

Opequon Presbyterian Church

... **repentance** and
forgiveness of sins
is to be **proclaimed**

in

HIS

NAME

to all nations ...

LUKE 24:47, NRSV

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 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.

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
 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 -----Director of Youth & Young Adults



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 15, 2018

8:30 & 11:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *Now the Green Blade Riseth*..... Arr. McCabe
Please use this time to prepare for the worship of God.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew racks—please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

MINUTES FOR MISSION “CAT & Visioning”
Elder Mac McNichols

†GATHERING SONG NO. 452 *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The bread of life opens our eyes.

The word of life opens our ears.

The Risen One shows us God's own brokenness,

And by those wounds we are healed.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

†HYMN NO. 254 *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*
(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The One who calls us to repent, hears us. In trust that our Creator knows us through and through, let us open our hearts to the healing of God's forgiveness.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. You sent the Lord of life among us, yet we gave him up to die. You raised him from the dead, yet we still do not believe. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to receive with gratitude the great gift of love you offer, and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

By the Holy Spirit, God reveals radical, surprising love and comes to us through holy word. Open your eyes and your ears; see and hear what God is doing and saying:

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 240 (vv. 1,4)

.....*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.)

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM *Open Thou Mine Eyes*

Open Thou mine eyes and I shall see. Open Thou mine ears and I shall hear. Incline my heart, I shall desire, order my steps and I shall walk the ways of Thy commandments. O Lord my God, be Thou to me a God, that I may love You, that I may serve You, that I may worship You and adore You, that I may follow You, that I may look to You. Amen.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

FIRST LESSON: Acts 3:12-19 Pew Bible p. 887

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:36-48 Pew Bible p. 861

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... “You Are the Ones!”

†HYMN NO. 451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

SERMON..... “Recognizing God’s Work”
Pastor David R. Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Be Thou My Vision* (Tune: Slane)

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

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from the PCUSA Study Catechism, Q85)

What is the nature of resurrection hope?

Resurrection hope is a hope for the transformation of this world, not a hope for escape from it. It is the hope that evil in all its forms will be utterly eradicated, that past history will be redeemed, and that all the things that ever were will be made new. It is the hope of a new creation, a new heaven and a new earth, in which God is really honored as God, human beings are truly loving, and peace and justice reign on earth.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

WE GO OUT IN GOD’S NAME

†HYMN NO. 547 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 743

..... *O God, You Are My God (Step by Step)*

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

**And step by step you’ll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.**

†POSTLUDE

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Leslie, Jamie and Amy Tucker in celebration of the 28th anniversary of Jim Tucker’s successful unrelated bone marrow transplant on April 10, 1990, and to honor his anonymous donor for his selfless, lifesaving gift.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Hour

9:45 am each Sunday

Preschool-5th grade children enjoy lessons and activities from WALK WITH ME.

Come on down to Room 3 and see what is happening each Sunday!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 15-22, 2018

TODAY

8:30 am: Morning Worship
9:45 am: Faith Formation Educational Hour
9:45 am: Newcomers' Meeting with Session—Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 am: Morning Worship
12:30 pm: Presbyterian Youth Connection—Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK

Monday: Christian Believer—3:00 pm—Bageant Room
Sing! Shenandoah—6:00 pm—Sanctuary
Tuesday: Session Meeting—7:00 pm—Bageant Room
Wednesday: Staff Meeting—9:30 am—Bageant Room
Winchester Newcomers—9:30 am—Fellowship Hall
LOGOS Leadership Team—5:00 pm—David's Office
Sanctuary Choir Practice—7:00 pm
Thursday: Scout Troop 1—7:00 pm—Assembly Room
Young Adult Game Night—7:00 pm—Home of Rebekah Witt
Saturday: Bridal Shower—2:00 pm—Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY

Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am
G.I.F.T Event—9:45 am—Fellowship Hall
Acts 4:5-12, John 10:11-18
Sermon: "The Work of the Shepherd"
New Members Received
Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee
Presbyterian Youth Connection—12:30 pm—Motel Ministry

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH:

8:30 am—79 Faith Formation—47 11:00 am—113
Open Door—27

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Christine Clark
Deidre Kriewald
Jeanette Baccary
Amy Elson
Carolyn Duggan Family
Hughes Family
Gerhard Vienna Family
Casey Carr
Chris Lucas
Lynne Mathis
Terry Hartman
Dave Browning
Chuck Phares
Dick Martin
Mary Ruth Joyner
Terry Coffman & Family
Ed Duetsch
Kilbourne Family
Harriet Kibler
Jared Kravitz
Naomi Thomas
Susan Ritter

Ethan & Leah Matthews (twins,
Audrey & Ethan)
Barbara Denmon
Emma Mathis
Juliet Ndofor & Daniel Batcha
Laurie Carver
Teresa Ritenour
Charlie Harmon
Christine Clark
Alice Foley
Scott Lloyd
Kathy Milliser
Susan Graybill
Jennifer Rosedale
Bill Nestor
Mitch Orndorff
Ethiopia
Keith McMurdo
Bill Bland
Harriet Smith
Marjory Journell
Gary Saunders

Norman & Nancy Tisinger
Katie Heavner Baker
Kevin Ganoe
Ann Held
Larissa Strosnider
Megan McCord
Al Owens
Charles Nicholson
Bruce Metcalf
Gretchen Cooley
Susan Lee
Mark Wilhelm
Frances Pitcock
Gary Strickler
Phyllis Dilley
Jane Lewis
Larry Matthews
Doug Koch
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Max Crane, Stephen Crane, Taylor McMurdo, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Jared Snawder, Greg Sousa, Michael White, and their families.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

- ❖ TODAY-The Olympics may be over in Pyeongchang, Korea but we will have our own competition at Youth Group! Stay after church or come at 12:30 pm to the Fellowship Hall for the Olympic Games. Lunch will be provided, but please bring \$2 if you're able. We will finish around 2:30 pm.
- ❖ April 22-Motel Ministry at 12:30pm is one of our local outreach opportunities that you and your family can join on any Fourth Sunday of the month. We get some food together, pack the van, and head out to the motels down the road from our Church. It's a time of conversation with those who live there along with offering items to help them get through the next month. Come participate in this community mission experience.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30 am

Acolyte: Nicholas Hott
Beadle: Tom Tandy
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeter: Cindy Sousa
Hospitality: Debbie & Bill Bender
Liturgist: Rebecca Coryell
Ushers: Elise Buonocore, Terry Hartman, Nicholas Hott
Heide Mohler, Taylor Roark

11:00 am

Acolyte: Grace Morgan
Bell Ringer: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie Kelly
Hospitality: Annemarie Matthews, Susan Ritter
Liturgist: Robyn Ervin
Live Stream: Susan Ritter
Nametags: Martha Fulton
Ushers: Jason Brown, Carter Cooper, Andy Homan,
Grace Morgan, Abbie Rogers, Joel Witt

YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18-35) NEWS

April 19-Game Night/Card Writing, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. Let's meet at Rebekah Witt's home, 203 Halifax Court in Stephens City. We will play some games and write cards to people in the South Texas Family Residential Center. This is a part of the Angel to Angel Project that the PC(USA) participates in so detainees are reminded they are loved. Snacks will be provided!

BRIDAL SHOWER

The women of Opequon are invited to a bridal shower for Susan Cooper (who will soon be Mrs. Susan Witt). **The event will be in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, April 21st at 2:00 pm.** Susan has requested that you gift her with one of your favorite recipes that you are willing to share. Susan and Joel are registered at Pampered Chef and Target. Join us for food, fun and games! Please RSVP **TODAY** to Betty Chicklo (540-868-8233 or bchicklo@yahoo.com) or June Malone (540-722-9596 or malonejune123@yahoo.com).

