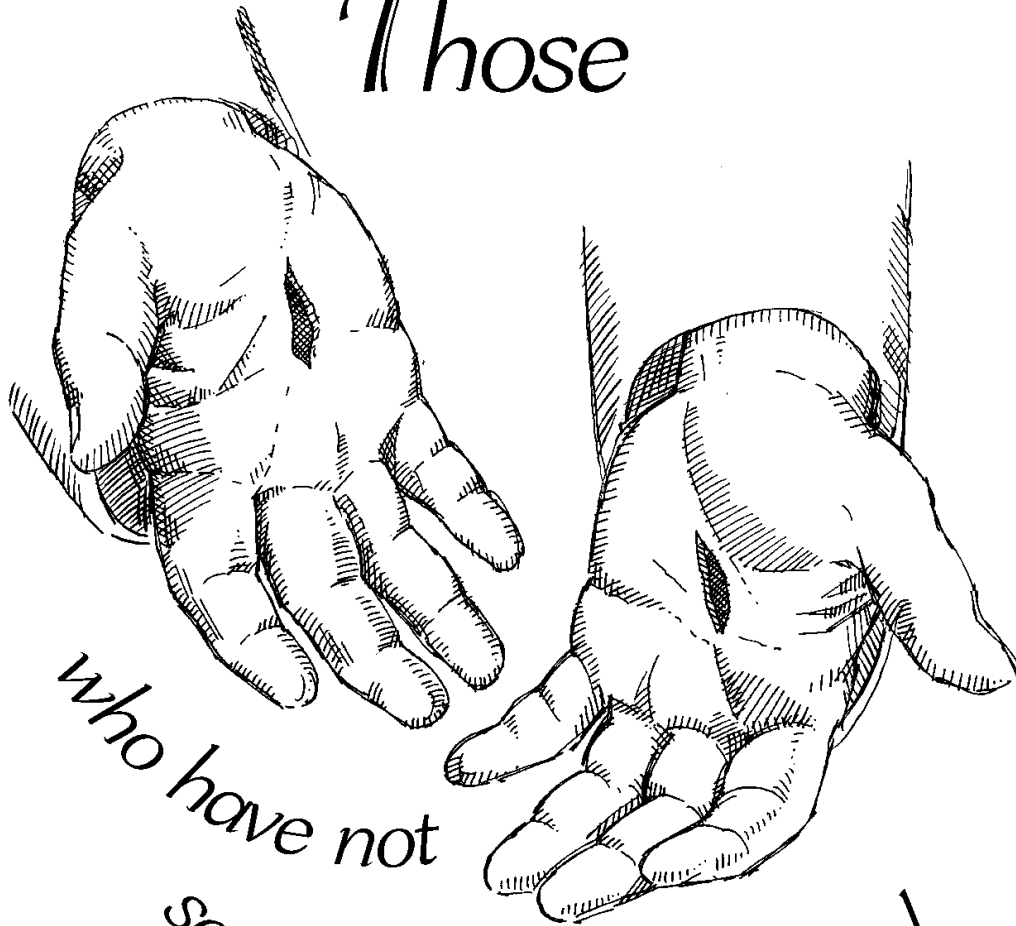


Opequon Presbyterian Church

*Blessed
are
Those*



*who have not
seen and yet have believed.*

John 20:29

WELCOME! This historic church began worship on these grounds in 1732 and was organized in 1736. We are dedicated to “prayerfully equipping disciples of all generations to be Christ’s hands, heart and feet in the world.” We are strengthened today by your presence whether guest or member. Go forth, blest and renewed because you were here this day!

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **We encourage you to share requests for prayer.** You may do so by completing the pink form found in the pew rack and placing it in the offering.
- **Trust your children to the care of our dedicated, loving workers!** The nursery rooms are located through the Gathering Area, down the Gallery and through the Dell Room. An usher will be happy to escort you. Our nursery ministry cares for infants and toddlers to age three.
- **Worship Bags are available for children ages 3-kindergarten.** These bags, located in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the bin when you are leaving.
- **Look forward to taking part in a Sunday School class each week.** Sunday School is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. There are classes for all ages and interests.
- **Restrooms and a coat rack** are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- **A water fountain** is located off the Gathering Area.
- **Large-print hymnals, Bibles and bulletins** are available from an usher.
- **Personal hearing assistance devices** are available from an usher if you would like to use one.
- **Transportation can be provided to worship.** Call the church office, 540-662-1843, before 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org

WIFI: Network ID: opc-guest

Password:

25dec!!!

