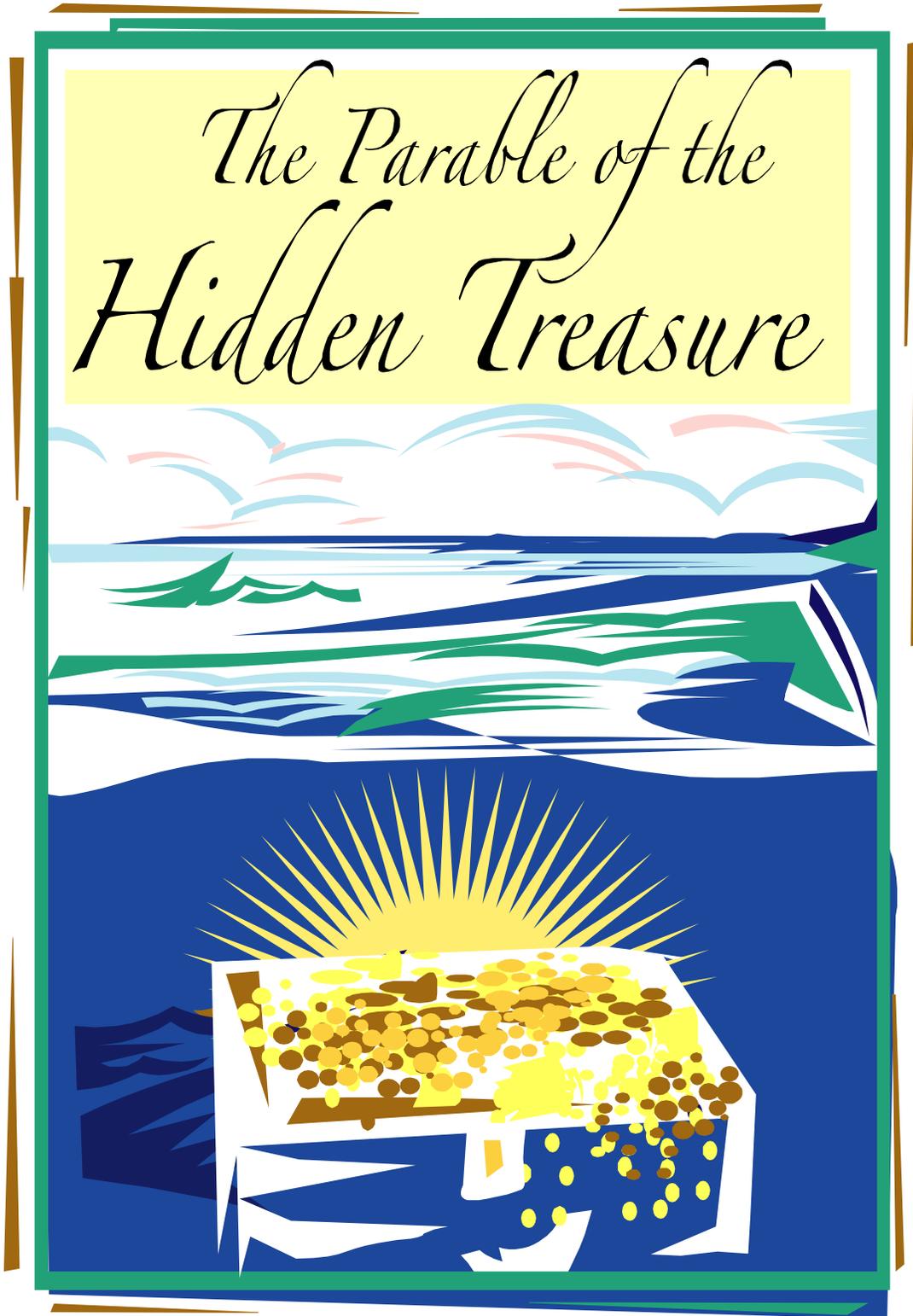


OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602
540-662-1843 www.opequonchurch.org



The Parable of the Hidden Treasure



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

July 26, 2020 9:00 am

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *Variations on "Deo Gracias"* Arr. Lasky

[Notes on the Prelude—This tune is usually subtitled "The Agincourt Song." It is an English carol that celebrates the 1415 Battle of Agincourt. "Deo Gracias" can be translated as "Thanks be to God." Our hymnal uses the tune for three different hymns. #258 is "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" which pairs this 15th Century tune with a text from the 7th Century. David Lasky's arrangement is brief but bold!]

