

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 5, 2025 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



World Communion Sunday

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane
Winchester, VA 22602

www.opequonchurch.org

540-662-1843

office@opequonchurch.org

<i>Pastor</i>	David R. Witt
<i>Parish Associate</i>	Tracie Martin
<i>Church Office Administrator</i>	Rachel Lesink
<i>Church Finance Administrator</i>	Ken Smiy
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	Carole Witt
<i>Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries</i>	Rebekah Witt
<i>Director of Music</i>	Susan Homan
<i>Interim Organist/Pianist</i>	Laura Swartz
<i>Facilities Coordinator</i>	Robert Sydnor
<i>Nursery Supervisor</i>	Laurie Carver
<i>Faith Community Nurses</i>	Bill Martin, Mike Nutry, Pat Williams

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.

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

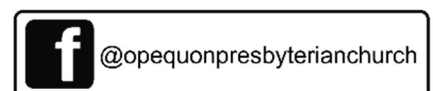
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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 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 QR code here:



Follow us on Facebook:



A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost – World Communion Sunday;
Bread Basket Buffet; Peacemaking & Global Witness Offering*

- ☞ **Thank you for silencing your phones before we begin the Worship Service.**
- ☞ **As the music of the Prelude begins, we invite you to take a moment to quietly focus your heart and 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 the offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

☞ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ☞

PRELUDE..... Karen Snyder

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

†GATHERING SONG No. 388 (1st = solo; 2nd = choir; 3rd = all) *Come All You People*
**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come now and worship the Lord.**

†CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman, Opequon Pastor, 1989-1991)

From north and south, from east and west, we come:

People called to the Table, where simple grace nourishes us.

From down the street to across town, from single households to apartment dwellers:

God's people are called to community, where we live and serve one another.

From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts:

As God's people we seek to increase our faith, to offer peace to a shattered world, to feast together at one Table of love.

Let us worship our living God.

†OPENING HYMN No. 853 *We Are Marching in the Light of God*

***We are marching in the light of God;**

we are marching in the light of God. [* repeat]

****We are marching, oo we are marching in the light of God. [** repeat]**

We are dancing... We are praying... We are singing...

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our faith may be small, but God's power is great. Our sins may loom large, but God's promise of forgiveness is sure. Trusting that God is able to do for us what we could never do for ourselves, let us make our confession, first uniting for prayer, then praying in personal silence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that the seed of faith within us is small. Hope is often absent. Love is frequently inconvenient. Our vision of your grace is too narrow. Our awareness of your mercy is too limited. Our understanding of your kingdom always falls short. We fail to measure up to the people you have called us to be. Hear our prayers and forgive our shortcomings, for our sin keeps us from responding to you. Tend to us in mercy. Raise our eyes, lift our hearts, and inflate our spirits, so that we may live joyfully and abundantly; so that we may grow in the ways of faith, hope, and love, after the example of Jesus Christ.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Relentlessly God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, across time and space and through the generations, God seeks us out. This is good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 515 (v. 1, 2) *I Come with Joy*

**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love, laid down for me, in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.**

†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..... *Bwana Awabariki (May God Give You a Blessing)*

Swahili Folk Hymn

The Batcha Family, Djembe drums

Bwana, Bwana, Bwana awabariki, Bwana awabariki, Bwana awabariki milele... Ukimcha Bwana, Bwana awabariki, Bwana awabariki, milele... May God give you a blessing, may God give you a blessing, may God give you a blessing evermore... Revere the Lord. May God Give you a blessing. Pray to the Lord. May God give you a blessing.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26..Pew Bible p. 666

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 17:5-10.....Pew Bible p. 852

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."Re-Charging Mustard-Sized Faith"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 691 *Lord, When I Came into This Life*

**Lord, when I came into this life you called me by my name;
today I come, commit myself, responding to your claim.**

**Within the circle of the faith, as member of your cast,
I take my place with all the saints of future, present, past.**

**In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,
let your great Spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.**

**So help me in my unbelief and let my life be true:
feet firmly planted on the earth, my sights set high on you.**

SERMON..... "Showing Greater Faith"

