

# OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 11, 2026 – Baptism of the Lord Sunday

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



**The Ordination, Installation,  
& Commissioning of New Officers**

# OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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<i>Director of Christian Education</i> .....	Carole Witt
<i>Director of Youth &amp; 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, 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](http://www.opequonchurch.org/giving)  
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# A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Renewal of Baptism; Ordaining, Installing, & Commissioning Our New Officers*

- ☞ **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 ..... *Stranger to the Rain*  
By: Stephen Schwartz

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION ..... Medical Mission Trip  
Rebekah Agbayani & Mission Team

### ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 177 (v. 1, 2, refrain) ..... *You Are Mine*

**"I will come to you in the silence;  
I will lift you from all your fear. You will hear my voice;  
I claim you as my choice. Be still and know I am here.**

**I am hope for all who are hopeless;  
I am eyes for all who long to see. In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light. Come and rest in me.**

[refrain] **Do not be afraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name. Come and follow me,  
I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."**

### †CALL TO WORSHIP

In the waters of baptism,  
**God marks us as kindred in his name.**

In the waters of baptism,  
**the heavens open up and the Spirit pours out love.**

In the waters of baptism,  
**God names us Beloved.**

In the waters of baptism,  
**God claims us as his own.**

Let us worship our living God who claims, calls, and commissions us.

†OPENING HYMN No. 156 (v. 1, 2) ..... *Sing of God Made Manifest*  
**Sing of God made manifest, in a child robust and blest,  
to whose home in Bethlehem, where a star had guided them,  
magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound:  
myrrh and frankincense and gold, grave and God and king foretold.**

**Sing of God made manifest, when at Jordan John confessed,  
"I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do."**

**Then from heaven a double sign – dove-like Spirit, voice divine –  
hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

## CALL TO CONFESSON

God has made a covenant with us and with our ancestors: to be a light to the nations, to bring freedom to captives, and to declare new and glorious things! In faith, let us confess our sin, first together in our unison prayer, then in personal silence.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSON

**Gracious God, you claim us and call us, you support us and uphold us, you save us and free us from our sin. Yet we slip into old habits, worshiping idols that have claimed our hearts, disregarding our impact on the earth and our neighbors. Forgive us. Meet us at the water again, that we might know we belong to you.**

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

The good news has been passed down by prophets and priests, preachers and pastors: everyone who believes in Christ receives forgiveness in his name. We believe; help our unbelief. Wherever you are on your journey, you are redeemed, forgiven, and loved.

## LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 177 (v. 3, 4, refrain) ..... *You Are Mine*

**"I am strength for all the despairing;  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame. All the blind will see;  
the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.**

[refrain] **Do not be afraid, I am with you.**

**I have called you each by name. Come and follow me,  
I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine."**

**"I am the Word that leads all to freedom;  
I am the peace the world cannot give. I will call your name,  
embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk and live!** [refrain]

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.)

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

COMMISSIONING OF TRUSTEE (11:00 AM)

### ❧ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ❧

ANTHEM..... *Here I Am, Lord (with "Have Thine Own Way, Lord")*

Arranged by: Mary McDonald

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send? 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. Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the potter. I am the clay. Mold me and make me after Thy will; while I am waiting, waiting, Lord. Here I am, Lord. It is I, Lord! Here I am, Lord. It is I, Lord! I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, where You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart. I will hold Your people in my heart. Here I am, Lord! Here am I!*

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 42:1-9 ..... Pew Bible p. 584

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 3:13-17 ..... Pew Bible p. 784

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "You Are Mine"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 164 ..... *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways*

(Alt. Tune: Hymn No. 504)

**Down Galilee's slow roadways a stranger traveled on  
from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by John.  
He went down to the waters like soldier, scribe, and slave,  
but there within the river the sign was birth and grave.**

**Arising from the river he saw the heavens torn;  
it seemed the sky so open revealed the Spirit's form.  
The holy dove descended amid a glorious voice:  
"You are my own beloved, my child, my heart, my choice."  
We too have found a roadway; it led us to this place.  
We all have had to travel in search of hope and grace.  
But now beside this water again a voice is heard.  
"You are my own, my chosen, beloved of your Lord."**

SERMON..... "Beloved of Your Lord"  
Pastor David Witt

### ♪ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ♪

#### RENEWAL OF BAPTISM SERVICE

†Renewal of Baptismal Vows  
†The Affirmation of Faith (Hymnal p. 35) ..... *The Apostle's Creed*  
†Thanksgiving for Baptism

#### OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC ..... *The Water Is Wide / Shenandoah*  
Traditional Scottish Folk Song / American Folk Song