GIFT EVENT NEXT SUNDAY!

Wondering what “GIFT” is? It is GOOD to WONDER! “GIFT” stands for “Generations in Faith Together”. It is an intentional time when all ages gather during the educational hour on Sunday morning for experiences that likely don’t happen in separated age-level classrooms. Participants at our most recent GIFT event expressed that the experience was WORTHWHILE, so BENEFICIAL, MEANINGFUL, AMAZING. Come see what this is all about next Sunday, April 22, 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is “Potatoes in the Morning”. We will be snacking on Tater Tots, playing that favorite old game of ‘HOT POTATO’, sharing in some ‘Bible Babble’, and nurturing one another around the tables. Let’s be a family of faith learning together.

MEMORIAL GARDEN ORIENTATION

Alan McKay, visionary behind Opequon’s Memorial Garden (scatter cremains garden), will provide an orientation and respond to questions next Sunday, April 22 at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will gather for a light lunch and sharing. With good weather, we may also go on a brief excursion to the garden. Please join us.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE!

AHHH! Think Summer. Won’t we be glad when it arrives! The Bible School Team is thinking SUMMER as we prepare for the “WHOLLOPING WHALE of A TIME” that is in store for Vacation Bible School, June 10-14, 5:00-7:30 pm each evening (dinner is included). The theme for VBS week is “Swallowed Up in God’s Love.” We will be immersed in the story of Jonah! Visit the ‘whale’ in the Gathering Area to pick up registration brochures and volunteer forms. Completed forms can be placed in the ‘mouth of the whale’. Invite a friend too! When you get a friend to register, your name gets placed in the whale for a GRAND PRIZE drawing. VBS is open to 4-year-old-8th grade young people. A special track is planned for the VBS youth (5th-8th grades). Plan to join in this great kick off week to summer!

LOST AND FOUND

Are you missing any serving plates, trays or kitchen items? Please check the Lost and Found shelf near the coat rack in the Gathering Area.

NOMINATE AN OLDER ADULT FOR “OPEQUON’S 2018 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 were 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, Graham Taylor, and Carol & Jack Treece. 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 6 and they may come from anyone in the congregation. Forms may 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 2018 Older Adult of the year will be announced at the Older Adult Luncheon on May 23.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

(highlighting a different part of worship each month)

Let’s think about the **MUSIC** that occurs within a worship service.

- The music helps us to further express ourselves in worship.
- Music allows for US to fully participate in worship.
- Music helps us transition from one part of worship to another.
- We communicate our faith in God and our love for God through music.
- Music offers time for prayer and quiet reflection.
- Music helps set a tone or mood for different times in worship.
- Music expresses joy and is comforting within worship.
- The uses of MUSIC in WORSHIP are endless!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSES THROUGH THE CAT!

The Visioning Team thanks you for your participation in taking the CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool). We had a total of **188** responses, representing **98.3%** of our goal! That is awesome! Our church officers and staff gathered last weekend to receive the results and hear our interpretation from our Holy Cow consultant, Michelle Snyder. She did an amazing job in facilitating our retreat. The results confirm the good news that we are “a strong church, seeking to get stronger.” We also know who we are, but we are working to more clearly discern and define where we are going in response to God’s call and mission. Another retreat will be scheduled in two months to address both interpretation and application through vision and ministry. Please be on the lookout for a mailing later this week that will provide a summary of CAT results and an overview of benchmarks. This is an exciting time to be a part of Opequon’s life, and we rejoice we can join together in faith and service.



WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How did today's music express my/our openness to God's leading and God's work?

Notes on Today's Children's Sermon

Notes on Today's Prayers

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

What helps us focus?

What does it mean to understand God's word?

How does understanding feed my faith?

In what places of my life, do I recognize God's work? In what places of the church? In what places within the world?

How will I respond to what I have learned from Acts 3 and Luke 24?