Pastor David Witt

☞ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *I Surrender All*

By: Winfield S. Weeden

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

God of all good gifts, we've gathered to grow in faith, to share our voices and to offer our gifts. We've brought these gifts, grateful for all we receive from your hand. Receive this offering. Fill us once more with your Spirit, and help us spread the Table love known here to all we encounter in the coming days. Through Christ our Savior and Host at this meal. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Hymn No. 526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

**Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

[refrain] **Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound.** [refrain]

**Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.** [refrain]

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!** [refrain]

Communion Hymn No. 525 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

**Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)**

[refrain] **When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)** [refrain]

**Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)** [refrain]

Closing Communion Prayer

☞ WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME ☞

†CLOSING HYMN No. 317..... *In Christ There Is No East or West*

**In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding human-kind.**

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.

All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE No. 765..... *May the God of Hope Go with Us Every Day*

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.**

**May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

†POSTLUDE

COMMUNION TODAY WILL INVITE YOU FORWARD

We will come forward to the communion table to receive the sacrament this morning. Each section of pews should move to the left as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available in the center section. Please see an usher for assistance. Please come forward, receive a piece of bread handed to you and eat immediately. Receive a small cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) and drink immediately, taking your used cup back to your pew and placing it in the cup holder. Return to your seat by the right aisle of your section.

Elders/Deacons serving at the 8:30 AM service today are: Kathy Hoffman, Mike Wygant, Helen Ritchie, Rex Ritchie, Jennie Wright, and Jay Tibbs.

Elders/Deacons serving at the 11:00 AM service today are: Marj Praml, Jack Marquis, Ann Smith, Ron Smith, Robin Cooke, and Bill Thomasson.

WORLD COMMUNION SYMBOLS AROUND THE SANCTUARY

The World Communion Bread display on the historic communion table was created by Robin Eddy, Allison Blake, and Jennie Wright. The Paraments on the pulpit and communion table were created by our LOGOS Young People in 2015. The napkins on the communion table were designed and created by women from the Evangelical Ethiopian Church Mekane Yesus. The flags in the windows represent our many mission partners around the world.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Dave Rusch	Art Friedrichsen	Ken Johansen
Jean Klein	Travis Carr	Charlotte Rosamilia
George Goode, Jr.	Laura Boynton	Israel/Iran Conflict
Finn	David Lewis	Jeff Erhardt
Geanie Henley	Amanda Flaugh	Clay Knick
Krista Strukoff	Cindy Millard	Susan Arthur
(DeCeault)	Violence in America	Bill Gesell
Scarlett Kibler	Bill Robinson	Suellen Knowles
Ray Ferguson Family	Sara Frey	Susan Kelican
Nancy Budny & Family	Marcia & Mike	All Struggling with
Joyce Allen	Jaureguizar	Mental Illness
Judy Smith	David DesMarias	June & Nathan Windle
Mischell Longfellow	Aaron Snyder	Bereaved Israelites &
Candi Gardner	Gaza Famine	Palestinians
George Schwantes	Brenda Steffens	Tim Loftis
Alyce Callahan	Ellie Cammer Family	Mike Shade
Al & May Schollenberger	Cathy Jones	Jewish & Muslim Victims
Homan Family	Sparky Gomez	Worldwide
Rick Ours	Judy Gaines	Cindy Correll
Paula & Mac McNichols	Megan Tschappat	Douglas Dicks
Bill Howard	Pastor Kristin Whitesides	Nancy Kerns
Braxton McKee	Judy Orndorff	Kennedy Ransom
Mike Crawford	Katie Happel	Ukraine
Sylvia Morgan	Lyn Warren	Ethiopia Church Mekane
Mark Everly	Lori Jones & Stephen	Yesus
Jane Holsinger	Armstrong	

✠ **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 – October 5

World Communion Sunday; Bread Basket Buffet; Peacemaking & Global Witness Offering