†HYMN No. 691 (v. 1, 2) ..... *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.**

#### †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of the water that cleanses us, the land that feeds us, and the air  
that allows us to breathe your Spirit in and out of us; you claim us in  
our baptism, but too few of us consider our own baptism. And if we  
remember or imagine our baptism, we too rarely grasp its meaning  
and power. As we present our tithes and offering in worship and  
witness Christ's baptism once again, may we remember that in that  
water we were, like Christ, commissioned to go: to teach, preach,  
heal, serve, and even to take up a cross. In Christ, we pray. Amen.**

# ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS & DEACONS (11:00 AM)

## Litany

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Statement of Ordination & Installation

Presentation of The Ruling Elders & Deacons

Constitutional Questions of The Ruling Elders & Deacons

Constitutional Questions of The Congregation

Prayer of Ordination & Laying On of Hands

Welcome To Ministry

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

## ❖ WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME ❖

## REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

(During this song, we invite you to come forward to the font in remembrance of your baptism.)

HYMN No. 547 ..... *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  
**"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."  
"Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."**

**"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."**

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE No. 468 (v. 1) ..... *In My Life*  
**In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.  
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

†POSTLUDE

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Judie Birchfield in honor of her son, daughter, and grandsons.

### **WE GIVE THANKS FOR OUR ELECTED LEADERS**

We appreciate the faithful work and devoted service of the Ruling Elders rotating off the Session, **Shannon Brannon** and **David Schwantes**, and Deacon **Robin Cooke**. God's blessings be with you as we serve together in the future through new endeavors!

We congratulate our re-commissioned Trustee, **Bill Bayliss**; our newly ordained and installed Ruling Elder, **Doug Joyner**; our newly installed Ruling Elders, **Robin Cooke** and **Bill Thomasson**; our newly ordained and installed Deacon, **Paula Marquis**; and our newly installed Deacons, **Heather Burton**, **Kathy Hoffman**, and **Trish Crawford**. We pray for God's grace to abundantly abide with them. May the Lord encourage and strengthen you daily as we work together!

**We invite you to join us in the Gathering Area  
following the 11:00 AM worship service today  
for a reception in honor of our new officers!**

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jordan Hartman	Carol Tubbs	George Schwantes
Scarlett Kibler	Ken Johansen	Carole Schwantes
June & Nathan Windle	Andrew Wolfe	Geanie Henley
Patricia Brannon	Mike Crawford	Krista Strukoff
Carol Nutry	Krista Bowen	(DeCeault)
Al & May Schollenberger	Ruth Eisenberg	David Lewis
Will Schwantes	Bonnie Pitzer	Sara Frey
Sharon Miller	Cherie Berotti	David DesMarias
Paul Thompson Family	Tyler McDonald	Megan Tschappat
Krista Bowen	Lynne Rosamilia	Pastor Kristin Whitesides
Mason Lance	Jeanne Crosby	Judy Orndorff
Dave Cohen	Cor & Agnes Kamerman	Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Krystal Quinn Delano Place	Carol Zagorsky	Charlotte Rosamilia
Carole Walker Family	Sue Friedrichsen	Susan Arthur
Kay Caldwell & Family	JoAnne Farrell	Bill Gesell
Ray Klinefelter	Caroline Hastreiter	Susan Kelican
Gary Johnson	Doris Smith & Family	All Struggling with Mental Illness
Sharon Miller	Jessica Wise	Bereaved Israelites & Palestinians
Rick Ours	Michelle Whiteman-McKee	Mike Shade
Krista Hartenbach	Jamaica	Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Earl White	Paulette Fazio	Cindy Corell
Brian Ingram	Karen Lemons & Family	Nancy Kerns
Victims of Shootings in Australia & at Brown University	Katie Happel	Kennedy Ransom
Ann Denison	Joyce Williamson	Ukraine
Judy Gaines	Judy Camper	Ethiopia Church Mekane Yesus
Tim Loftis	Candi Gardner	
Lisa Frye	Roger Murphy	
	Bill Robinson	
	Darrell Griffiths	

## ♪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 – January 11 (Baptism of the Lord)**

*Renewal of Baptism; Ordaining, Installing, & Commissioning of New Officers*

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
	Reception in Honor of New Officers – Gathering Area
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Spring Arbor Worship