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

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

†ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG *As the Deer*
CCLI#1622560

**As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.**

Refrain: **You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.**

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

**I want You more than gold or silver, Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver, and the apple of my eye.** (Refrain)

†CALL TO WORSHIP

God meets us in our greatest need and satisfies us with divine presence and provision. In gratitude, let us worship the Lord our God.

†HYMN NO. 5..... *God the Sculptor of the Mountains*
CCLI#1622560

**God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land:
you are womb of all creation; we are formless; shape us now.**

**God the nuisance of the Pharaoh, God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar in the darkness, God the beacon of the free:
you are fount of all deliverance; we are aimless; lead us now.**

**God the dresser of the vineyard, God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat:
You are host at every table; we are hungry; feed us now.**

**God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth,
God the table-turning prophet, God the resurrected truth:
you are present every moment; we are searching; meet us
now.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins in the presence of the One who blesses us and meets our need.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, your kingdom confounds us. You challenge our assumptions about right living, and stretch our understanding of what holds worth. You reverse our expectations and reorder our priorities until they reflect your vision of well-being for all. Your kingdom surprises us with grace upon grace. But we cling to the values of this world, which privilege produces over people, success over service, and competition for resources over the common good. Open us to new ways of living that embody your desire for creation and contribute to a commonwealth marked by justice and joy.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God of steadfast love is our refuge and Savior. In Christ, we who are broken are healed, forgiven, filled, and transformed.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 658 (vs. 1, 2, 3) *God Is So Good*
CCLI#1622560

**God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God's so good to me.**

**God cares for me; God cares for me;
God cares for me; God's so good to me.**

**God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God's so good to me.**

†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

SPECIAL MUSIC..... *You Are My All in All/Fairest Lord Jesus*

Jernigan

Susan Homan & David Witt

You are my strength when I am weak, you are the treasure I seek, you are my All in All. Seeking you as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up I'd be a fool, you are my All in all. Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, rising again I bless your name, you are my All in All. When I fall down, you pick me up, when I am dry you fill my cup, you are my All in all. Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown! Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine! Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is your name. Worthy, worthy, worthy is your name.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 29:15-28

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

A SPECIAL TIME WITH ALL GOD'S CHILDREN! "Playing Tricks"

†HYMN NO. 450 *Be Thou My Vision*

CCLI#1622560

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

SERMON "A Treasure Hunt"
David R. Witt, Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *I Must Tell Jesus*..... Arr. Hayes

[Notes on the Offertory—Elisha Hoffman, a Presbyterian minister wrote more than 2,000 hymns. Last Sunday we sang his "Leaning On the Everlasting Arms." He composed "I Must Tell Jesus" in 1894, about the same time we were building our Memorial Sanctuary. Mark Hayes' arrangement takes this old congregational hymn and reworks it into a slow gospel swing.)

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN NO. 771 *What Is the World Like*
CCLI#1622560

**What is the world like when God's will is done?
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.**

**What is the world like when God's will is done?
Witness the wondering child coming home;**

**watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.**

**What is the world like when God's will is done?
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.**

**What is the world like when God's will is done?
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.**

**These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
Filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
this is a new world where God's will is done.**

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 69 (Refrain) *Here I Am, Lord*
CCLI#1622560

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

†POSTLUDE *Epilogue*..... Martin

[Notes on the Postlude—It would be a stretch to call this organ piece a song. There are only snatches of melody scattered through semi-organized clusters of mostly dissonant chords. But I like it, and it really showcases the rich pedal notes.]

