

# Opequon Presbyterian Church

## 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 are located in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the basket when you are leaving.
  - **Look forward to taking part in a Sunday School class each week.** Sunday School is held at 9:45 am 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 before 12:00 pm on Friday.
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217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843 [www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org) WIFI: Network ID: opc-guest Password: 25dec!!!

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



**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**  
Opequon Presbyterian Church, Winchester, Virginia

December 24, 2017

7:30 p.m.

†Please stand if able.

All read bold print.

**GATHER**

PRELUDE ..... *Carol Medley*

WELCOME

INTROIT ..... *Christmas Bells are Ringing*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES**

..... Cheryl, Joe, Rachel, Hannah & Joseph Burton

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Tonight we celebrate the one moment, the one birth, and the one life that forever changed the world!

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Because you came to us, we have experienced the ultimate hope to combat even the darkest moments.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Because you came to us, we have seen the fullness of love to the highest degree.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Because you came to us, we have seen the face of peace in its purest form.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Tonight, we celebrate your birth that unleashes hope, peace, joy, and love into the world from now until the day of your return.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

†CAROL NO. 133 ..... *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

†CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

**Glorious God, on this Christmas Eve, we sing beloved carols of Bethlehem, of shepherds and angels, of Mary and Joseph, and the infant Jesus, our Savior. Is there yet a new song we can sing to you? A song to be learned from the heavens and the earth:**

where the roar of the sea, the exultation of the fields, and the joy of the trees are already raised in a chorus of glad rejoicing, ready to welcome you. Even if no ear may hear your coming, help us hear the music of creation. Then, with the whole world, we will sing of your salvation, declare your glory, and in a crescendo of praise, bless your name: **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace! Amen.**

†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.**

## ENGAGE

ANTHEM ..... *Emmanuel's Cradle Song*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7 ..... Pew Bible p. 555

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 2:1-20 ..... Pew Bible p. 832

†CAROL NO. 121 ..... *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SERMON ..... "Mend Our Hearts"  
Pastor David R. Witt

## RESPOND

ANTHEM ..... *Hurry, Shepherds, Run*

OFFERING OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY ..... *Carol of the Bells* ..... Arr. Heavner

†CAROL NO. 113 ..... *Angels We Have Heard on High*

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer.)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Music

Special Music        *What Child Is This*..... Garrett Jones

*O, Holy Night*..... David Witt

Communion Prayer

## GO FORTH

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ..... *We Pass This Flame to You*

During the song, the ushers will come forward, light their candles, and proceed down the aisles, lighting the candle of the first person in each pew. You are asked to pass the light on to the person on your right or left. *Please only tilt the unlit candles.*

†CAROL ..... *Silent Night! Holy Night!*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

CCLI #1622560

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

## †CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

## †POSTLUDE

### **COME AND WORSHIP, COME AND WORSHIP, WORSHIP CHRIST THE NEWBORN KING!**

We joyously welcome you to worship tonight as we together celebrate the birth of Jesus. We feel greatly blessed that you are here! Like the shepherds, “let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” (Luke 2:15). Merry Christmas to you and your family!

### **COMMUNION TONIGHT IS BY INTINCTION**

We will come forward to the communion table to receive the sacrament by intinction. Each section of pews should move to the left as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread and gluten free grape juice (blue cup) are available in the center section; please see an usher for assistance. Please tear off a piece of bread and then dip it in the cup of grape juice, eating immediately. Then, return to your seat by the right aisle. Serving communion tonight are: Bill & Pam Bayliss, Alan McKay, Carole Witt, Larry Donovan & Robin Owens.

### **TAKE CARE WITH THE CANDLES TONIGHT!**

We encourage caution and the utmost care with an open flame in sharing the light of Christ at the conclusion of worship tonight. Please watch that each family member responsibly holds the candle upright so as not to drip wax and keeps the candle away from paper and bulletins at all times. Ushers will be watchful and ready to assist.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE**

David Witt ----- Pastor  
Tracie Martin ----- Parish Associate  
William Heavner----- Organist/Pianist  
Susan Homan ----- Director of Music  
Alan McKay----- Beadle  
David, Melody & Breanna Daggett ----- Greeters  
Ina & Robert Walker ----- Hospitality Greeters  
Bill Robinson ----- Lights  
Alyce Callahan, Kyle Homan, Annemarie Matthews,  
Lance Pierce, Joe & John Winn ----- Ushers