OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602 540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org



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<i>Pastor</i>	David R. Witt
Associate Pastor	Julia H. Burkley
Parish Associate	Tracie Martin
Church Office Administrator	Rachel Lesink
Church Finance Administrator	Ken Smiy
Director of Christian Education	Carole Witt
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries	Rebekah Witt
Director of Music	
Organist	William Heavner
Facilities Coordinator	
Nursery Supervisor	Laurie Carver
Faith Community Nurses	

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

To reach a staff member or if a pastoral concern arises, contact the church office or note who is out of the office and email one of the pastors directly and we will respond in a timely manner.

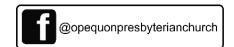
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- 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 four.
- Worship Bags are available for children ages 3 kindergarten. These bags are in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the basket when you are leaving.
- **Restrooms and a coat rack** are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- 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.

Access our Online Giving at www.opequonchurch.org/giving or scan the OR code here:



Follow us on Facebook:



A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025 - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Baptism (8:30 AM)

*Thank you for taking the time to silence your phones before we begin the Worship Service.

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

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

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

Solution Service Service

PRELUDE Wayfaring Stranger

Arranged by: Mark Hayes

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT THE CHURCH BELL RINGS GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*You are my hiding place.

You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance, whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you, I will trust in you. Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord." [* repeat]

"I will trust in you."

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God is a shepherding God.

Our God knows us by name.

Our God will never stop searching for us.

So if you feel lost,

then know that God is seeking you.

If you feel found,

then know that God will never leave.

This is the promise of scripture.

This is the promise of God's love.

Let us worship our with-us God.

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care. In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.

We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way. Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, in the Christian tradition many have used "lost" and "found" labels to describe people "out there" versus people "in here." But the truth is, each and every one of us is a little bit lost and a little bit found from time to time. Each and every one of us needs the love of the Good Shepherd. So, join me in the prayer of confession, as people who know both ends of that spectrum. Join me as we go to God in prayer:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

If God is a painter,

let us be the brush.

If God is a musician,

let us be the song.

If God is an architect,

let us be the tools.

Let us be the hands.

Let us be the builders.

But if God is a shepherd,

who never stops seeking,

let us be willing to be found,

no matter how lost we feel.

Our God is never far away.

Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, we are all a little bit lost and a little bit found. We grumble. We push back. We doubt God. We doubt ourselves. We leave the flock and lose our way. But fortunately for us, our God is a shepherding God who is always by our side. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: No matter how far we wander, we can never wander from the bounds of God's grace. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Thanks be to God! Amen.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 490 (v. 1, 3).... Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters Wash, O God, your sons and daughters,

newborn creatures of your womb.

Number them among your people,
raised like Christ from death and tomb.

Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.

Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,

O how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us; God, transform!

holy dove and heart's delight.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.) May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SOURCE SERVICE SERVI

Words & Music by: Scott Wesley Brown & Jeff Nelson Ev'ry promise we can make, ev'ry prayer and step of faith, ev'ry difference we will make is only by his grace. Ev'ry mountain we will climb, ev'ry ray of hope we shine, ev'ry blessing left behind is only by his grace. Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us, our Cornerstone. We will go forth in grace alone. Ev'ry soul we long to reach, ev'ry heart we hope to teach, ev'rywhere we share his peace is only by his grace, is only by his grace! Ev'ry loving word we say, ev'ry tear we wipe away, ev'ry sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace. Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us, our Cornerstone, Cornerstone. We will go forth, we will go forth, in grace alone.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 21:14-21Pew Bible p. 15 NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 15:1-7.....Pew Bible p. 850

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."Hide and Seek" Nursery (Infants – Age 4) As I went down to the river to pray, [solo] studying about that good ol' way, and who shall wear a starry crown? Good Lord show me the way! Oh, sisters let's go down, [females] let's go down, come on down. Oh sisters let's go down, down to the river to pray. As I went down to the river to pray, [solo] studying about that good ol' way, and who shall wear the robe and crown? Good Lord show me the way! Oh, brothers let's go down, [males] let's go down, come on down. Oh brothers let's go down, down to the river to pray. As I went down to the river to pray, [all] studying about that good ol' way, and who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way! Oh, sinners let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh sinners let's go down, down to the river to pray. As I went down to the river to pray, [all] studying about that good ol' way, and who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way! Oh, Christians let's go down, let's go down, don't you wanna come down? Oh Christians let's go down,

down to the river to pray.

