
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.

Bill Fisher, liturgist

(Image on cover: Painting, "The Lamb" by Andrew King)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"
setting, Jacob B. Webber

CALL to WORSHIP

(Ezek. 34:15-16; Ps. 100:3; Matt. 25:31-46)

One: The Lord God is our shepherd.

**All: We are the people of God's pasture,
the sheep of God's hand.**

God will seek the lost, feed the hungry,
and strengthen the weak.

**But the proud and power-hungry
will be fed with justice.**

HYMN – *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

#347

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing is His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of Lords, In human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads it's vanguard on the way,
as Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the shadows clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! Lord most high!"

PRAYER of CONFESSION

**Sovereign God, we confess
that we are not ready for your holy realm.
You guide us toward right paths,
but we refuse to follow where you lead.
You love and feed and care for us,
but we fail to love and serve others.**

**Forgive us, merciful God,
so that we may return to your fold
and rejoice in your presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the Lamb upon the throne.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS (Psalm 100:5)

**However long we wander,
however far we stray,
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Sisters and brothers, be assured:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION (Ephesians 1:17-18)

**Holy God, open your Word.
Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
that our eyes may be enlightened
and we may know the hope to which we have been
called;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Ephesians 1:15-23

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON – *"You Gotta Serve Somebody"*

Pastor Marc

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN – *"O God of Every Nation"*

#756

O God of every nation,
of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation
with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver every nation,
eternal God, we pray.

Lord, strengthen those who labor
that all may find release
from fear of rattling saber,
from dread of war's increase;
when hope and courage falter,
your still small voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter,
your servants undergird.

Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Kay Estes, Amber Stitt, Peggi Stitt, David Woods

One: Let us, the members of Oxford Presbyterian Church,
express our welcome and affirm
our mutual ministry in Christ.

**All: We welcome you with joy in the common life
of this church. We promise you our friendship
and prayers as we share the hopes and labors
of the church of Jesus Christ.
By the power of the Holy Spirit may we
continue to grow together in God's knowledge
and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.
Amen!**

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

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING Ave Verum Corpus, Op. 6, No. 2
Ernest Chausson
Aaron Garner, soloist

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

DOXOLOGY – *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* #607

HYMN – *"Christ Is Alive!"*

#246

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war where color,
scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still,
yet loves the more, and lives,
where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit,
hear the call, and find the way,
the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

BLESSING

May the grace of Christ surround you,
the love of God astound you,
and the Holy Spirit keep you,
this day and forevermore.

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

POSTLUDE – "Now Thank We All Our God" arr. Michael Helman

Special Music Fund and Poinsettia Fundraiser

Please use this form to order a flower or contribute to the Special Music Fund. Checks should be marked for flowers or the Special Music Fund. The cost of the poinsettias this year will be \$16.50.

_____ **Poinsettia (Cost \$16.50)** _____ **Special Music Fund**

_____ **Donate Poinsettia to Deacons**

Dedication to be put in bulletin:

Paid by check (no.) _____ or Cash _____

Signature _____

THE LAST DAY TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020.

Payment can be mailed to Nick Fears (Financial Secretary) at the church (101 N. Main St).

Please pick up your pre-ordered poinsettias on December 21, 22 or 23 between 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. IN THE MEMORIAL CHURCH SANCTUARY.

The flowers on the left side of the communion table are given by Rick & Deb Sayers & Andrew Farler and family, in thanksgiving for Deb's parents, Charles & Ruth Hefty & Lewis Farler.

The flowers on the right side of the communion table are given by Pat Gifford, in loving memory of Jack Gifford who joined the stars in the sky on November 25, 2019.

Congregational Concerns: Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Ruth Miller, Dick and Marian Nelson, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah Soika, John & Jean Woodruff. **Email request to Judy Fisher, fisherrh@miamioh.edu, or contact the church office.**

MINISTRY NEWS

Mitten and Shoe Tree: Due to the pandemic, our annual Mitten and Shoe Tree will not be on display. However, that doesn't mean we are not collecting monetary donations. Your gift of \$40-\$50 will bring a gift at Christmas time to a local child. A gift of \$12 will bring new shoes to an orphaned child in Russia. Please don't let this annual giving die out. Note on your check payable to our church, "mittens," shoes, or both.

You Can Help Change Lives: The annual Thank offering to our Lord was started as way to express gratitude for special blessings. Since its inception, 26 million dollars have been given to nearly 1700 causes worldwide. This life-changing offering makes a difference. Please show your gratitude and share your blessings by giving as generously as possible and writing a check to OPW (note Thank Offering on check). Send your check to OPC, 101 N. Main, Oxford, OH 45056 or to Debbie Davidson, OPW Treasurer, 6027 Vereker Dr., Oxford, OH 45056, or give electronically by clicking on GIVING on the church web page at oxfordpresbychurch.org and selecting Thank Offering.

No-Contact Food Drive! This Advent, the Deacons and the Youth Group are working together to organize a "no-contact" food drive to help support TOPSS. The food drive will be taking place on Sunday, December 6 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Seminary Building. Please load your food items into the trunk of your car, and remain in your vehicle (with masks on), and our youth will help unload your items into the Seminary Building. Items that TOPSS has requested of OPC: instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, canned yams, canned pumpkin, corn muffin mix, other canned vegetables like corn, green beans, carrots, etc., and cranberry sauce or the gel in a can.

Confirmation Class on Monday, November 30th @ 7:45 PM!

Confirmation will be taking a short break over the Thanksgiving holiday and will be back on Monday, November 30 at 7:45 p.m. Pastor Marc will be leading a lesson on the sacraments. Meeting location TBA (pending weather). Check your e-mail over the next few weeks for more details. If you would like to be added to the confirmation class e-mail list, please contact, Pastor Marc (pastormarc@oxfordpresbychurch.org).

**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**

Reign of Christ



Sunday, November 22, 2020



**Oxford
Presbyterian
Church** U.S.A.

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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on 