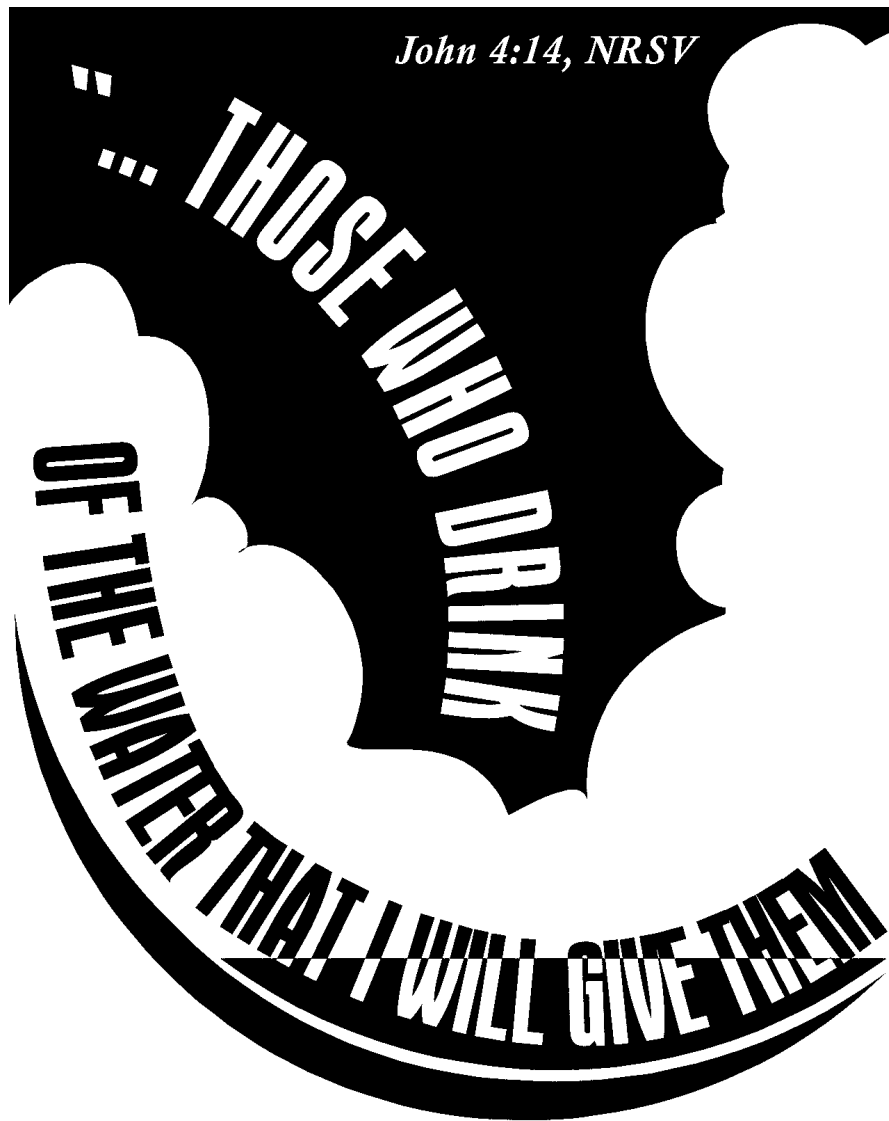


OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY."

Third 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
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 12, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am

Third Sunday in Lent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE.....*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
Arranged by Lani Smith

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. 626.....*As the Deer*
CCLI#1622560

**As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.**

†CALL TO WORSHIP (written by Pastor Tim Graves, inspired by John 4:5-42)

Turn the tap and water comes out.

Clean, refreshing water quenches our thirst.

Stop at the market, twist open the cap.

Spring water crosses our lips and our craving is satisfied.

Step outdoors. Look up.

The clouds dampen our faces and nourish the earth.

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again."

After a time, we all thirst again.

"But whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life."

Please give us this water that we may never be thirsty again.

Come see the one who turns our thinking and our world upside down.

Come see and experience the love that knows no bounds.

Praise be to God!

Praise be to Jesus, whose life draws from the well of God's dreams.

Praise be to Christ Jesus, whose love and justice quenches our thirst with living water. Amen.

†OPENING HYMN No. 81.....*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*
CCLI# 1622560

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.

On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded, thou mayst smile at all thy foes.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear,

For a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near;

Thus deriving from their banner, light by night and shade by day,

Safe they feed upon the manna, which God gives them when they pray.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,

Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove:

Who can faint while such a river, ever flows their thirst t' assuage?

Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God does not wait for us to be righteous, or pure, or perfect. Christ died for us while we were still sinners. We do not have to hide our sin from God, but can face it with Jesus, who heals us, teaches us, and leads us to new life.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus, friend of all, once again, we come to you knowing our words have stung, our actions have harmed, and our indifference has let evil have its day. Our hearts yearn for you, our souls thirst for you, yet we do not imitate you in our lives. We scorn those who are different from us and relish our own comfort. Once again, forgive us, O God. Give us your living water, that we might tell the world all you have done for us.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the good news of God's grace: God meets us where we're at. Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts. Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead – now Christ has become our life and salvation.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 441.....*Hear the Good News of Salvation*
CCLI# 1622560

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love. Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring. I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing: Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

†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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM.....*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
CCLI# 1622560

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7.....Pew Bible p. 56

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 4:5-42Pew Bible p. 864

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "The Woman at the Well"

†HYMN No. 479.....*Ho, All Who Thirst*
CCLI# 1622560

[Refrain]

**Ho, all who thirst, come now to the water,
and all whose souls are parched, and weary, come and drink!
Ho, all who thirst, come now to the water,
And from your heart will flow, a never-failing spring!**

**Why forsake the Lord, the fount of living water,
choosing broken cups that cannot be filled?** [Refrain]

**For the Lamb will be our shepherd and will guide us
to the well-springs of, the water of life.** [Refrain]

**All who come may take this gift of living water.
They will thirst no more, for they shall be filled.** [Refrain]

SERMON....."Meeting Us Where We're At"
Pastor David Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY.....*Reverie at the River*
Arranged by Mark Hayes

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)
**Life-giving God, we offer you ourselves and our resources.
Use us and our gifts, that we may be water bearers to a world
thirsty for love, for meaning, for justice, and for hope. May all your
people encounter fullness of life through the love of Christ, which
lives within us. Amen.**

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Hymnal, p. 35).....The Apostles' Creed
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)
(Sung Response: Let all who are thirsty come, let all who wish receive, the water of life freely,
Amen. Come Lord Jesus, amen. Come Lord Jesus.)

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN No. 494 (w. 1,2,4,5).....*Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*
CCLI# 1622560

**Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all,
from the best bliss that earth imparts, we turn unfilled to heed thy
call.**

**Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on
thee call; to them that seek thee, thou art good,
to them that find thee, all in all!**

**Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is
cast, glad when thy gracious smile we see,
Blest, when our faith can hold thee fast.**

**O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright.
O chase the night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.**

†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

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Carole and David Witt, in celebration of their 37th Wedding Anniversary, this Wednesday, March 15.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 12-19, 2023

TODAY

Daylight Savings Time Begins

8:30 AM	Morning Worship (In Person & Live Stream)
9:45 AM	Faith Formation Class – Assembly Room
10:00 AM	Baja Informational Gathering – Bageant Room
11:00 AM	Morning Worship (In Person)
12:15 PM	Potato Bake & Vision Program – Fellowship Hall
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Opequon Youth at Escape Room Downtown

THIS WEEK

Monday:	Men of Opequon (MOO) – 6:00 PM – Chick-fil-A, PV Windsong – 6:00 PM – Sanctuary Men of Opequon (MOO) – 7:00 PM – Fellowship Hall
Tuesday:	Tuesday Morning Mission – 9:30 AM – Bageant Room God-Loving Opequon Women (GLOW) – 6:00 PM – Fellowship Hall
Wednesday:	April Newsletter Deadline LOGOS – 4:30 PM Theme: “Keep Up in the Amazing Race” Our Daily Bread Faith Formation – 6:15 PM – Assembly Room Choir Practice – 7:15 PM – Sanctuary
Thursday:	Tai Chi – 10:30 AM – Memorial Sanctuary GLOW Leadership Team Meeting – 2:00 PM – Bageant Room VBS Leadership Team Meeting – 4:00 PM – Bageant Room Sherando Food Pantry – 6:30 PM Micah 6:8 Faith Formation – 7:00 PM – Bageant Room and Zoom
Friday:	Music Reflections – 12:00 PM – Sanctuary Young Adult Game Night – 7:00 PM
Saturday:	Shenandoah Presbytery Clerk of Session Training – 9:00 AM – Memorial Sanctuary

NEXT SUNDAY

Blood Pressure Checks

Morning Worship – 8:30 AM (In Person & Live Stream)

Lenten Prayer Breakfast – 9:45 AM – Fellowship Hall

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

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, John 9:1-41

Sermon: "A Second Look"

Spring Arbor Worship – 1:30 PM

PS 150 Practice – 2:00 PM – Memorial Sanctuary

Youth Families' Mental Health Night- 5:00 PM

Taizé Worship Service – 7:00 PM – Memorial Sanctuary

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

The text of this morning's prelude hymn was written in 1745 by a Welsh Calvinist. The tune was composed more than 150 years later by a railroad man who was a Welsh Baptist. This very Welsh hymn is so well known that it appears in more than 1,750 hymnals. Today's offertory begins with French composer, Claude Debussy's "Reverie", a contemplative piece, circa 1890. Once again, Mark Hayes embeds a vintage hymn in his treatment of this classic piece. This old hymn written by a Baptist minister in 1864, is reappearing in newer hymnals. Inspired by Revelation 22:1, it uses the imagery of a river and the concept of restoration and reward as it describes a crystal-clear river flowing with the water of life-- much like the living water Jesus offered to the woman at the well.

