

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA

22602 540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org



“From Generation to Generation”

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 located 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
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

November 27, 2022

8:30 & 11:00 am

First Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

PRELUDE

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

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR MISSION "Ty Headley Tree of Warmth" Blanket Drive

Susan Homan and Jennie Wright

†GATHERING SONG No. 92 *While We Are Waiting Come*

CCLI#1622560

**While we are waiting come; while we are waiting come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.**

**With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.**

**Come Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting come.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES The Youngblood/Hartman Family (8:30)

The Praml/Kibler Family (11:00)

†CALL TO WORSHIP

We come from a world of darkness

Into Christ's world of light.

One: We come from a world of weariness

Into God's strength and hope.

We come from a slumbering world.

**Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and
watch for the coming of Christ.**

†HYMN No. 87 *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

**"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.
"Comfort, those who sit in darkness, mourning under sorrow's load.
To my people now proclaim, that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."**

**For the herald's voice is crying, in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
Let the valleys rise in meeting and hills bow down in greeting.**

**Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord, now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token, that God's word is never broken.**

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

In God's house, everyone is welcome— those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here." But we say, "Our lives are too messy." You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here." But we say, "It's too risky to hope." You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here." But we say, "Some things are easier to forget." God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there's room for us here. Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best. Help us remember, today and tomorrow, that there's room for every story.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Family of faith, we who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, "There's room for you here." From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God! Amen.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 90 (repeat 3x)..... *Wait for the Lord*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

†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 *Bring Us Hope*

Sanctuary Choir, CCLI# 1622560

Bring us hope, bring us love; bring us peace and joy from above. Bring us hope. Bring us light, take our darkness away. Bring us light, turn our night into day. Bring us hope, bring us love, peace and joy from above. Bring us hope, bring us hope. Hope to replace our hopelessness, love to refill our emptiness, peace in the midst of our distress; oh, how we need your joy! Bring us hope, bring us love; bring us peace, peace and joy from above. Bring us hope!

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 122 Pew Bible p. 498

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 24:36-44 Pew Bible p. 806

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES "Be Prepared"

Pastor David Witt

†HYMN No. 400 *I Rejoice When I Heard Them Say*
CCLI#1622560

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to the house of God."
And now our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem!**

[Refrain] **Shalom, shalom, the peace of God be here.
Shalom, Shalom, God's justice be ever near.**

**Like a temple of unity is the city, Jerusalem.
It is there all tribes will gather, all the tribes of the house of God.**

[Refrain]
**It is faithful to Israel's law, there to praise the name of God.
All the judgment seats of David were set down in Jerusalem. [Refrain]**

**For the peace of all nations pray: for God's peace within your homes.
May God's lasting peace surround us; may it dwell in Jerusalem. [Refrain]**

**For the love of my friends and kin I will bless you with signs of peace.
For the love of God's own people I will labor and pray for you. [Refrain]**

SERMON "The Unexpected Knock"
Pastor Julia Burkley

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

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

**We long for the time when the meek shall inherit the earth and all
who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied, and we
believe that, despite the persistence of evil, now is always the
time when more good can be done and we can make a difference.
May it be so, through the offering of these gifts and the offering of
our lives. Amen.**

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. 350.....*Keep Your Lamps, Trimmed and Burning*
CCLI# 1622560

**Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
for the time is drawing nigh.**

[Refrain] **Sisters, don't grow wear-y; brothers, don't grow wear-y;
children, don't grow wear-y, for the time is drawing nigh.**

**It's our faith makes us happy; it's our faith makes us happy;
it's our faith makes us happy; for the time is drawing nigh.**

[Refrain]

**We are climbing Jacob's ladder; we are climbing Jacob's ladder;
we are climbing Jacob's ladder; for the time is drawing nigh.**

[Refrain]

**Every round goes higher, higher; every round goes higher, higher;
every round goes higher, higher; for the time is drawing nigh.**

[Refrain]

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE NO. 384 (v.1) *Soon and Very Soon*
CCLI#1622560

**Soon and Very Soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and Very Soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and Very Soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the King!**

†POSTLUDE

In Remembrance

Leroy Ward Edwards

April 12, 1931-November 19, 2022

"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 11:25-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS
November 27 – December 4, 2022

TODAY

1st Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Morning Worship (In Person & Live Stream)
9:45 AM GIFT Event – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM Morning Worship (In Person)

THIS WEEK

Monday: Windsong – 6:00 PM – Sanctuary
Tuesday: Staff Luncheon – 11:30 AM
LOGOS Leadership Team – 5:00 PM – Bageant Room
Discipleship Team – 6:30 PM – Bageant Room
Wednesday: LOGOS – 4:30 PM – Fellowship Hall
Theme: “Amazing Race AGAIN! Night”
Our Daily Bread Faith Fellowship – 6:15 PM – Assembly Room
Choir Practice – 7:15 PM – Sanctuary
Thursday: Tai Chi – 10:30 AM – Memorial Sanctuary
Windsong – 6:00 PM – Sanctuary
Sherando Food Pantry – 6:30 PM
WATTS Orientation – 7:00 PM – Fellowship Hall
Friday: Midnight Gladness – 6:00 PM – Fellowship Hall
Saturday: Decorating for Advent – 10:00 AM
Crafting with Becky – 11:00 AM – Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY

2nd Sunday of Advent, CCAP
Communion
Morning Worship – 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Faith Formation – 9:45 – Assembly Room
Isaiah 11:1-10, Luke 1:26-38
Sermon: “God Meets Us in Our Fear”
Choir Practice – 12:30 PM -- Sanctuary

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Colorado Shooting	Ethan Burgett	Tim Bullis
Ward Edwards Family	Rich Friedrichsen	Sandy Johnson
Susan & Knox Witt	Gerard Root	Caregivers
Joseph Rivera	Kathy Tobin	Caroline Hastreiter
UVA Community	Rich Valenti	Nadine DeHaven
UI Community	Ray Anderson	Ellen Neff
Annie Aisenberg	Wendy Wygant	Mary Lou Thomas
Karen Lemons & Family	Daniel Crites	Brenda & Terry Caldwell
Robin Owens	David Lipkin	Ukraine
Hospital Staff	Barbara Donegan	Afghanistan
Kurt Hawkins	Jack & Carol Treece	Casey Carr
Nancy Burkley	Jim & Jeanette	Michael Weller
Raya Jeffcoat	Baccary	Ethiopia
Brett Long	Curt Budny	Nancy Kerns
Gwen Berryman	Tim Loftis	Racial Injustice
Dennis Wakeman	Jane Lewis	Mike Shade
Marj Rowe	Doug Koch	E.E.C.M.Y.
Our Lawmakers	Kennedy Ransom	Church Mekane Yesus
Jane Willard	Dick & Sandy Widell	Ben Jensen
Kenneth Carper & Family	Carol Ferrante	Gavin Eanes
	Parker Plumb	

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, and their families.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30 Worship	11:00 Worship
Beadle – June Malone	Beadle – Ann Denison
Liturgist – Ben Brooks	Liturgist – Travis Morgan
Ushers – Graham Taylor, June Malone, Linda Butler	Ushers – Annemarie Matthews, Jack & Paula Marquis, Tucker & Greer
Greeters – Jamie & Shannon Brannon	Birchenough, Will Baker
Livestream – Susan Ritter, Rebekah Witt	Acolyte – Tucker Birchenough
	Greeters – Gary & Carolyn Rutherford

THE ROSE IN THE SANCTUARY

The rose in the Sanctuary announces the birth of Knox Allen Witt, son of Joel and Susan Cooper Witt who was born on Friday, November 18, weighing 7 lb., 3 ounces. Laverne Cooper and Carole and David Witt are the proud grandparents. May the Lord bless Knox and nurture him and his family in God's love.

ROOTS & SHOOTS

The SeedMoney campaign started on November 15th at noon. The more money we raise between then and December 15th, the greater of a grant we receive! The direct link is <https://donate.seedmoney.org/7768/opc-roots-shoots-garden> or you can search for "OPC Roots & Shoots Garden" on the SeedMoney website. We would greatly appreciate donations and shares of the page to help us reach that goal when the time comes!

PLEASE GET YOUR PLEDGE IN NOW

Your support helps us reach out in many, many ways to many, many people. Pledge cards available in the pew racks or in the office; you may also send an email to financialadmin@opequonchurch.org. God's generosity to us is truly reflected in the many fingerprints we leave in the congregation, the local community, and in God's world. Join with us in making a difference, empowering our ministry.

GIFT EVENT- TODAY 9:45AM- FELLOWSHIP HALL

GIFT means "Generations in Faith Together", providing a time for all ages to come together for a themed intergenerational experience. The theme for today's event is "The Waiting Room", a perfect focus as we begin Advent and WAIT for Christmas. A fun morning full of special activities for all ages, some personal stories, and warm breakfast casseroles too. No more WAITING for this event to happen, come enjoy it all this morning. GIFT events are known for their pure enjoyment, delightful atmosphere, and worthwhile times with each other around the tables. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT. Come and try it!

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE TODAY

Did you know that Opequon has been the AUTHOR of its' own Advent Devotional book for MANY YEARS? We have been creating our own Advent Devotional book each year with daily readings that have been written by US! Each Advent, it has been a treasured collection of inspirational writings. This year we are continuing this tradition of writing our own devotional. Devotionals are available today in the Gathering Area. It features an introduction, a daily ADVENT ADVERB and prayers. Please help yourself to a copy of the 2022 Advent Devotional. CHILDREN'S Advent Booklets are available too. The title is 'From Generation to Generation' with many ideas and ways to connect with parents and grandparents to discover and learn what Advent was like for them as children. These booklets will be distributed at LOGOS and are also available in the Gathering Area.

WATTS TRAINING DECEMBER 1ST AT 7:00 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

There are so many ways to participate in our Opequon Presbyterian Church WATTS week December 26 through January 2. If you would like to participate, we urge you to attend the training December 1st at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

Where in today's music do you hear questions of waiting and anticipation?

Notes on Today's Prayers

Where do we find space for God in the waiting?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Conversation with All Ages

- What does advent mean to you?
- What types of waiting do you see in the scriptures today? Types of journeys?
- When have you felt like you were on a journey? Where was God in that pilgrimage?
- What are times that you have been in waiting times?
 - When do those times feel like peace? Like anxiety?
- Where do you find God in waiting?
- How are you called to seek peace and justice in God's kingdom in the here and now?