"Lost and Found" Pastor Julia Burkley

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN No. 488...... I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

"I was there to hear your borning cry;

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child

with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word,

I was there to cheer you on.

You were raised to praise the living Lord

to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time

and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun."

"In the middle ages of your life,

not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night,

complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in

and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borning cry;

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold."

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

Lord, we commit these contributions to Your divine purpose. May our gifts be used to further Your kingdom, answering the needs of those around us, bringing light to dark places and hope to the hopeless.

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a seeking God, a with-us and before-us God, a chasing-after-us God.

We believe that no matter where we wander or what mountains we climb, this God — the God who walked the streets of Jerusalem, shook hands with lepers, patted children on the head, and told stories of love — is always close at hand.

So on the good days and the hard days, on the mountains and in the valleys, we believe that we are always being found. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (8:30 AM)......Camille Hartley Orndorff

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SOLUTION GOD'S NAME ◆

†CLOSING HYMN No. 649...... Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

†POSTLUDE

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's prelude is one of those hymns that has fared well as a folk song and even as a Western song. The song was known before the U.S. Civil War. A dying Union soldier inscribed the text on the walls of Richmond's Libby Prison in 1862. This poignant song, especially as arranged by Mark Hayes, is a good fit for the Lenten Season.

WELCOME THROUGH THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

We welcome Camille Hartley Orndorff into the baptized membership of Opequon Church this morning. Camille is the daughter of Casey and Kieran Orndorff and the younger sister of Colm. May Camille be blessed by the grace and steadfast love of God and may we, as her church family, remember and uphold the promises of nurture and care we have made to her and her family.

In Remembrance: Matthew Buddy Chicklo

June 3, 1944 - March 20, 2025

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.
"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."
- John 11:26-26

In Remembrance: Mary Ellen Conner McKay

June 17, 1934 - March 22, 2025

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.

"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

- John 11:26-26

In Remembrance: **Charles Arthur Littman**

August 10, 1932 - March 25, 2025

"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.

"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

- John 11:26-26

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Karen Popielski and the DesMarais families in loving memory of Mary Wheeler and PFC Joseph Keith Wheeler.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ann Smith & Family
Littman Family
McKay Family
Betty Chicklo & Family
Angela Eberle & Family

Cely Johnson

Walter & Elaine Aikens

Wanda Morris Billy Wallace Jim Bauserman

Krista

All Struggling with Mental Illness

Brett Ali

Mason Eddy Strosnider

Heather & Mark Leonard

& Family Bart Robertson

Lyndee Nelms Family Rev. Kathleen Henrion

Mike Butler Fred Rathel

Mary Beth Cornell Lance & Julie Pierce Family of Mary Lou Zickefoose

Bill Dunlap

Sydney Burton

John Zerkle Rick Ours

Kourtney Haake Rebecca, Max, &

Lorenzo Agbayani

Danny Lingo

Paula & Mac McNichols

Nancy Pitcock

Kaley & Matt Bender

Judy Gaines

Meredith Beattie

Johansen Ted Jacks Pope Francis Chick Dorofee

Charles "Skip" Schempp

Tracie Martin Jim Horner

Ginny & Danny Smith

Curt Budny

Federal Government

Workers Bill Robinson June & Nathan Windle

Jane Bell

Gary & Mary Ann

Johnson

Lynne Rosamilia

Cora Helen Anderson

Judy Orndorff

Ellen Neff Gail Walsh Katie Happel Matthew Ours

Bereaved Israelites &

Palestinians Jackie Witt

Tim Loftis

Those Suffering from

Mental Illness

Mike Shade

Jewish & Muslim Victims

Worldwide Cindy Correll Douglas Dicks Nancy Kerns

Kennedy Ransom

Ukraine

Ethiopia Church Mekane

Yesus

№PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Cameron Andrew Veach, Kayleen Paquette, Kelly Klimek, Jacob & Tiffani Peoples, Sawyer Phillips, Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane, Jacob Heavner, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes, Eli Keaton

