support a Center for Social Assistance to the Disabled, Family, & Children Assisted Living Facility, in Davydova, Russia, and GAP Ministries in Augusta, GA. We encourage you to mail your Birthday Offering to the church office, 101 N. Main St., Oxford. Make checks payable to Oxford Presbyterian Women. Your generosity is appreciated.

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**STEWARDSHIP IN THIS SEASON**



With the evolution of our ministry, your stewardship remains as vital to ever as we increase mission support of our community partners, gather for worship via livestream, offer creative and original Christian education content, and faithfully care for our church staff. Your gifts matter and make an impact as we respond together to the impact of COVID-19.

Please mail your pledge/tithe to the church office or give through one of these digital avenues. To give *online* both conveniently and securely, you may access our online giving opportunity from your computer at <https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/Give>.

To give via *QR code*, scan the code above with your phone and follow the brief prompt.

To give via *text message*, text opc1825 and your designated amount to 73256. For example, text "opc1825 25" to 73256 for an offering of \$25 and follow the prompt. Questions? Contact office - [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

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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**

# Sixth Sunday of Easter



**Sunday, May 17, 2020**



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

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