

# 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.



**Connect with us** by signing the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and passing them to your neighbors. Visitors, please scan the QR code.

Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available from ushers.

(Image on cover: "When You Pass Through the Waters" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)

\*Please rise in body or spirit **Buzz Green, liturgist**

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** – "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" arr. James Biery

\* **CALL to WORSHIP** (Psalm 148:1, 7, 12)

One: Praise the Lord! Praise God in the heavens!  
All: **Praise the Lord from all the earth!**

Young and old alike,  
Men and women together  
**Emmanuel is here!**  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!**

\* **HYMN** – "Angels We Have Heard On High" #113

### \* PRAYER of CONFESSION

**God of wonder,**  
**You surround us with signs of your glory**  
**and surprise us with your presence,**  
**Yet we often miss the marvels you place before us.**

**Forgive our dullness and make us alert**  
**To the ways you make yourself known,**  
**That we might be witnesses to your good news**  
**And proclaim your extravagant love;**  
**Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

### \* ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS & GREETING of PEACE (Titus 3:5; Col 3:13)

In Jesus Christ God saved us,  
Not because of any good works that we have done,  
But according to God's mercy,  
Through the water of rebirth  
And renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Beloved of God, believe the Good News!  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**By the breath of your Spirit inspire us,**  
**That in the hearing of your Word**  
**We may be filled with new understanding**  
**And fresh desire to please you in all we do,**  
**For the sake of your Son, Jesus. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE** – Colossians 3:12-17

Holy wisdom, holy word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – "One With the Yuletide" Pastor Marc

#### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\* **HYMN** – "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #119

### \* CHRISTMAS PRAYER

**Prince of Peace,**  
**On this Sunday morning after Christmas,**  
**We pray for an abiding sense of your peace,**  
**In our lives and in the lives of those we love.**  
**We pray for peace to come into every troubled**  
**Heart, home, and community.**

**These days may be rushed and busy,**  
**As it must have been in Bethlehem long ago.**  
**Let there be peace enough in our hearts and minds**  
**To receive your good news,**  
**In light; in word; in song; in the faces of others.**  
**In peace, help us to treasure the blessings**

**Of these days and ponder your wondrous love.**  
**Amen.**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER**  
(Lord's Prayer on pg. 35 of Glory to God saying sins...sin)

**MUSIC for OUR OFFERING** – "Love Came Down at Christmas"  
Timothy Shaw

(Scan the QR code to the right or go to  
<https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/-/give/now>  
to give online)



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

### \* PRAYER of DEDICATION

\* **HYMN** – "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #133

### \* BLESSING

May the Christ inhabit you; the Father uphold you,  
And the Spirit sustain you, now and forever.

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

**SOLO** – "Song of the Donkey"  
written and performed by Kent Peterson

#### WE DEPART to SERVE

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**The flowers** on the communion table are given by Jim and Billie Maynard in honor of their 71st wedding anniversary, December 27.

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#### Congregational Concerns

Jim Baer, Fred & Mary Jane Brower, Steve Dana, Sandy Douglass, Amber McClelland, Peggi Stitt.

Email congregational concerns to the church office  
([office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org)).

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**MINISTRY NEWS**

**OPC - Office Holiday Hours**

**Regular hours of operation:**

- Monday, December 30-31 (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

**Happy New Year!**

- **Closed January 1 & January 2**

**Sunday School News**

This morning there will be no Sunday School following a time with young disciples. Please note the nursery for preschool and younger children is open and staffed.

**Creating a Healthy Community**

Community blood drive  
Friday, January 3

**Appointments preferred.  
Walk-ins welcome.**

Scan the QR Code or call 937-461-3220 to schedule your appointment.



**Caregivers Connections**

OPC's support group for people whose lives are affected by the caregiving needs of family members or other loved ones will hold its meeting on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in the Molyneaux Room. Caregivers will receive support from others who share their challenges and find help in identifying resources that can assist them in their caregiving roles. For more information, please call the church office at 513 523-6364.

**Tuesday Evening Circle**

The Tuesday Evening Circle will be meeting on January 7 at 6:45 p.m. in the Memorial church Molyneaux Room. We will be discussing Lesson Four, "Water Justice," in the Horizon's Bible Study, *Let Justice Roll Down*.

Visitors are welcome. Contact the church office at 513-523-6364 for more details.

**Caring for Creation Cookbook**

Following our successful series of meetings on "Sowing the Seeds of Plant-Based Eating," we are now collecting your favorite recipes. Please send recipe copies of your favorite vegetarian dishes to the OPC office at [oxfordpresbychurch.org](http://oxfordpresbychurch.org) and we will compile them into a small cookbook to share.

**Sermons on the Go**

At Oxford Presbyterian Church, we celebrate the centrality of hearing God's word in Scripture and preaching.

Each week, we bring you an opportunity to listen to Sunday's sermon. If you would like to listen to the message again, or hear it for the first time, our media ministry is making these available on [Apple podcast](#) and [Spotify](#).

Share this good news on the go with family and friends, neighbors and colleagues.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR of MINISTRY**

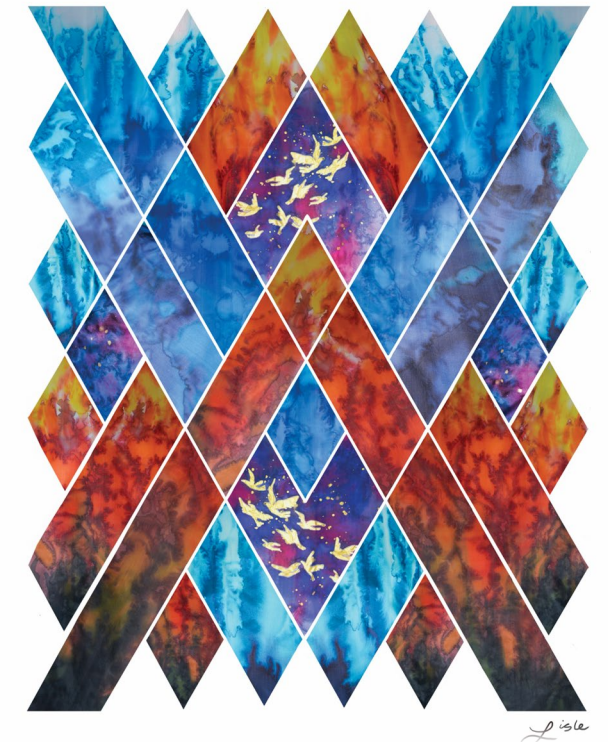
30 - 31	OPC Offices Open	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 1 - 2	Happy New Year!	OPC Offices Closed
2	Called to Life! Team meeting	4:00 p.m. (Memorial church - Molyneaux Room)
2	Mission and Outreach meeting	5:30 p.m. (Memorial church - meeting room)
3	Scripture by Heart Team meeting	8:30 a.m. (Memorial church - meeting room)
3	Community blood drive	9:00 a.m. (Seminary - community room)
5	Connections Committee	11:30 a.m. (Memorial church - 3-5 grade classroom)

**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**

# First Sunday of Christmas



**December 29, 2024**



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

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

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