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – March 30

Habitat for Humanity Paint Can Offering

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Car Vacuuming Fundraiser -	Parking Lot & Curb
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8:30 AM Worship & Baptism – Sanctuary & Livestream

9:30 AM Orndorff Family Event – Fellowship Hall

9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room

10:30 AM Called Session Meeting – Assembly Room

11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday: 4:00 PM Capital Campaign Team – Bageant Room

5:30 PM Windsong – Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

Tuesday: 5:00 PM Tech Team Meeting – Bageant Room

6:00 PM Ministry Team Night – Fellowship Hall

Wednesday: 8:30 AM Mid-Week Lenten Worship – Memorial Sanctuary

9:00 AM Backpack Program – Bageant Room

9:30 AM Staff Meeting – Bageant Room 1:00 PM Flower Group – Bageant Room

5:30 PM LOGOS Youth Extension

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Thursday: 10:30 AM Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary

6:30 PM Sherando Food Pantry

Friday: 6:00 PM Capital Campaign Celebration Dinner – West Oaks

Saturday: 9:00 AM Mulch Madness Work Day

NEXT SUNDAY – April 6

Communion; Confirmation Sunday; CCAP

Scriptures: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Luke 19:1-10 Sermon: "Right Relationship"

8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary

9:30 AM Session Meeting – Fellowship Hall 9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room

11:00 AM Worship & Confirmation – Sanctuary & Livestream

12:15 PM Confirmation Reception – Gathering Area

CAR VACUUMING FUNDRAISER – TODAY, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM!

Gravel, dirt, and other debris quickly made their way into cars over the winter and we all want our vehicles to be clean once again! The Youth will have shop vacs ready when you pull up to the church parking lot curb and you'll see the satisfaction that comes from a freshly vacuumed carpet. Please remove small objects from the floor of your vehicle. Donations will support Youth Mission Trips and Camps/ Conferences. Thank you!

TUESDAY FAITH FORMATION

The "Women in the Hebrew Bible" Class will meet in the Bageant Room on **Tuesday**, **1:30 PM – 2:30 PM**. This week will focus on Naomi.

MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

All are welcome to join us for a brief Lenten prayer and reflection service on **Wednesday**, **8:30 AM** – **9:00 AM**, in the Memorial Sanctuary.

EASTER TULIP ORDERS – DUE TOMORROW

Tulip order/dedication forms are available in the Gathering Area and are due to the church office by **tomorrow (Monday, March 31)**. The cost is \$10 each. Please indicate "tulips" with your payment.

LENT COLORING POSTER PROJECT

During Lent this year, our congregational challenge is to completely color the LENT POSTER that focuses on LISTENING. The poster table is set up in the Gathering Area with markers. Pick up a marker and add some color! YOU choose what color goes where! It is coming alive with bright color! Keep coloring so we can complete it by Easter Sunday. As you color, LISTEN to the sounds around you. Please remember to leave all the markers on the table for others to use as well. Thank you.

ROOTS & SHOOTS GARDEN NEWS

OPC's Roots & Shoots has several upcoming Garden Work Days planned. If you're able to come and help with the fence work, top-off the garden beds, plant, water, and/or whatever other garden tasks need to be done, please feel free to lend a hand! April Dates: **Saturday, April 12 (9:00 AM – noon)** and **Saturday, April 19 (9:00 AM – noon)**.

THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The April – June issue of *These Days Devotional* is available in the Gathering Area. This issue features "Showing Love," "A Comforting God," and "Renewed by Resurrection." Help yourself to a copy while supplies last.

