

---

## 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.

---

**Kent Peterson, liturgist**

(Image on cover: September's Stewardship Focus on the first aspect of our congregation's mission "Seeking God." See the article below for more information.)

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*"I Will Lift Up My Eyes to the Hills"*  
Robert Lau

#### CALL to WORSHIP

**All: As seed is scattered generously  
in the hope of new growth,  
so are we gathered,  
then sent by the generous and hopeful love of God.**

**And as plants take root deep within nourishing soils,  
so are we invited  
to find our lives in the very heart of God.**

**HYMN** – *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

#305

**Come sing, O church, in joy!  
Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has led us  
through the ages long!**

**Refrain**  
**In bold accord,  
come celebrate the journey now  
and praise the Lord!**

**Long years have come and gone,  
and still God reigns supreme,  
empowering us to catch the vision,  
dream the dream!**

**Refrain**

**Let courage be our friend;  
Let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission  
magnify the Crucified!**  
**Refrain**

**Come sing, O church, in joy!  
Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has  
Triumphed o'er the ages long!**  
**Refrain**

#### PRAYER of CONFESSION

**Christ of the Cosmos,  
you are the One who made us all –  
who made us whole –  
so why do we live as though we are self-made,  
and in doing so, move to brokenness:  
within ourselves,  
with others,  
and with the world around us?**

**Jesus of Nazareth,  
Your hands smoothed wood and wounds yet  
we have left open wounds of broken relationships;  
we have destroyed habitats of birds and animals,  
and torn communities apart by disagreements  
how to conserve and preserve the forests of earth.**

**Why do we settle for something less than awe  
for ourselves and others?**

**Restore in us the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may share life and breath with all creation.  
Awaken us to the beauty and  
infinite wonder of new possibilities.  
Alert us to the myriad of ways in which you, in love,  
are waiting to be discovered in the all too familiar  
and yet not known world around us.  
This we pray in your holy name, Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Like the Tree of Life whose roots  
go beneath the surface, beyond our sight;  
like that tree through which  
water flows in and then out;  
so is the assurance of Jesus' love that holds us.  
It is love that goes deep, anchoring us securely.

It is Christ's love that flows freely,  
bearing life to and from us.

**Thanks be to God!  
Alleluia! Amen!**

#### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**God of Wisdom, open us to the work of your Spirit,  
that we may hear and faithfully respond  
to your holy Word. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE

A reading from Philippians 1:21-30

**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** – *"All Things Now Living"*

Pastor Lawrence

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**HYMN** – *"Let All Things Now Living"*

#37

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us onto the end of our days,  
God's banners are o'er us,  
pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:  
till shadows have vanished,  
all fearfulness banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.**

**By law God enforces,  
the stars in their courses,  
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains,  
the rivers and fountains,  
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration, a song let us raise:  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,  
to God in the highest,  
hosanna and praise!**

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

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING**

*"It is Well With My Soul"*  
arr. Gert Th. Walter  
Ellie Wilmes, soloist

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

**PRAYER of DEDICATION**

**HYMN** – *"You Shall Go Out with Joy"*

#80

**You shall go out with joy  
and be let forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills  
will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy,  
and all the trees of the fields will clap,  
will clap their hands.  
And all the trees of the fields will clap their hands;  
the trees of the fields will clap their hands;  
the trees of the fields will clap their hands  
while you go out with joy.**

**BLESSING**

As the wind blows where it chooses,  
**the Spirit of God rustles through our lives.**

The God who breathes into our being  
**refreshes our longing to know more deeply the  
interconnection of all things in Christ.**

In love for the world God loves  
**we go to live and move and be fully alive in Jesus.  
Alleluia! Amen!**

**POSTLUDE** Allegro Maestoso G. F. Handel

\*\*\*\*\*

**The flowers** on the communion table are given by Bill and Ginny Scott and dedicated to Thelma Hopkins, Bill's mother, who died on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the age of 103.

**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, 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).

\*\*\*\*\*

**MINISTRY NEWS:**

**September Stewardship Focus – Seeking God**

When faced with the many changes created by COVID-19, the Senior High and Middle School Youth Group continues to evolve and thrive. In the midst of summer vacation, they meet virtually for a summer series discussing and reflecting on the book *Stamped*. This fall a 21-Day Challenge on race, equity and equality kicks off the Youth Group calendar. With all of Christian Education, the Youth Group is committed to growth, development and transformation as people and as disciples of Christ.

**Nominate the Next Generation of Congregational Leaders**

*Seeking God...Serving Others... Sharing Christ's Love with All*  
That is our mission at Oxford Presbyterian.

The creative, faithful, and committed leadership of Deacons, Ruling Elders and Trustees brings this ministry to life. Now, please take a prayerful moment. Who in our congregation does the Holy Spirit bring to mind as you hear our mission statement? Who in this Body of Christ deepens this mission and serves as Jesus served?

Prayerfully consider who you will nominate today. To nominate Elders, Deacons and Trustees, please contact the church office ([office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org)). If you have any questions please reach out to the co-chairs of the Nominating Committee, Buzz Green or Ginny Layton.

**Connect with Sunday School Online!**

Social distancing? No problem! Virtual Sunday School lessons for all ages are available on our [church school page](#) starting this Sunday morning! You can view and download meaningful lessons from our Sunday School teachers and volunteers every Sunday morning as well as review past lessons from over the summer. Hope to see you there!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Confirmation Class**

If you are in 6th, 7th, 8th or 9th Grade and are interested in learning more about confirmation this year, please contact Pastor Marc. This year's teachers will be Pastor Marc, Carla Blackmar Rice, and Carrie Ann Sherritt. An informational meeting with calendar and lesson information will be held in September, so keep your eyes open for that date coming soon. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more, please contact Pastor Marc to add your name to the list.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Crop Walk 2020**

It will come as no surprise that Crop Walk 2020 has been cancelled due to COVID-19. However, the Greek Community and other student organizations at Miami University are collecting canned goods and other food products, as well as monetary donations that will be given to TOPSS (Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services) at the end of September, just as would occur if the traditional walk happened.

Meanwhile, local church members and community members are being asked to donate money that will go to Church World Service, as well as TOPSS, as a substitute for "not walking as a group and staying safe".

Last year, 2019, Church World Service supported families in 55 countries throughout the world as they worked to overcome hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster.

These challenges continue throughout the world today and are compounded by the recent spread of COVID-19. Please consider donating to: CWS CROP Hunger Walk. Your donation can be sent to Oxford Presbyterian Church, 101 North Main Street, Oxford, OH 45056. Please donate by or before October 10, 2020.

Anne Bailey and Prue Dana, coordinators

\*\*\*\*\*

**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**

# Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**September 20, 2020**



101 North Main Street | Oxford, Ohio 45056  
513-523-6364 | [office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org)

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

Find us on