

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

He makes me lie down
in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters ...

Psalm 23:2, NRSV



Fourth Sunday in Lent
"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus:
Living into Our Faith"

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. Our workers are masked and fully vaccinated for COVID.
- **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.
- **Online giving may be accessed by using this QR code:**



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David R. Witt	Pastor
Julia H. Burkley.....	Associate Pastor
Tracie Martin	Parish Associate
Laurie Carver	Nursery Supervisor
William Heavner.....	Organist
Susan Homan	Director of Music
Rachel Lesink.....	Office Administrator
Patty Klinefelter, Bill Martin, Mike Nutry, Pat Williams.....	Faith Community Nurses
Ken Smiy	Finance Administrator
Robert Sydnor	Sexton
Carole Witt	Director of Christian Education
Rebekah Witt.....	Youth & Young Adult Director

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

March 19, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE..... *O Save Me God, and Hear My Cry*
Arranged by David Lasky

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT
THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

†GATHERING SONG No. 467 *Give Us Light*
CCLI#1622560

Give us light; give us light; give us light, O Lord.
Give us life; give us life; give us life, O Lord.
Grant us peace; grant us peace; grant us peace, O Lord.
Save us now; save us now; save us now, O Lord.
Give us grace; give us grace; give us grace, O Lord.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

God does not see as mortals see. We look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

Once we lived in darkness, but now – as children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

†OPENING HYMN No. 377 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*
CCLI#1622560

I want to walk as a child of light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. [Refrain]

[Refrain] **In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.** [Refrain]

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
[Refrain]

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

How do we know when our actions are right? When the fruits of our labors are good and true. Christ is the light that exposes all we keep hidden, but offers us healing and renewal instead of judgment. Therefore, let us hold up our sins to Christ's gaze.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus restores our souls and leads us in right paths for his name's sake. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 802 (vs. 1, 3). *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
CCLI#1622560

**The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I
nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and
on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

†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."

WORDS OF APPRECIATION AND RECOGNITION OF CAREGIVERS

COMMISSIONING OF OUR FAITH-COMMUNITY (PARISH) NURSES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM.....*Follow The Way of the Lord*

CCLI#1622560

On each journey that you take, follow the way of the Lord. In ev'ry single choice you make, follow the way of the Lord. Climbing up the mountainside, or swimming hard against the strongest tide, Christ is there to be your guide, follow the way of the Lord. Through the vale where shadows fall, follow the way of the Lord.

Jesus answers when you call, follow the way of the Lord. As the Saviors path unfolds come and walk the straight and narrow road, Christ will lighten up your load, follow the way of the Lord.

Follow and pray; follow today; follow the way of the Lord. Follow His grace; follow in faith; follow the way of the Lord.

In ev'rything you say or do, follow the way of the Lord. The Savior watches over you follow the way of the Lord. On that morning when you rise Christ will lead you home up to the skies, all the way to paradise, follow the way of the Lord.

Will you decide now to follow Jesus? No turning back, no turning back.

Follow His grace; follow in faith; follow the way of the Lord. Follow and pray; follow today; follow the way of the Lord.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Samuel 16:1-13Pew Bible p. 226

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 9:1-41Pew Bible p. 871

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "The Little Guy"

†HYMN No. 182 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*
CCLI#1622560

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest; lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast." I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad; I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live." I came to Jesus, and I drank that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.

SERMON..... "A Second Look"
Pastor David Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Wayfaring Stranger*
Arranged by Mark Hayes

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

In gratitude, O God, we come to your table, into your presence, into your house. For all that you have done for us, most especially, for bringing us into the light of Jesus Christ, we offer our thanks and praise. We long to live as children of light, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing the fruit of the light through Jesus Christ, who awakens those who sleep, and raises those who are dead to new life. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Psalm 23 (King James Version)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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. 803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
CCLI#1622560

**My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.**

**When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.**

**The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.**

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*
CCLI#1622560

**I have decided to follow Jesus. I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus. No turning back, no turning back.**

†POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS
March 19 – 26, 2023

TODAY

Blood Pressure Checks

8:30 AM	Morning Worship (In Person & Live Stream)
9:45 AM	Lenten Prayer Breakfast – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Morning Worship (In Person)
11:00 PM	Morning Worship (In Person)
1:30 PM	Spring Arbor Worship
2:00 PM	PS 150 Practice – Memorial Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Youth Families' Mental Health Night – Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Taizé Worship Service – Memorial Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday:	Life Goes On – 12:00 Noon – Fellowship Hall LOGOS Leadership Team – 4:45 PM – Bageant Room Safety Team – 6:00 PM – Gathering Area Windsong – 6:00 PM – Sanctuary
Tuesday:	Staff Meeting – 10:00 AM – Bageant Room Session Meeting – 7:00 PM – Bageant Room
Wednesday:	LOGOS – 4:30 PM LOGOS Sunday Practice Theme: "Spring Break Night" Our Daily Bread Faith Formation – 6:15 PM – Assembly Room Choir Practice – 7:15 PM – Sanctuary
Thursday:	Tai Chi – 10:30 AM – Memorial Sanctuary Winchester Area Newcomers' Club (WANC) – 10:30 PM - FH Micah 6:8 Faith Formation – 7:00 PM – Bageant Room and Zoom
Friday:	Java with Julia – 11:00 AM-1:00 PM – Espresso Café Music Reflections – 12:00 PM – Sanctuary
Saturday:	Roots & Shoots Workday – 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon Private Family Event – 10:00 AM-5:00 PM – Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY

Four Cents A Meal, LOGOS Sunday – 11:00 AM

Morning Worship – 8:30 AM (In Person)

Faith Formation – 9:45 AM – Assembly Room

Morning Worship – 11:00 AM (In-Person & Livestream)

Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 12:1-2

Sermon: "Running the Race"

LOGOS 25th Anniversary Reception

Church Coffee House – 6:00 PM – Memorial Sanctuary

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Karen Popielski and the DesMarais family, in remembrance and honor of their beloved Mary Wheeler (mother, grandmother & great-grandmother) on her first anniversary in heaven.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's prelude is the hymn tune, "Detroit" and was composed for "Kentucky Harmony", a shape note hymnal published in Harrisonburg, Virginia, circa 1820. The text is drawn from Psalm 54 which begins: "Save me, O God, by thy name, and judge me by thy strength. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth." This morning's offertory is one of those hymns that has also 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.