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:30 AM	Bread Basket Buffet – Gathering Area
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
9:45 AM	Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
10:45 AM	Called Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday:	9:30 AM	Older Adult Planning Team – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	Mission Team Potluck Dinner – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Windsong – Sanctuary
Tuesday:	1:30 PM	Spiritual Gifts Class – Bageant Room
	5:00 PM	Tech Team Meeting – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	Ministry Team Night – Fellowship Hall
Wednesday:	12:00 PM	Happy Days – Fellowship Hall
	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: Spirit Night)
	7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
	2:30 PM	GLOW Leadership Meeting – Bageant Room
	6:45 PM	Micah 6:8 Faith Formation – Bageant Room
	7:00 PM	Vision Team Meeting – Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	ART Team Meeting – Assembly Room
Saturday:	9:00 AM	AFSP "Out of the Darkness" Walk

NEXT SUNDAY – October 12

Pastor Appreciation Sunday; Distribution of Thanksgiving Banana Boxes
Scriptures: Psalm 66:1-12; Luke 17:11-19 Sermon: "With A Grateful Heart"

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
9:45 AM	Medical Mission Trip Interest Meeting – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Spring Arbor Worship

SCHEDULE NOTE FOR THIS WEEK

October 6-11: Rebekah Witt – Youth Worker Conference

BREAD BASKET BUFFET – TODAY

The Christian Education Team is happy to host the annual Bread Basket Buffet in conjunction with World Communion Sunday this morning. A variety of breads and spreads will be available in the Gathering Area, **beginning at 9:30 AM today**. Enjoy the tidbits about bread and all the many tasty treats. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE IS BACK INSIDE!

Opie's Playhouse meets in the Memorial Sanctuary **today, 9:45 – 10:45 AM**. We welcome all families with children elementary aged and under to join us for fun and fellowship. Come play with us!

THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The October – December issue of *These Days Devotional* is available in the Gathering Area. Help yourself while the supply lasts.

OLDER ADULT PLANNING TEAM

The Older Adult Planning Team meets **tomorrow** morning at **9:30 AM** in the Bageant Room. This team discusses plans for Happy Days events, day outings, and other special events. The meeting is open to any older adults who would like to attend. Coffee and morning treats will be provided.

FAITH FORMATION CLASS: Discerning Spiritual Gifts Class

A new Bible Study on the gifts of the Spirit will begin on **Tuesday** at **1:30 PM** with Pastor Tracie Martin in the Bageant Room. Over the next couple of weeks, we will explore some Old and New Testament traditions of these gifts, as well as several more modern experiences. You do not need to be a Bible scholar – just bring an open mind and a sense of exploration. This class will be great fun!

RSVP to Pastor Tracie (540-662-1843 or assocopc@gmail.com) and receive the lesson ahead of time to prepare for the class.

HAPPY DAYS GATHERING

The monthly older adult fellowship time known as 'Happy Days' will be held this **Wednesday, October 8**, at **NOON** in the Fellowship Hall. It is 'The Great Pumpkin Event.' Rotisserie chicken and drinks are provided. You are invited to bring a covered dish to share as part of the pot-luck lunch. PUMPKIN food items are welcome! Following lunch, we will be decorating our own little pumpkins in whatever way works best for you. All supplies will be provided. Your decorated pumpkin will be a nice fall decoration to take home. All older adults are welcome. Come enjoy the friendships, a good lunch and all the fun around the tables.

"OUT OF THE DARKNESS" STEPHENS CITY COMMUNITY WALK

This annual walk for suicide prevention will be this **Saturday, October 11**.

Detailed flyers are in the Gathering Area. Register **today** to walk with OPC's team or donate online (<https://afsp.org/stephenscity>) or contact Mike Nutry (gernurse@aol.com).

MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING – NEXT SUNDAY

Have you ever thought about going on a Medical Mission Trip? Come to the Fellowship Hall next **Sunday** at **9:45 AM** for an interest meeting and learn how you can serve with the Medical Ministry International in the Dominican Republic!