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Ramon Jones and family in memory of Karen B. Jones and in honor of all the Jones' July birthdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 26-August 2, 2020

TODAY

- 9:00 am: Livestreamed Morning Worship, Four Cents A Meal
10:30 am: Spiritual Growth Faith Formation Class via Zoom
11:00 am: In-Person Worship (**Please Note Restrictions, including Required Reservations**), Four Cents A Meal
2:00-
5:00 pm: Sizzling Summer Sunday for Families—Church Grounds
5:00 pm: Community Garden Open House—Hedgebrook Farm
6:30 pm: Wonderful Outdoor Worship—Shelter & Field

THIS WEEK

- Tuesday: Youth Group—9:30 am—Pitcock Memorial Shelter
Staff Lunch—12 Noon—Pitcock Memorial Shelter
Highland Food Pantry—5:30 pm
Wednesday: "Snackin' & Chattin'" via ZOOM—12:00 Noon
Thursday: "Just for Kids" via ZOOM—11:00 am
Tai Chi—1:00 pm—Pitcock Memorial Shelter
Sherando Food Pantry—6:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY

- Livestreamed Morning Worship—9:00 am
Spiritual Growth Faith Formation Class via Zoom—10:30 am
In-Person Worship—11:00 am
(Reservations Required—Please Note Restrictions)
Genesis 32:22-31, Matthew 14:13-21
Sermon: "Out of Chaos, Hope"
CCAP Offering
Communion at Home—9:00 am
Communion Kits—11:00 am

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nancy Budny
Sabrina Lunsford
Becky Myers
Local Schools
Una Cummings
Gerri Bayliss
Tom Schmidt
Al "Pop" Owens Sr
Dave Zarefoss
Belinda Burton
Bonnie Cummins
Jackie Boyd Family
Kent & Lee Dittman
Gary Pierce
Becky Proctor
Andrew Oliver
Denise Musgrave
Faye Myers
Donna & Tom Messerschmidt
Adam Branch Hoover
Racial Injustice
Bonnie Wilfong
Amy Lou Haake
Duke Cutshall
Donna Royston Skowronski
Riana Wilhelm
Noah Porter
Arthur deButts

James Brown
Larissa Strosnider
Dave Johnson
Coronavirus
First Responders
Healthcare Workers
Grocery Workers
Essential Workers
Schools
Funeral Homes
Families
Older Adults
Food Banks
Homeless
Underemployed & Unemployed
Megan Galloway
Lisa Shade-Snip
Bobby Hudnall
Frances Pitcock
Sue Lee
Julia Long
Lanette Orduna
Paul Ebersole
Colleen McMurdo
Lyn White
Nancy Kerns
Edgar Tufts
Nathan Windle

Mike Shade
Associate Pastor Nominating
Committee (APNC)
Casey Carr
Ed & Esther Duetsch
Mark Wilhelm
Katie Teets
TK Tandy III
Dan Thompson
Division in Our Country
Joe Lingo
Brad Treece
Patricia Ferguson
Women & Children of Domestic
Violence
Families of Children, Youth &
Young Adults with Special
Needs
Jim Butler
Tom Gano
Disaster Relief Agencies
Kes Mersha
Jane Lewis
Doug Koch
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus
Rachel & Michael Weller
Doug Dicks

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane, Edison Gomez, Taylor McMurdo, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Jared Snawder, Greg Sousa, Katherine Tufts, Michael White, and their families.

SIZZLING SUMMER SUNDAY TODAY

Families are invited to come enjoy the outdoor sizzling summer activities. There will be wading pools, water balloons, a sprinkler, corn hole, croquet, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, hula hoops, basketball, and badminton all set up around the church for kids to enjoy at their own pace as it is all self-guided. Cold drinks and popsicles will be provided for self-service. **All this fun will be available 2:00-5:00 pm this afternoon.** Parents are asked to stay with their children. No other adult supervision is provided. A summer devotional page will be provided for families to take as you leave for some follow up conversation at home. Please understand that access to restrooms

will not be available during the sizzling summer fun activities. Let the kids cool off and all of you can enjoy some refreshing summer treats.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

This week, 25 pounds of cucumbers, potatoes, tomatillos, beets, herbs, onions, various greens were donated to the Highland Food Pantry. The OPC Community Garden at Hedgebrook Farm is having an Open House today. It will be from 5:00-7:00 pm. We will provide bottled water for all and a few shady spots to sit and enjoy the garden, while you visit. Robin, Joelle, and Dana will be there and available to answer any questions you may have about this amazing garden! The address is: 690 Shady Elm Road, Winchester, VA 22602. We look forward to seeing everyone!

