
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.

Buzz Green, liturgist

(Image on cover: "Mending the Nets" by Winslow Homer)

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – "It Is Well with My Soul" arr. David Evan Thomas

CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 62)

One: We gather as a distracted people.
No matter where we are,
someone or something wants our attention.

All: For God alone my soul waits in silence.

We are offered endless solutions that will make it all clear,
solve all our problems,
guarantee our happiness and success.
For God alone my soul waits in silence.

The sounds of wealth, power,
and status have tremendous appeal.
For God alone my soul waits in silence.

Come to this place of worship to
renew the silence and wait for God.

HYMN – "Here in this Place"

#401

Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this place our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fie of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER of CONFESSION

**All: From the beginning of time, O God,
it was your intention that we live in harmony
with you and with one another,
but our desire for status, wealth,
and security blind us to the deep bonds that unite us.
(Bell is rung.)**

**The world often seems overwhelming.
It feels we have so little capacity to make a
difference, so we seek refuge in addictions,
obsessions, and distractions of every sort.
(Bell is rung.)**

**In a thousand ways, we are taught to mistrust those
who are different from us, whose language we do
not understand, whose faith and culture is alien to
us. Anger and resentment are so much easier than
the challenging work of understanding, listening,
and compassion.
(Bell is rung.)**

**Slow us down into silence today, O Lord,
for it is no small thing to place our trust in you.
Transform our fear into trust as we follow you
along the way of life. Amen**

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

God listens.
Christ's power is at work in the steadfast love
that fills each of our lives.
**We will trust in the Lord who is our rock,
our salvation, the source of our deliverance.**

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so
that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE – Mark 1:14-20

Holy wisdom, holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON – "This Radiant Assurance"

Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN – "Take Us As We Are, O God"

#312

Take us as we are, O God,
and claim us as your own.
As once you chose to tell your love
in human flesh and bone,
so let our lives be used
to make your saving purpose known.

Bless us for your service, Lord;
no power we devise will
ever give us strength enough
or make us truly wise,
yet by your promise we can know
the peace your grace supplies

Break us open to disclose how brokenness can heal,
wherever broken loaves suffice
to give a crowd a meal
and graves break open to release new life
from death's dread seal.

Give us to the world you love as light and salt and yeast,
that we may nourish in your name the last,
the lost, the least,
until at length you call us all
to your unending feast.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 35

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,**

**and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

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

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING "His Eye is On the Sparrow"
Charles H. Gabriel | arr. Patti Drennan
Aaron Garner, baritone soloist

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

PRAYER of DEDICATION

HYMN – "Come! Live in the Light!" #749

Come! live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain
We are called to act with justice.
we are called to love tenderly.
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so hatred and violence will be no more.
refrain

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love.
refrain

BLESSING

Go forth trusting the silence of God is stronger
than the chorus of voices that seek our trust.
Go forth speaking a word of liberation and salvation
to all who have become captive to the enticing claims
of popularity, power and wealth.
Go forth to help shape a world where heaven and earth
merge into the kingdom of God.
With our very lives proclaiming
Amen to this time of worship,
we go into the world ready to serve.

POSTLUDE – "God of Grace" setting, Walter L. Pelz

The flowers on the communion table are given in loving memory
of Cathy Fey by her family. January 27, 2021 would have been
her 75th year.

Congregational Concerns: Betty Barnhart, Jim Baer, Rodger
Cromer, John Curry, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse,
Chris Krueger, Ruth Miller, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Sarah
Soika, John & Jean Woodruff.

Email congregational concerns to Judy Fisher,
fisherrh@miamioh.edu, or contact the church office.

MINISTRY NEWS

[Fellowship in the Virtual Molyneaux Lounge](#)

Join us following the Congregational Meeting at this [link](#) on Zoom.

Once again, [click here for the link](#).
Meeting ID: 836 5120 3672 | Passcode: 916856

[Worldchanging 101 at Youth Group](#)

Youth Group will be meeting in the Seminary Building this Sunday
night at 6:30 p.m. **Masks and/or facial coverings are
required**, and there will be temperature checks at the door. This
week, we will be focusing on Chapters 3 & 5 of the book,
"Worldchanging 101" by David LaMotte. The book explores the
complexities and ambiguities around how communities can affect
real change and impact without feeling paralyzed or
overwhelmed. The book is available in both paperback and Kindle
form. If you would like for the church to provide you with a
physical copy of the book, please contact Pastor Marc.

[Confirmation Meets on Monday, February 1](#)

Our next confirmation class will be meeting on **Monday,
February 1 at 7:45 p.m.** Carla Blackmar Rice will be leading a
lesson on living a covenant life together. Check your e-mail over
the next week for updates on meeting location. If you would like
to be added to the confirmation class e-mail list, please contact
Pastor Marc.

[Media Content Creators Needed!](#)

The communications team at Oxford Presbyterian Church is so
thrilled with our new audio-visual upgrades to our sanctuary and
our facilities...and now it's time to start dreaming about how to
use them! We are looking to put together a new Media Content
Team of volunteers to help envision, oversee, and curate the ways
that we communicate across all forms of digital, physical, and
social media. If this is an area that you might have some interest
in, please contact Gene Krebs or Pastor Marc.

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany



Sunday, January 24, 2021



**Oxford
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