LOGOS CONCLUDED 27 YEARS!

Our closing LOGOS night for the current LOGOS year ended with a great celebration this past Wednesday. LOGOS families, staff, and young people celebrated over dinner, a slide show of the year, and some very special recognitions. We have grateful hearts for such a tremendous LOGOS Ministry and for all those who have been involved. We will be getting right to work on preparing for our 28th year, which will begin in September.

NOMINATE AN OLDER ADULT FOR "OPEQUON'S 2025 OLDER ADULT OF THE YEAR"

So many of our older adults have been recognized as our "Older Adults of the Year" and we celebrate those crowned in the past: Roy Bayliss, John Boyd, Frances Smith, Louise Duncan, Bill Robinson, Shirley Brumble, Dave Brumble, Rob MacGregor, Ty Headley, Edgar Tufts, Howard Kent, Donna Coffman, Betty Ganoe, Carol Tubbs, Graham Taylor, Carol Treece, Jack Treece, Dick Crane, Gail Crane, Martha Fulton, Becky Proctor, Steve Brown, Edwina Johansen, Betty Chicklo, June Malone, Alan McKay, Jean Smith, and Phil Hunter.

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 table in the Gathering Area. Share who you nominate and WHY. **Nominations are due by May 11** 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 the selection. The 2025 Older Adult of the Year will be announced at the Older Adult Luncheon on May 28.

WHAT'S UP FOR THE DINNER CELEBRATION AT WEST OAKS?

Many of us are eagerly looking forward to the Capital Campaign Dinner on Friday, April 4, at West Oaks. We're limited to 225 people due to the lack of a larger venue being available. Thank you to all who RSVP'd – we are now at FULL capacity!

*To be added to the waiting list or if your plans changed and you are no longer able to attend, please contact Tracie Martin (assocopc@gmail.com) <u>as soon as possible.</u>

- Here is a bit of "insider" information about the evening...
- 1. The event will be in the West Oaks banquet room (in the back and up a hill). There is almost no parking near the back entrance, but there is a large parking lot in the front. If you don't mind navigating a stairway, you may go through the store or around the outside to enter. For those who can't do steps or the hill, we will have a "bus stop" set-up at the lower parking lot. There is no elevator.
 - When you arrive, park and look for the balloons and greeter and the church bus will take you to the entrance. After the event, we will take those who need the bus service back to the parking lot.
- 2. There will be live music, drinks, and seats on the patio. Greeters will help with seating and such. We do not intend to assign seats, so larger groups of friends may want to be a bit early. Of course, we all are a church family, so there will be little concern about that.
- 3. The entertainment for the evening will be the same jazz group that provided the music for our Jazz Sunday. We will all enjoy that.

More questions? Ask Mitch Orndorff, Pastor David Witt, or Pastor Tracie Martin.

STAFF OUT OF THE OFFICE THIS WEEK

April 1: Julia Burkley – out of town

April 5: David & Carole Witt – out of town

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Doug Joyner **Beadle**: Bud Proctor

Door Greeters: Helen & Rex Ritchie

Ushers: Terry Hartman, Wendy & Mike Wygant,

CeCe Shaffer, Ruby Shaffer, Olive Wakeman

Acolyte: CeCe Shaffer **Bell Ringer**: Mo Mohler

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Ellen Cunningham

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Shirley Tomblin **Beadle**: Bill Thomasson

Door Greeters: Bonnie Pitzer, Maureen & Bill Wellman

Ushers: Marj Praml, Mike Nutry, Annemarie Matthews, Sierra

McGunnigle, Aubrey

McGunnigle, Maggie Murphy

Acolyte: Sierra McGunnigle

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

> How does the music today reflect the theme of lost and found?

Notes on Today's Prayers

> Who can you reach out to today to let them know you are praying for them?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

> When were you lost? What made you feel found?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

- > What are times in your life that felt like wilderness?
- > What does wilderness feel like? Bodily? Spiritually? Physically?
- > When is a time that you felt far from God?
- > What makes you feel closer to God?

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