TONIGHT

6:30 pm

WOW!

Wonderful Outdoor Worship at the Picnic Shelter/Lawn

- Approximately 40 minutes in length
- Please bring your own lawn chairs
- Restrictions Will Apply: Minimum 6' social distancing; no singing; no restrooms on the property will be available; have a mask available for unanticipated interaction less than 6'
- No advance registration required.
- You will be directed where to park and will sit in front of your vehicle.
- Weather Permitting

Outdoor worship at 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings –August 9 & August 23

YOUR OFFERING—THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

- ✓ **Mail it** to Opequon Church, 217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602
- ✓ **Drop it** by the church by calling ahead and ringing the doorbell upon arrival. You can use the mail slot in the door (that leads to the Dell Room) after hours.
- ✓ **Set it up** through an on-line banking transfer with your local bank. You may specify the amount and the day you want your contribution sent to OPC, just like the bills you pay on-line. The advantages are convenience, time savings, and for many, forgetfulness.
- ✓ **Click it** on the Give Now button on the church website.

RE-ENTRY PLAN DETAILS

9:00 am Livestreamed Full Worship Service (only Worship Team present)

- ✓ Our current livestreamed worship will be available to you at 9:00 am or any time after
- ✓ This is the service that the congregational surveys overwhelmingly indicated must be our priority and must continue as is.

11:00 am In-Person Worship (limited to 75 people)

- ✓ 45-minute service with restrictions for all worshipers
- ✓ Minimum 6' social distancing at all times inside the building
- ✓ No social interaction inside the building
- ✓ Wearing face masks mandatory for entrance to the building and must always be worn in the building; if you do not wear a face mask, you will be asked to go home and livestream.
- ✓ No congregational singing or spoken responses
- ✓ Advanced registration and reserved seating required for worship EACH WEEK through phone call or Sign-Up Genius. Please call Rebekah Witt at 540-686-0752 for phone reservations on Monday or Tuesday. The Sign-Up Genius link will be emailed by the church office on Tuesday afternoons. **You will need to register again every week.**
- ✓ Limited seating capacity in Sanctuary (75)
- ✓ Printed bulletins on pews
- ✓ Restrooms available one person at a time
- ✓ No Nursery provided.
- ✓ We would strongly encourage those who are most compromised and those who are not able to adhere to the restrictions to stay home, stay safe, and worship with us through livestream.

OUTREACH THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Opequon's engagement in mission is strong! Your food, in-kind, and financial donations are appreciated and may be brought to the church during weekly office hours. Bins are located outside. We are especially supporting...

- Our Motel Ministry—There is a need for donations such as dish sponges, dish soap, laundry detergent pods, dryer sheets, tooth brushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, cracker packs, granola bars, oatmeal packs, boxes of easy mac & cheese, and ramen noodle packs.
- Highland Food Pantry (non-perishables)
- Sherando Food Pantry (canned chicken, canned chili with meat, canned spaghetti & meatballs, canned fruit & vegetables, soup, dry cereal)
- Bright Futures, feeding the children of Winchester and Frederick County (e.g. 100% Juice Boxes, granola bars, cup of soups, cracker packs, boxes of oatmeal packets)

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How did today's music witness to what's important in our lives?

Notes on Today's Children of All Ages Sermon

How is God working in spite of our tricks?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

- Have you ever been on a treasure hunt? What was it like? What did you discover?
- Why do you think Jesus shares these different parables?
- What are some lessons from these parables?
- What is the treasure you desire? What is your most "beautiful pearl?"
- How can we be "students well-trained in God's kingdom?"
- What is the world like when God's will is done?