

The background of the entire poster is a textured, painterly illustration. It features a large, ornate golden chalice on the right side, filled with a dark liquid. In the foreground, there is a large, round, textured object, possibly a loaf of bread or a piece of fabric, with some dried leaves or herbs scattered around it. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of gold, brown, and beige. The text "WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY" is overlaid on the left side, with "WORLD" and "SUNDAY" in blue and "COMMUNION" in white on a green background.

**WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY**

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 4, 2026 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

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>Organist/Pianist</i>	Garrett Jones
<i>Facilities Coordinator</i>	Robert Sydnor
<i>Nursery Supervisor</i>	Laurie Carver
<i>Faith Community Nurses</i>	Bill Martin, Patty Klinefelter, 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

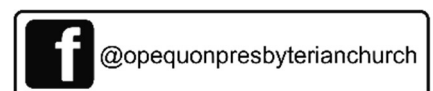
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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 children under the age of 5.
- **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

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost – Communion

- ☞ **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..... *Crowded Table*

By: The Highwomen; arr. Andrea Ramsey

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 388 (1st = solo; 2nd = choir; 3rd/4th = 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

In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.

Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's call.

What do we find at today's table?

God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

What is not at today's table?

The selfishness and powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

Let us repent and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of God's love. Let us come and praise our Maker, worshiping the Lord who makes us one.

†OPENING 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]**

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

**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]

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's law is right and just, offering us wisdom and enlightenment. Yet we ignore the importance of God's law in our lives and persist in our own ways. In humility, let us confess our sins, first in unison prayer, then in personal silence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you are the Lord our God, who brought us out of bondage into freedom. You gave us your commandments as a gift to guide us into a life of love. Yet we confess that we have selfishly not lived according to your ways. We have set up other idols in our hearts – elevating our own comfort, success, and desires above you. We have trivialized your name and lived as though your holiness does not matter. We have failed to honor the gift of rest, choosing endless striving for our own needs over trust in your provision. Lord, we have dishonored our relationships, harboring anger, nursing jealousy, and failing to love our neighbors as ourselves. We have coveted what you gave to others and been ungrateful for what you have given us. Forgive us, O God. Cleanse our hidden faults, heal our fractured lives, and turn us back to your grace and your gifts.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Know that God loves you. From the very beginning God's loving mercy has been poured out upon you. God loves you like a parent embracing you. As you press on, God watches over you, guiding you each day. On behalf of Jesus Christ, our Savior: you are forgiven; forgive others. You are restored; restore others. You are reconciled with God; be reconciled with others, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE..... *In the Secret*

In the secret, in the quiet place, in the stillness you are there.

In the secret, in the quiet, hour I wait, only for you,

'cause I want to know you more.

[refrain] **I want to know you, I want to hear your voice,**

I want to know you more.

I want to know you, I want to seek your face,

I want to know you more.

I am reaching for the highest goal, that I might receive the prize.

Pressing onward, pushing ev'ry, hindrance aside,

out of my way, 'cause I want to know you more. [refrain x2]

†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..... *The Perfect Wisdom of Our God*

By: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

The perfect wisdom of our God, revealed in all the universe; all things created by his hand, and held together at his command. He knows the myst'ries of the seas, the secrets of the stars are his, he guides the planets on their way, and turns the earth through another day. The matchless wisdom of his ways that mark the path of righteousness; his word a lamp unto my feet, his spirit teaching and guiding me. And, O, the myst'ry of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost so that the fool might shame the wise, and all the glory might go to Christ. O grant me wisdom from above to pray for peace and cling to love, and teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of your sov'reignty. Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace; so through the trials I choose to say, "Your perfect will in your perfect way."

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Pew Bible p. 58

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Philippians 3:4-14 Pew Bible p. 954

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."One Big Family"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 515 *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.**

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here, alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.**

SERMON....."Laying Aside Our Selfishness"
Pastor David Witt

✧ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ✧

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *Come, Thou Fount*
Tune: NETTLETON

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

**Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and
faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these
gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and
grace for the world you dearly love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Hymnal p. 9-10, spoken response)

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

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Music..... *Inscription of Hope*
By: Z. Randall Stroope

Closing Communion Prayer

✧ WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME ✧

†CLOSING HYMN No. 318..... *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.**

POPPIN' INTROIT *Popcorn*
By: Paul Harris

STEWARDSHIP POPS (commentary based on KJV)

CHARGE & BLESSING

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

**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: Lois Roy, Mike Wygant, Michelle Hammer, Doug Joyner, and Ellen Cunningham.