### **THIS WEEK**

Monday:	1:30 PM	Grief Support Group – Pastor Tracie Martin's Office
	5:00 PM	Logos Leadership Team – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	Windsong – Sanctuary
	6:00 PM	MOO Meal – Chick-fil-A
	7:00 PM	MOO Gathering – Fellowship Hall
Tuesday:	9:30 AM	Tuesday Morning Mission – Bageant Room
	5:00 PM	Grief Support Group – Pastor Tracie Martin's Office
Wednesday:	12:00 PM	Happy Days – Fellowship Hall
	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: Polar Bear & Panda Bear Night)
	7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	<b>Deadline for February Newsletter Submissions</b>	
	9:00 AM	WANC Tea – Youth Spot
	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
	10:30 PM	WANC Meeting – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Sherando Food Pantry
	6:45 PM	Micah 6:8 Faith Formation – Bageant Room

### **NEXT SUNDAY – January 18**

*Blood Pressure Checks; Visit from Mission Advocate, Cindy Corell  
Scriptures: Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-42 Sermon: "Following Jesus"*

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Coffee & Conversation with Cindy Corell – Gathering Area
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream

## **MEDICAL MISSION TRIP DONATION OPPORTUNITY**

A team from OPC is going on a Medical Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic in March, and they need your help collecting supplies to take with them!

**Between now and January 18**, the team is collecting **OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICAL SUPPLIES** in black and yellow tubs in the Gathering Area. For a full list of needed items, see the newsletter or the flyer posted on the collection tubs. Please note the expiration date of donated items must be AFTER 3/31/2027, otherwise they will be rejected. If you would prefer to support the team financially, visit: <https://mmiorg.app.neoncrm.com/OPC>

## **SEWING OPPORTUNITY**

Sewing for the Dominican Republic Medical Mission Trip has started! We need to sew dresses for young girls and bags that will be used for sending medicines and information home with each patient. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jane Vandertoorn (540-313-2112 / [jmvdt5@gmail.com](mailto:jmvdt5@gmail.com)).

## **MEN OF OPEQUON (MOO)**

MOO will gather **tomorrow, January 12**, at **6:00 PM** at the Pleasant Valley Chick-fil-A. Then, we'll leave Chick-Fil-A and reconvene at **7:00 PM** at the church in the Bageant Room to enjoy a provided dessert and devotions and then dig into planning for the new year as we launch 2026! Happy New Year!

## **HAPPY DAYS GATHERING**

The monthly older adult fellowship time known as 'Happy Days' will be held this Wednesday, January 14 at NOON in the Fellowship Hall. A FULL MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED – BREAKFAST FOR LUNCH. No need to bring covered dish items this month. The menu includes Pancakes, Eggs, Bacon, Hash Brown Casserole, Bagels, Strawberries, and Fried Apples. Beverages provided too. Please bring \$5.00 to help cover the cost of the meal. After lunch, we will enjoy our guest speaker from Froggy's Closet. We will present our Coin Jar check from 2025 to our speaker. All older adults are welcome. Come enjoy the friendships, warmth around the tables and this interesting speaker.

## **THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONAL**

A limited supply of the January – March issue of These Days Daily Devotional is available in the Gathering Area. Topics featured in this issue include "God's Lavish Love," "Highs and Lows," "Quenching our Spiritual Thirst," and "Holding Fast." Help yourself to a copy while supplies last.

# WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

## 8:30 AM Worship

**Liturgist:** Brian Steffens

**Beadle:** Ben Brooks

**Door Greeters:** Nancy & Richard Lloyd

**Ushers:** Mike & Wendy Wygant, Claire Gaines, Caleb Garcia, MacKenna Bell

**Acolyte:** Claire Gaines

**Building Stewards:** Ben & Winter Brooks

## 11:00 AM Worship

**Liturgist:** Lynn Metheny

**Beadle:** Bill Wellman

**Door Greeters:** Maureen & Bill Wellman

**Hospitality Greeters:** Ron & Ann Smith

**Ushers:** Marj Praml, Kyle Homan, Jason Hathaway, Vern Gamble, Jasper Kirby-Yoder, Tucker Birchenough, Bo Weber

**Acolyte:** Jasper Kirby-Yoder

**Livestream:** Susan Ritter, Rebekah Witt

## WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

### Notes on Today's Music

❖ How does today's music witness to God's claim and call in baptism?

### 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 has God told you "you are mine?"

### Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

❖ What does it mean to you to be beloved by God?

❖ Recall times in your faith journey when you have felt close to the love of God and times when you have felt far from it.

❖ What does Jesus' baptism reveal?

❖ How does Jesus fulfill the prophet Isaiah's servant song?

❖ How are we claimed, called, and commissioned as God's servants?

❖ When has God helped you to act in ways that build peace and goodwill?

❖ How will you demonstrate this week that you are among "the beloved of your Lord?"

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