INFORMATIONAL GATHERING FOR BAJA TRIP

You have heard incredible reports about our past mission trips to Baja Mexico. While COVID has put our participation on pause since 2019, a trip is being planned for July 8-16 and YOU ARE INVITED! For more than twenty years, this Shenandoah Presbytery sponsored trip has brought many churches together in a collaborative effort to build homes in Baja communities. An informational meeting will be held **TODAY** at 10:00 am in the Bageant Room.

A VIEW FROM THE PEW (just for kids)

There is so much to notice in the sanctuary! Children are invited to pick up a "View from the Pew" sheet from the back of the sanctuary and use it as you sit with your family in the pew. Try to find each of the items as you look around from your pew. Please return your sheet as you leave the sanctuary.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pat Heavner
Ellie Cammer
Kait Rusch
Gail Crane
Leslie Tucker
Dan Rockwell
Employees Who Lost
Jobs w/ Valley Health
Steve & Denise Howe
Al Owens
Dom & Joelle Cafaro
Grant Patton
Jerry Metheny
Doug Butler
Judy Colladay
Chris Tarlach
Ann Aisenberg
Thomas Twins
Rick Ours
OJ Sizemore
Mandy
Martha Jean Place
Family
Eleanor German

Jack & Carol Treece
Bill Heavner
Fred Johnston
Rosie Walsh Family
Donald Elson
Scarlett Kibler
Daniel Crites
David Crites
Colleen & Dan Zbur
Caroline Hastreiter
Ron Shickle
Amy Gray
Tim Loftis
Kayla Gardner
Joseph Rosamilia
Becky Van Houton
Karen Popielski
Jim & Jeanette
Baccary
Carol Tubbs
Rich Friedrichsen
Kathy Tobin
Rich Valenti
Ray Anderson

Kurt Hawkins
Raya Jeffcoat
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
Joy Rosamilia
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.

<p>8:30 Worship Liturgist: Terry Hartman Beadle: Tom Tandy Ushers: Mike & Wendy Wygant, Alex Plumb, Mike & Trish Crawford, Finn Berson, MacKenna Bell Greeters: Jeannie Wright, Gretchen & Dave Rusch Acolyte: Finn Berson Livestream: Susan Ritter, Rebekah Witt</p>	<p>11:00 Worship Liturgist: Lynn Metheny Beadle: Ron Smith Ushers: Bill Robinson, Kyle Homan. Jason Hathaway, Vern Gamble, Aubrey & Adelyn Astorino, Katherine Tucker Greeters: Jan McMullin, Bonnie Pitzer Acolyte: Aubrey Astornio</p>
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MEN OF OPEQUON TOMORROW NIGHT

The Men of Opequon (MOO) will gather for dinner tomorrow night at 6:00 pm at the Chick-fil-A on Pleasant Valley Road. We'll then return to the church for our monthly program at 7:00 pm, when we look forward to connecting with Shenandoah University. Alisa Holley will share with us about her work in cultivating cultural exchange through encounters between artists and audiences. Alisa promotes vibrant performance experiences and champions its creative community of artists, scholars, educators, technicians, clinicians and leaders. Join us for an uplifting time. Dessert will be provided.

GLOW: GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN

GLOW is Opequon's multi-aged Women's group that meets monthly to build friendships and enjoy heart-warming activities together. GLOW has been on break the past two months, but we will come back together **this Tuesday, March 14 at 6:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall for a **WELCOME BACK BASH**. The planning team is excited about GLOW resuming and can't wait to see many ladies. Everyone is invited to bring your favorite finger food item. We will snack and nibble, talk and giggle, enjoying time with one another. GLOW is open to all ladies of Opequon. Treat yourself to a little time with the 'girls'.

LENT BREAKFAST EVENT: March 19, 9:45am- For Everyone

The Christian Education Team will sponsor and host a LENT Breakfast next Sunday, March 19 at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to come enjoy a delicious breakfast of assorted egg casseroles, cinnamon buns, muffins, and fruit. 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.

Taizé WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY EVENING

Join us next Sunday, March 19 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.

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: Saturday, March 25 from 9 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 are asked to contact our garden administrator, Grayson Moyer at graysonmoyer7@gmail.com.

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How does the music today testify to our thirst for God?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

What surprised you about the story?

Notes on Today's Prayers

Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

- What are some of your meeting places?
- What does it mean to "meet somebody where they're at?"
- How does Jesus do that?
- What part of the story surprised you?
- What does this story show you about Jesus?
- How do you/we meet people where they're at, especially those who thirst?
How should we?