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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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**Kent Peterson, 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

**PRELUDE** "Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good"  
setting, David P. Dahl

#### CALL to WORSHIP

**All: The Lord is good!  
God's steadfast love endures forever.  
We praise God's holy name!  
It is right to give our thanks and praise  
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!**

**HYMN** – "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" #367

**Come, ye thankful people, come;  
raise the song of harvest home.**

**All is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied.**

**Come to God's own temple, come;  
raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field,  
fruit in thankful praise to yield,  
wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown.**

**First the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear.**

**Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take the harvest home;  
from each field shall in that day**

**all offenses purge away;  
give the angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in God's garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come  
to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there forever purified,  
in thy presence to abide:  
come, with all thine angels, come;  
raise the glorious harvest home!**

#### PRAYER of CONFESSION (*Exodus 32:1; 20:2*)

**Holy God, you are the Lord our God,  
who brought us out of the land of Egypt,  
out of the house of slavery.  
And yet our trust in you is fragile,  
easily crushed by our bent toward indifference—  
the dismissal of your faithfulness as a result of our  
forgetfulness. Our trust is fragile,  
easily broken by the slightest pause—  
an answer to prayer not instantly given,  
a request for peace not immediately felt.  
Our trust is fragile,  
easily displaced by gods of our own making—  
the god of self-sufficiency, chased at any cost,  
the god of illusion, pursued in any form.  
Lord, have mercy on us, through Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS (*Psalms 106:23*)

**Beloved, hear the good news: Jesus Christ came  
to stand in the breach to reconcile us to God.  
Beloved, we are forgiven and freed!**

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

#### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Holy Spirit of God, shine your light upon this Word  
and into our hearts that we may be enlightened  
with fresh understanding. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE

A reading from Matthew 22:1-14

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – "The Parable That Goes Wrong"

Pastor Marc

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**HYMN** – "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" #415

**Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
full of pity, love, and power.**

#### *refrain*

**I will arise and go to Jesus;  
he will embrace me in His arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
O, there are ten thousand charms.**

**Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;  
God's free bounty glorify,  
true belief and true repentance,  
every grace that brings you nigh.**

#### *refrain*

**Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry till you're better,  
you will never come at all.**

#### *refrain*

**Let not conscience make you linger,  
nor of fitness fondly dream;  
all the fitness he requireth  
is to feel your need of him.**

#### *refrain*

#### PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING** "Give Me Jesus"  
arr. Moses Hogan / Caleb Orr, soloist

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

#### PRAYER of DEDICATION

**HYMN** – "I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table" #770

**I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;  
I'm gonna to eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.  
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;  
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.**

**I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Alleluia.  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus;  
I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus, Alleluia.**

**I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;  
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.  
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;  
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.**

**Here all the world will find a welcome;  
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.  
Here all the world will find a welcome;  
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.**

**We're gonna feast on milk and honey;  
we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.  
We're gonna feast on milk and honey;  
we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.**

**BLESSING** (*Philippians 4:7*)

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

**POSTLUDE**                      Recessional on *Hymn to Joy* including  
*St. Anthony's Chorale* / setting, K. Lee Scott

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**The flowers** on the communion table are given by Cornelia  
Browne to honor all our church leaders who with grace have kept  
our membership in safekeeping.

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**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, 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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**MINISTRY NEWS:**

**October Stewardship Focus on "Serving Others"**

In March of 2020 (shortly before the pandemic began), the Middle  
School and Senior High Youth Group undertook a Sunday night  
service project to clean out the church nursery area. Serving  
others plays a vital role in our youth and family ministries. This  
included cleaning and sanitizing the nursery area, helping to  
construct new and updated nursery supplies, clearing out toys or  
items that had become broken or outdated, and generally re-  
organizing the nursery into order. As we move into a new post-  
outbreak reality, our youth and family ministry remain committed  
to finding safe, creative, and innovative ways to serve our church  
and our community.

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**Cultivating Our Spiritual Life in Christ**

This fall Adult Christian Education will also be offering a small  
group focused on two 20th century classics on the foundation of  
our spiritual life in Christ - *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
and *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen.

Join us for a fellowship-oriented discussion on the unique insights  
Bonhoeffer and Nouwen provide on connecting to the trans-  
forming love of Jesus Christ. Both authors provide a bridge from  
individual discipleship through the faith community to the greater  
world that God so loves.

We'll be meeting Sundays after worship on October 18 and  
November 15. Simply contact [Pastor Lawrence](mailto:Pastor Lawrence) for more details.

**21-Day Challenge: Adult Christian Education Small Group**

Our 21-Day Challenge small group for adults continues as part of  
our commitment to continue our own growth, development, and  
transformation as people and as disciples of Christ.

Throughout this challenge, each adult participant is asked to  
choose one article, podcast or film clip each week from [this list](#) on  
the topic of race, equity, and equality.

We will then gather together on Thursday evening via Zoom to  
discuss and share which item on the list you chose. How did it  
make you think this week? What did you learn? What did you  
unlearn? What resonated with you? What do you struggle  
with? How did you find yourself engaging?

The final meeting for this adult small group is Thursday, October  
15 - 7:30 p.m.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Bridgite at  
the church office ([office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org)), and she will  
add you to the 21-Day Challenge mailing list with Zoom login info.

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**Youth Group returns on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>  
for "Faith and Science!"**

After taking a short break, Youth Group will resume on Sunday,  
October 18 at 6:30 P.M. with our next 3-week series, "Faith and  
Science." Mark the following Sundays on your calendars!

Sunday, October 18 @ 6:30 P.M  
Sunday, October 25 @ 6:30 P.M  
Sunday, November 1 @ 6:30 P.M

Check your e-mail over the next few weeks about more details  
about what we have planned for each Sunday night as we will be  
switching up the format pretty significantly for this next series! If  
you would like to be added to the Youth Ministry e-mail chain,  
please contact Pastor Marc.

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**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  
directly following worship via Zoom on Sunday, November 8 and  
Sunday, November 15. New Member Sunday will be November  
22. If you are interested in registering, please contact Bridgite at  
the church office.

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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**

# Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**October 11, 2020**



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**oxfordpresbychurch.org**

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