Elders/Deacons serving at the 11:00 AM service today are: Bev Leech, Bruce Leech, Ann Smith, Ron Smith, Lisa Reed, and Jack Marquis.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Gwen Moyer	Westwood School /	Bonnie Triplett
Pat DeButts	Waynesboro	Mo & Heide Mohler
Will St. Pierre	David Hofmann	Marge & Tim Higgins
Michelle Peterson	Nepal Disaster	Susan Arthur
Lisa Crudele, Jessica, & Family	Harry Brooks	Tammy Mowery Earhart
Jodi & Bill Deck & Family	Kathy Ludwig	Dan Cammer
Carol Fries	June Windle	Middle East War
Joan Patton	Rick Ours	Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Clayton Carbaugh	Judy Gaines	Mike & Trish Crawford
Jaclyn, Taylor, & Bennett Beaubien	Jessica Brogler	JoAnne Farrell
John Gavett	Robin Owens	Judy Camper
Al Schollenberger	Bill Gesell	David Lewis
Allison Rivera	Lorin & Bill Goulart	All Struggling with Mental Illness
James (Jim) Goulding	Sandy Widell	Nancy Kerns
Gary Rutherford	Kraig Hawkins	Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Dale Barley	Roger Callis	Cindy Corell
Carolyn Hartman	Tim & Katherine Loftis	Katie Wolf
Vern Gamble	Jim Keeler	Ukraine
Hazel Spriggs	Katie Happel	Ethiopia Church Mekane
Chick Doroffee	Marcia Jaureguizar	Yesus
	Lyn Warren	
	Linda Swiger	
	Mike Shade	

✿ **THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES** ✿

Kaylynn Tavenner, Robert Littman, Cameron Lloyd, 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, Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes

✿ **OUR SCHOOL OF THE WEEK** ✿

Staff & Students at Robert E. Aylor Middle School in Stephens City, VA

WORLD COMMUNION BREAD BASKET BUFFET

Each year on World Communion Sunday, the Christian Education Team hosts 'Bread Basket Buffet' a time to enjoy various breads and spreads between the services and learn some tidbits about bread too. This year we are making and serving **HOMEMADE SOFT PRETZELS** for the Bread Basket Buffet and sharing some insightful facts about pretzels! Maybe you will smell them baking, but hopefully you will taste their goodness as you eat one. Coffee and Juice will be available too. The Soft Pretzel Buffet will be in the Gathering Area beginning at **9:30 AM**.

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – October 4 (World Communion Sunday)

World Communion Offering

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

THIS WEEK

Monday:	9:30 AM	Older Adult Planning Team – Bageant Room
	5:00 PM	Logos Leadership Team – Bageant Room
	5:30 PM	Windsong Practice – Memorial Sanctuary
Tuesday:	1:00 PM	Disciple Faith Formation – Bageant Room
	5:00 PM	Tech Team – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	Ministry Team Night – Fellowship Hall
Wednesday:	9:30 AM	Staff Meeting – Bageant Room
	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: October Olympics Night)
	6:15 PM	Confirmation Class – Bageant Room
	7:15 PM	Choir Practice – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary/Picnic Shelter
Friday:	5:30 PM	Nowlin/Owens Wedding Rehearsal – Garden/Picnic Shelter
	6:00 PM	Windsong Bake Sale Drop-Off – Fellowship Hall
Saturday:	10:00 AM	AFSP Walk – Sherando High School
	3:30 PM	Nowlin/Owens Wedding (private) – Garden/Picnic Shelter*

NEXT SUNDAY – October 11 (Pastor Appreciation Sunday)

Scriptures: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9

Sermon: "A Mindset of Love and Gratitude"

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Car Vacuuming Fundraiser – Parking Lot & Curb
8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room & Zoom
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Spring Arbor Worship
3:00 PM	Windsong Rehearsal – Memorial Sanctuary

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE

Join us for playtime in the Memorial Sanctuary at **9:45 AM**! There are toys, snacks and juice for our little ones, and coffee and conversation for our adults. We roll out the carpets, bring in the toys, and the fun begins. We hope to see you there!