LENT BREAKFAST EVENT: TODAY 9:45 AM – FOR EVERYONE!

The Christian Education Team is hosting a LENT Breakfast this morning at 9:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to come enjoy a delicious breakfast of assorted egg casseroles, cinnamon buns, muffins, and fruit. There is something yummy for everyone. Winter Brooks will be our special leader in sharing a devotion and leading in the weaving of a Cross. You are guaranteed to be nourished through this heartwarming time.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Brent Emmart Family
Clarke Co. High School
Rebecca & Max
Agbayani
Carol Tubbs
Caroline Hastreiter
Brenda & Terry
Caldwell
Larry
OPC Staff
Conner Berson
Marie Hoar
Meredith Shaw &
Family
Kim Hodson & Family
LGBTQ Community
Annie Aisenberg
Ellie Cammer
Kait Rusch
Gail Crane
Leslie Tucker
Dan Rockwell
Employees Who Lost
Jobs w/ Valley
Health

Steve & Denise Howe
Grant Patton
Jerry Metheny
Judy Colladay
Thomas Twins
Rick Ours
OJ Sizemore
Jack & Carol Treece
Bill Heavner
Fred Johnston
Donald Elson
Scarlett Kibler
Daniel Crites
David Crites
Colleen & Dan Zbur
Caroline Hastreiter
Ron Shickle
Amy Gray
Tim Loftis
Kayla Gardner
Jim & Jeanette
Baccary
Carol Tubbs
Rich Friedrichsen
Kathy Tobin

Rich Valenti
Ray Anderson
Kurt Hawkins
Nancy Kerns
Mike Shade
Casey Carr
Michael Weller
Tim Bullis
Sandy Johnson
Kennedy Ransom
Parker Plumb
Ellen Neff
Brenda & Terry
Caldwell
Ukraine
Afghanistan
Ethiopia Church
Mekane Yesus
Patricia & Ray
Ferguson
Clay Knick
Turkey/Syria
Earthquake

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Sawyer Phillips, Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane,
Edison Gomez, Jacob Heavner, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael,
Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes, and their families.

8:30 Worship	11:00 Worship
Liturgist: Terry Hartman	Liturgist: Lynn Metheny
Beadle: Tom Tandy	Beadle: Ron Smith
Ushers: Terry Hartman, Heide Mohler, Don Larsen, Emma Abell, Emma Roark	Ushers: Andy Homan, Joel Witt, Kevin Reed, Max Riley, Kate Wilfong, Alex Sardelis
Greeters: Jeannie Wright, Gretchen & Dave Rusch	Greeters: Jan McMullin, Bonnie Pitzer
Acolyte: Emma Abell	Acolyte: Max Riley
Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan	

LIFE GOES ON

Life Goes On will meet tomorrow at 12 Noon in the Fellowship Hall. The main dish is yet to be decided but it will be yummy. We will enjoy lunch together and watch another episode of The Chosen. Please bring a dish to pass or plan to toss in a couple of bucks toward expenses if you prefer not to cook. Please contact Tracie (assocopc@gmail.com) or the church office if you need a ride.

Taizé WORSHIP TONIGHT

Join us tonight at 7:00 pm for a Lenten Taizé service in the Memorial Sanctuary. Taizé is a style of worship originating out of France that allows us to come together in song and contemplation. Various church musicians will lead us through this service of prayer in song and scripture, and we'll have some time of silence as we worship together.

LOGOS SUNDAY WORSHIP

Next Sunday at 11:00 AM, all our LOGOS young people will be helping to lead worship. We will celebrate this wonderful ministry here at Opequon for 25 years! The theme for worship is "Running the Race of Faith". A reception will follow. Enjoy a morning of praising God among this community of faith.

COFFEE HOUSE OPEN MIC NEXT SUNDAY

The next Coffee House-Open Mic will be next Sunday, March 26 from **6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** in the Memorial Sanctuary. Relish trays, veggies, cheese and crackers, and desserts would be appreciated from those attending.

ROOTS & SHOOTS SPROUTINGS

Here are some "sprouts" of information for those who are hoping to get their garden gloves on and help us "grow" some faith and love.

- Workday: This Saturday, March 25 from 9:00 AM to Noon
- Planting Day and Blessing of the Garden: Saturday, May 13, 9:00 AM to Noon (Rain date: Saturday, May 20)
- Anyone who would be willing to be on a substitute list to pick up, transport and deliver produce to Highland Food Pantry on Tuesdays at 7:45 AM and/or Sherando Food Pantry on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 5:30 PM is asked to contact our garden administrator, Grayson Moyer (graysonmoyer7@gmail.com).

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How does the music today witness to God looking at our hearts?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

How does God look at the little guy?

Notes on Today's Prayers

Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

- What do you notice/observe with a first look?
- How often do you judge others by outward appearances or worldly success?
- What does God look upon? Why?
- What do you think it was about David that made the Lord choose him?
- How can you look upon the heart?
- How can God use you? Name something you can do for God.