UPCOMING VISIT TO OPEQUON FROM OUR ETHIOPIAN BROTHER

We are looking forward to the upcoming visit of Kes Amena, president of the Illubabor Bethel Synod of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. He will be at Opequon Church on **Monday, October 13**, at **7:00 PM** for a fellowship gathering/talk in the Fellowship Hall. Kes has been with us before and always brings tremendous insight and inspiration to our mission partnership and shared Christian witness. Please join us for a time of refreshment and conversation, as you circle this date on your calendar.

CHILI COOK-OFF SIGN-UP

It's that time of year – our annual Chili Cook-Off is right around the corner! Sign-up in the Gathering Area if you would like to make a pot of chili for the Cook-Off Contest. We could also use some pans of cornbread. Consider being part of this fun event! If you have questions, contact Marj Praml (pramlmarjory550@gmail.com).

TRUNK and TREAT EVENT COMING

We will be holding a TRUNK & TREAT event within our Logos night on **October 29**. This is a fantastic way for children to enjoy a safe Halloween event. **WE NEED TRUNKERS!** You are invited to come open your vehicle trunk on October 29 and decorate it with a theme, provide a treat to children that visit your trunk and possibly have a simple game. There are many ideas if you google 'Trunk & Treat ideas.' TRUNK & TREAT will be held **5:00-5:45 PM** that evening. Let Carole Witt know if you can be a Trunker. (dce@opequonchurch.org)

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Shannon Brannon

Beadle: Bob Aylor

Door Greeters: Becky Myers, Jeannie Wright

Hospitality Greeter: Michelle Hammer

Ushers: Steve Bock, Jim Horner, Mike Butler,
Mason Vandertoorn, MacKenna Bell

Acolyte: Mason Vandertoorn

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Bud Proctor

Building Stewards: Mike & Trish Crawford

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Bill Bayliss

Beadle: Bill Wellman

Door Greeters: Bonnie Pitzer, Bill
& Maureen Wellman

Hospitality Greeter: Janice
McMullin

Ushers: Mike & Fran Jeffries, Mike
Nutry, Will Baker, Daniel Batcha

Acolyte: Will Baker

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How does today's music witness to the world-wide community of faith?

Notes on Today's Prayers

✂ Where and for whom do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✂ What re-charges our faith?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✂ On this World Communion Sunday, what places and people do we especially need to remember?

✂ How does our faith draw us together?

✂ When the disciples ask Jesus for more faith, how does he respond?

✂ How does our faith recognize our dependence on God through what God is already doing?

✂ What will you bring to the Table today as we gather?

✂ What elements of communion are especially meaningful for you? Tell about an experience of the sacrament that was particularly memorable.

✂ On this World Communion Sunday, what reflections do you have on the global nature of the Body of Christ?

"Bwana Awabariki" (May God Give You a Blessing) Swahili Folk Hymn; arr. Eugene Butler © 2003 Harold Flammer Music (admin. Hal Leonard LLC, Tom Cat Music). All rights reserved. Reprinted / streamed with permission obtained from CCLI with Church Copyright License® #1622560 and CCLI Streaming Plus License™ #CSPL142660. | Songs reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #742171: "Come All You People" Alexander Gondo, 20th cent.; Text Transcr.: I-to Loh, 1986; Music Arr. John L. Bell; Music Arr. © 1994 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). All rights reserved. | "We Are Marching in the Light of God" (Siyahamba) South African; English Trans. & Music Arr. © 1984 Utryck (admin. Walton Music Corp, a div. of GIA). All rights reserved. | "I Come with Joy" Brian Wren, Joe Galyon; words © 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company music © 2021 Hope Publishing Company in I Come with Joy #3006; Tune: music © 2021 Hope Publishing Company Text: words © 1971, 1995 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. | "Lord, When I Came into This Life" Text: Fred Kaan; Music Harm. Charles H. Webb; Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company. Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. Music Services). All rights reserved. | "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" Text: Fred Kaan; Music: Jamaican folk melody, adapt. Doreen Potter; Text & Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. | "Let Us Break Bread Together" Text & Music: African American Spiritual; Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen. All rights reserved. Used by permission. All other music for this service is found in the public domain.