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 trips and special events. The meeting is open to any older adult who would like to attend. Coffee and morning goodies are provided.

CAR VACUUMING FUNDRAISER

TO BENEFIT YOUTH MISSION TRIPS & CONFERENCES

Sand, mud, and other debris quickly make their way into cars over the summer, but fall is here, and we all want our vehicles to be clean once again! Pull up to the church parking lot curb on **Sunday, October 11, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM**. The Youth will have shop vacs, 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 & Camps/Conferences. Thank you!

AFSP "OUT OF THE DARKNESS" WALK

Our Mission Team is sponsoring a team to walk and help raise money for suicide awareness and prevention at the family-friendly Community Walk for Suicide Prevention on **October 10**. For details or to join and/or support our team visit: <https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/teams/398416> or contact Team OPC Captain Sheyenne Ervin (sheyenneervin@gmail.com).

THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The October-December issue of *These Days* is available in the Gathering Area. This issue features writings on "A Season of Blessings", "Faithful in Urgent Times", "Looking for Signs" and "Expectations". Pick up a copy while supplies last. If you are interested in your own subscription, email customer_service@presbypub.com.

ANNUAL HIGHLAND FOOD PANTRY FUNDRAISER

It's almost time for the Highland Food Pantry's annual fundraiser and tickets are now on sale! The "2026 Men on a Mission Event" on **Saturday, November 7**, will be held at **5:00 PM** in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in downtown Winchester. Tickets are \$30 each and will provide you with unlimited access to the culinary creations of 30 local chefs. Please come and join in the fun, sample some tasty food, and support the mission of the Highland Food Pantry. For tickets or more information, please visit www.highlandpantrywinc.org or contact Barbara Rupert (barrup53@gmail.com / 540-247-6951).

ROOTS & SHOOTS GARDEN

Our garden has donated over 600 pounds of fresh produce to local food pantries so far this year! We are so grateful to everyone who has helped make this possible. Interested in volunteering? Contact Sheyenne Ervin (sheyenneervin@gmail.com / 540-447-6063). "A garden is a friend you can visit any time." – *Unknown*

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Brenda Steffens

Beadle: Carroll Youngblood

Door Greeters: Pam Olsen, Gretchen Rusch, Dave Rusch

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

Acolyte: Mason Vandertoorn

Building Steward: Michelle Hammer

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Kyle Homan

Beadle: Judy Moody

Door Greeters: Tiny Sizemore, Bonnie Pitzer

Ushers: Mike Jeffries, Fran Jeffries, Mike Nutry, Will Baker, Henry White, Daniel Batcha

Acolyte: Will Baker

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How did the music today witness to our shared communion experience with the world?

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

✂ How big is your family? How big is our family around the table today?

✂ What do you think about when we celebrate communion?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✂ Think about the Ten Commandments and how they have impacted and shaped you.

✂ How do the Ten Commandments help us focus our attention beyond ourselves?

✂ What is the purpose of worship in our lives?

✂ How does the apostle Paul lay aside his pedigree, experience, and selfishness?

✂ What does Paul do to press on? What will you do to press on for the upward call?

✂ How will "communion with the world" today impact and shape you for this new week?

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Some Christians perceive worship as a Sunday "movie date" where we watch a performance from a distance. But, like popcorn, true worship is participatory – something we actively engage in, not something we consume passively. In the same way, enjoying popcorn becomes more meaningful when it's shared and enjoyed together. And who doesn't love cheese popcorn.

How to Make Cheese Popcorn

Here are the simple steps to make cheese popcorn in minutes...

1. **Pop:** My microwave always takes about 30 extra seconds to pop the popcorn.
2. **Remove Seeds:** Popcorn kernels are no fun to bite down on. So, simply remove them before adding the rest of your ingredients.
3. **Drizzle:** Place your popcorn in a large bowl and cover with melted butter.
4. **Shake:** Toss the popcorn with the cheese powder for a delicious cheesy snack.

A balanced cheddar seasoning usually includes:

- **Cheddar Cheese Powder** – the main flavor; choose *fine* powder for best adhesion.
- **Buttermilk Powder** – adds tang and creaminess similar to packaged cheddar popcorn.
- **Nutritional Yeast** – boosts savory, cheesy depth.
- **Cornstarch** – helps the mix cling and prevents clumping.
- **Salt** – use fine popcorn salt so it disperses evenly.