David R. Witt----- Pastor
 Tracie Martin -----Parish Associate
 William Heavner -----Organist
 Susan Homan ----- Director of Music
 Carole Witt ----- Director of Christian Education
 Laurie Carver-----Nursery Supervisor
 Patty Klinefelter-----Faith Community Nurse
 Catherine Richard----- Office Administrator
 Robert Sydnor -----Sexton



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 23, 2017

8:30 and 11:00 am

The Second Sunday of Easter

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Easter Alleluias..... Arr. Smith

Please use this time to prepare your inward spirit for the worship of God.

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting.

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION “Opequon on the Lawn”

JoEllen Delamatta

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

† GATHERING SONG NO. 413 *Come into God's Presence*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.

† HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 246 *Christ Is Alive!*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we confess that we look for the living among the dead.

We are foolish and slow to believe the promise of the prophets. We

are frightened and full of doubt, even when you stand among us.

Forgive us, God of grace. Open our hearts to receive your word,

and feed us with the bread of life, the life that death cannot

destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us. In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God. That is a promise of peace and joy; share that peace with one another.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

† THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE (Worship Order p. 6) *Sing Hallelujah*

† PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those next to you)

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

“And also with you.”

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM *Lord, I Believe*

I believe in God the Father, Maker of all heav’n and earth; and in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God’s own Son, of matchless worth; by the Spirit was conceived; of the Virgin Mary born, he in whom I have believed: God Almighty, Three in One. I believe, Lord, I believe! Suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified, for me he died. Laid within the grave so silent, gates of hell he opened wide; for the stone-sealed tomb was empty; on the third day, he arose; into heaven made his entry, mighty conqu’ror of his foes. I believe, Lord, I believe! At God’s right hand he is seated, till his coming, as he said; final judgment will be meted to the living and the dead; I confess the Holy Spirit, who was sent through Christ the Son, to apply salvation’s merit: God, the Spirit, Three in One. I believe the church of Jesus, universal, e’er remains; we are one through all the ages, in communion of the saints. I believe sins are forgiven, that our bodies will be raised to eternal life in heaven: ever let his name be praised. I believe, Lord, I believe!

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Pew Bible p. 885

GOSPEL LESSON: John 20:19-31 Pew Bible p. 883

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... “A Surprise Visit”

Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

† HYMN NO. 256 (Tune No. 738, *O Master Let Me Walk with Thee*)

..... *These Things Did Thomas Count as Real*

SERMON..... “Celebrating Questions”

Pastor David R. Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Christ Is Risen as He Said* (12th Century)Arr. Martin

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Worship Order p. 7) *I Believe in Jesus*

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 254.....*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 238 (Refrain).....*Thine Is the Glory*

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

†POSTLUDE

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning, are given by Bill Bayliss to honor Pam's birthday on April 28th. I thank the Lord for blessing me with such a wonderful partner in life!

Sing Hallelujah

Songs of Praise

CCLI # 1622560

Words and Music by
Linda Stassen

Descant Bm F#m Bm

Sing hal - le -
Sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord.

F#m Bm A/C# D Em F#sus

lu - jah to the Lord. Sing hal - le -
Sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord.

F# Bm F#m G D

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.
Sing hal - le - lu - jah, Sing hal - le - lu - jah,

Bm F#m 1. Bm F#m 2. Bm

Sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord. Lord.
Sing hal - le - lu - jah to the Lord. Lord.

I Believe in Jesus

CCLI # 1622560

Words and Music by
MARC NELSON

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of five lines of music. Each line begins with a guitar chord (D, G, A, D, G, A, G, A, D, G, A, D) and is followed by a line of lyrics. The lyrics are: "I believe in Jesus. I believe He is the Son of God. I believe He died and rose a-gain. I believe He paid* for us all. And I believe He is here now, stand-ing in our midst. Here with the pow-er to heal now. And the grace to for-give." The score ends with a double bar line.

D G A
I believe in Jesus.

D G A D G
I believe He is the Son of God. I believe He died and

A D G A
rose a-gain. I believe He paid* for us all.

G A D G A D
And I believe He is here now, stand-ing in our midst.

G A D G A D
Here with the pow-er to heal now. And the grace to for-give.

**can also use "lived".*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 23-30, 2017

TODAY

Blood Pressure Screenings

- 8:30 am: Morning Worship, Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee
9:45 am: Sunday School Classes for All Ages
11:00 am: Morning Worship, Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee
12:00 Noon: Visioning Team—Bageant Room
12:30 pm: Presbyterian Youth Connection Motel Ministry—Fellowship Hall
3:30 pm: PS 150 Rehearsal—Memorial Sanctuary
4:00 pm: Blue Ridge Singers Spring Concert—Sanctuary
6:00 pm: Newcomers' Gathering—Bageant Room

THIS WEEK

- Monday: Adult ESL Class—6:00 pm—Assembly Room
Tuesday: Hands & Hearts—10:30 am—Assembly Room
Highland Food Pantry—6:00 pm
WATTS Operations Committee—6:30 pm—Bageant Room
Wednesday: TVOR Lunch Bunch—11:30 am
Choir Practice—7:00 pm—Sanctuary
Opequon on the Lawn Meeting—7:00 pm—Bageant Room
Thursday: Scout Pack 1—7:00 pm
Scout Troop 1—7:00 pm—Assembly Room
Saturday: Jubilee Kitchen—10:00 am—First Presbyterian Church

NEXT SUNDAY—Third Sunday of Easter

- Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday School for All Ages—9:45 am
Scripture: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Luke 24:13-35
Sermon: "OMG!"
Habitat for Humanity "Paint Can Offering"
Presbyterian Youth Connection—12:00 Noon—Dell Room
PS 150 Rehearsal—3:30 pm—Memorial Sanctuary

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH:

- Sunrise—100 8:30 am—145 11:00 am—188
Maundy Thursday—61 Good Friday—77

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dick & Gail Crane
Marjory Journell
Reid Homan
Natalie Williams
Carlos Valdez
Bob Weidele
Helen Lucas
Dom Cafaro
Patricia & Ray Ferguson
Jim Ross Family
Ralph Bradley Family
Jessie Gleason Family
Michael March Family
Fred & Vicki Earnshaw
James Ingram
Gary Kain & Family
Mary Lou Thomas
Roth Family

Mike Butler
Charles Lawson
Nancy Kerns
Steve Brown
Melissa Ambers
Bill Simmons
Barbara Patterson
Dorothy Rogers
Gary Snapp
Kelly McCord
Doug York
Jerry Metheny
Gene Walker
Tom & Vicki Harman
Arden & McKinney Ireland
Buddy Chicklo
John Sidell
Barb Sumner

Refugees
Sherry Clark
Verity Morrow
Cindy & Lance Weeks
Joe Strosnider
Susan Martin
Donna Coffman
Rebekah Witt
Stephanie Fitch
Phyllis Dilley
Sandi Pulizzi
Colleen McMurdo
Jane Lewis
Dottie Edwards
Larry Matthews
Doug Koch
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Taylor McMurdo, Brandon Michael, Greg Sousa, Michael White, and their families.

STAFF SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Pastor David Witt will be on vacation Monday, April 24 through Sunday, April 30. If a pastoral concern arises, please contact Parish Associate, Tracie Martin at 304-856-2080 or tracie-martin@juno.com. DCE Carole Witt will also be on vacation Thursday, April 27 through Sunday, April 30.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Members of the Health Ministry Team will be available for blood pressure screenings after 8:30 worship and before or after 11:00 am worship.

WORM-TODAY'S WORKSHOP IS...

"NOAH'S ARK-BRICK BY BRICK!" Children may know the story of Noah's Ark, but come hear this fascinating story told through LEGOS creations! We will be dumping our own LEGOS out all over the tables to make creations from the story. All preschool-5th grade children are invited to come enjoy the activities of the morning in Classroom 3 at 9:45 am.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Melanie Morgan
Beadle: Paula McNichols
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeters: Karen Winters, Becky Proctor
Hospitality: Betty Chicklo & June Malone
Liturgist: Terry Hartman
Ushers: Joshua Batcha, Mike Butler, Allison & Melanie Morgan,
Sherry Schryver, John Winn

11:00

Acolyte: Jordan Hughes
Beadle: Bill Hopeck
Bell Ringer: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie Kelly
Greeters: David & Dana Kelly
Hospitality: Gail & Dick Crane
Liturgist: Shirley Tomblin
Nametags: Kail Barbe
Ushers: Bill Hopeck, Griffin Hott, Jordan & Payton Hughes

PYC NEWS

- ❖ Today is MOTEL MINISTRY DAY! Come lend your helping hands to prepare sandwiches, pack the supplies and head out to share needed items with those at nearby motels. Meet right after 11:00 worship. Return time is usually around 2:00 pm.
- ❖ Next Sunday: an afternoon hike!

BLUE RIDGE SINGERS CONCERT AT OPEQUON

The Blue Ridge Singers will perform “Dreams in Song,” their spring concert today at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. It is a free concert; however, it is suggested that a \$10 donation be made. For more information, go to www.blueridgesingers.com.

NEWCOMERS' GATHERING

TONIGHT—6:00 pm—Bageant Room

Come and learn about Opequon Church and our Reformed & Presbyterian heritage, government and mission! A light supper will be served. Questions? Contact Pastor David Witt at pastor@opequonchurch.org or 540-662-1843.

OLDER ADULT CHOIR

On Sunday, May 7th we will celebrate the older adults at Opequon Church. We invite all older adults of Opequon to sing at 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services. *'Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus* will be the anthem. Rehearsal will be on Wednesday, May 3rd at 4:00 pm. If you have questions, please contact Susan Homan at 540-665-9844 or srh1305@verizon.net.

NOMINATE AN OLDER ADULT FOR "OPEQUON'S 2017 OLDER ADULT"

So many of our older adults have been recognized as our "Older Adults of the Year". We celebrate that those crowned in the past are **Roy Bayliss, John Boyd, Frances Smith, Louise Duncan, Bill Robinson, Shirley and Dave Brumble, Rob MacGregor, Ty Headley, Edgar Tufts, Howard Kent, Donna Coffman, Betty Ganoë, Carol Tubbs, and Graham Taylor**. It is time to share nominations for this year's older adult of the year. Who would you like to nominate? There are forms available on the Gathering Area table. Share who you nominate and WHY. Nominations are **due by May 7** and they may come from anyone in the congregation. Forms can be returned to Carole Witt or dropped in the box provided on the table. The session will review the nominations and make their selection at their May meeting. The Older Adult of 2017 will be announced at the annual Older Adult Luncheon on May 24.

DOWNSIZING OR SPRING CLEANING?

Maybe you've found some treasures while cleaning out and letting go during the Lenten Challenge. If you haven't yet donated those nicer/gently used items to your favorite charity, we need auction items for Opequon on the Lawn's Live Auction on May 20th. Proceeds will benefit three local missions. All auction items must be dropped off at the church garage on Saturday, May 13 (Noon-2:00 pm), Monday, May 15 (5:00-7:00 pm), or Wednesday, May 17 (5:00-7:00 pm). The committee reserves the right to donate unsuitable items. Contact JoEllen Delamatta 540-931-2667, or Susanna Shade 540-868-1248, if you have any questions.

THE VBS 'FACTORY FUN SHOP' IS HERE!

Vacation Bible School plans are underway! Plan for your children and younger youth to kick off the summer with **"Tinkering at the Factory,"** VBS week June 11-15, 4:30-7:30 pm. We will be discovering how God made each of us **ON PURPOSE** for **A PURPOSE!** VBS is open to 4-year-olds through 8th grade (special track planned for 5-8th graders) along with an adult class opportunity (see below). Stop by the "Factory Fun Shop" display in the Gathering Area for registration forms and volunteer forms. We hope your children and younger youth will be with us for VBS week. We hope **YOU** will volunteer to help. Friends are very welcome. Invite them now!

ADULT VBS CLASS AT OPC

Happiness: "We all look for it. Few find it. So, let's talk about it!"

We all dream of being happy. If we could just lose the extra weight, get the job, buy the house, we could truly be happy. But over time, it begins to seem as though lasting happiness is unattainable. Despite our best efforts, true happiness will never be a reality for us. So how do we find lasting happiness and contentment in our lives? Maybe the answer isn't in our own lives at all. UMC Pastor Matt Miofsky connects the existential question, "Am I happy?", with basic theology and unexpected biblical texts. Starting with the book of Ecclesiastes, considering if any "thing" can make us happy, he explores the value of relationships, a forgiving lifestyle, living in the present, feeling gratitude, and learning to release control.

June 11-15 (Sunday-Thursday) 6:30-7:30 pm

Please register at the "Factory Fun Shop" display

Great nightly class sessions facilitated by Pastor David Witt.

Join this time of study and fellowship together.