

THE THIRD WAY



October 19, 2025 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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217 Opequon Church Lane
Winchester, VA 22602

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<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>Interim Organist/Pianist</i>	Laura Swartz
<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

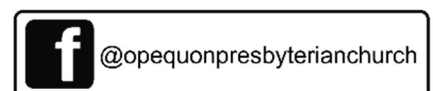
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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 toddlers to age four.
- **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 – Blood Pressure Checks; Chili Cook-Off

- ☞ **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..... *Jesus Loves Me* (Arranged by. Raluca Bojor)
Holy, Holy, Holy (Arranged by. Jerry Ray)
Marsha Barley

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION: WATTS.....Heather Burton

†GATHERING SONG No. 611*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,

God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee;

earth and heaven reflect thy rays;

stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus

which the morning stars began.

Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.

Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, listen to the story
of God's love and grace.

Come, tell the story
of Jesus' life and saving work.

Come, experience the story
of the Spirit's renewing power.

Come, let us listen, tell and experience the good news together!

†OPENING HYMN No. 462 *I Love to Tell the Story*

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.**

[refrain] **I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

**I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.** [refrain]

**I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long.** [refrain]

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

It is in our confession where we realize our desire for God and our hope for God's mercy. It is in admitting the truth of our lives that we take the first step toward wholeness and healing. So let us make our confession, first in unison and then in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We would be saint-like – holy, good, patient, loving, unfailingly faith-filled. But we end up feeling more like sinners – weak, full of

failures, selfish, mean. How do you perceive us? Perhaps you see us simply as human – as beloved, and flawed, trying, and failing and sometimes even succeeding. In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, encouraging and helping us. Mold us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and we all are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. To trust in the Lord is to experience the embrace of God's loving kindness. So, rejoice in the Lord you who have been declared without guilt. Rejoice and be glad.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 581 *Glory Be to the Father*
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

†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..... *I Lift Up Mine Eyes*

By: Allen Pote

I lift up mine eyes to the hills, and I wonder from where comes my help? My help, it comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. I lift up mine eyes to the hills, and I wonder, I wonder where is my help? He will not let you stumble, He will not let you fall, the Lord is your keeper. The sun will not strike you by day nor the moon by night, the Lord will keep your life. The Lord will keep you from all evil, He will keep your life. He will keep your going out, and your coming in from this time forth, and forevermore. He will not let you stumble, He will not let you fall, the Lord is your keeper. I lift up mine eyes to the hills, and I wonder from where comes my help? My help, it comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 31:27-34Pew Bible p. 642

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Luke 18:1-8.....Pew Bible p. 853

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "Choices & Wondering"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 837 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

[refrain] **Leaning (Leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus),
safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning (Leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus),
leaning on everlasting arms.**

**O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [refrain]**

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [refrain]**

SERMON..... "The Third Way"

Pastor Tracie Martin

✧ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ✧

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC.....*Near the Cross/Shall We Gather at the River*

(Livestream muted during this song due to copyright restrictions)

Arranged by: James M. Stevens

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

**O God, we come before you with grateful hearts, reflecting on the
gifts you have so graciously given us. Just as the Israelites brought
their first fruits as an offering of thanksgiving, we, too, bring our**

lives, our time, our talents, and our resources to you in humble gratitude. May we never forget that every blessing we enjoy comes from your hand. Teach us to live with open hearts, giving freely of ourselves, trusting in your continued provision. Amen.

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 ✧

†CLOSING SONG *Let Your Kingdom Come*
(see insert)

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE (refrain) *Let Your Kingdom Come*

**Let Your kingdom come,
let Your will be done,
so that every one might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
till Your sovereign work on earth is done.
Let Your kingdom come.**

†POSTLUDE

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Denise Weidele in loving memory of her husband, Robert Weidele.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pat Williams	Scarlett Kibler	Judy Gaines
Roger Murphy	Nancy Budny & Family	Megan Tschappat
Chuck McNichols	Joyce Allen	Pastor Kristin Whitesides
Bill Robinson	Judy Smith	Judy Orndorff
Darrell Griffiths	Mischell Longfellow	Katie Happel
Carol Tubbs	Candi Gardner	Lyn Warren
Mary DiSanto & Family	George Schwantes	Lori Jones & Stephen
Federal Government	Alyce Callahan	Armstrong
Workers	Al & May Schollenberger	Ken Johansen
George Schwantes	Rick Ours	Charlotte Rosamilia
Carole Schwantes	Paula & Mac McNichols	Israel/Iran Conflict
Tedrow Family	Bill Howard	Jeff Erhardt
Rudolph Family	Braxton McKee	Clay Knick
Dakota Stickley	Mike Crawford	Susan Arthur
Krista Bowen	Sylvia Morgan	Bill Gesell
Lacey Costello	Mark Everly	Suellen Knowles
Steve Jackson Family	Jane Holsinger	Susan Kelican
Rick Henry	Art Friedrichsen	All Struggling with
Kaeden Faulkner	Travis Carr	Mental Illness
Climbers on Mount	Laura Boynton	June & Nathan Windle
Everest	David Lewis	Bereaved Israelites &
Vickie & Family	Cindy Millard	Palestinians
Dave Rusch	Violence in America	Tim Loftis
Harriet Smith & Family	Sara Frey	Mike Shade
Jim Davis Family	Marcia & Mike	Jewish & Muslim Victims
Cor & Agnes Kamerman	Jaureguizar	Worldwide
Drew & Andrew	David DesMarias	Cindy Correll
Paterson	Aaron Snyder	Douglas Dicks
Jordan & Bodie Wallish	Gaza Famine	Nancy Kerns
Jean Klein	Brenda Steffens	Kennedy Ransom
Geanie Henley	Ellie Cammer Family	Ukraine
Krista Strukoff	Cathy Jones	Ethiopia Church Mekane
(DeCeault)	Sparky Gomez	Jesus

✠ **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 – October 19

Blood Pressure Checks; Chili Cook-Off

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
10:00 AM	Safety Monitor Training
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
12:15 PM	Chili Cook-Off – Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK

Monday & Tuesday:	Pew & Carpet Cleaning – Sanctuary & Stairs
Monday:	12:00 PM Life Goes On – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM Men of Opequon (MOO) – Chick-fil-A
	6:00 PM Windsong – Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM Men of Opequon (MOO) – Shihadeh Innovation Center
Tuesday:	1:30 PM Spiritual Gifts Class – Bageant Room
	6:30 PM Session Meeting – Bageant Room
Wednesday:	4:30 PM Logos (Theme: <i>Are You Ready for Some Football?</i>)
	7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
	10:30 AM WANC Luncheon – Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM Fellowship Book Club – Youth Spot/Assembly Room
	6:00 PM CAT Team – Fellowship Hall
	6:45 PM Micah 6:8 Faith Formation Class – Bageant Room
Saturday:	11:00 AM Memorial Service for Curt Budny – Sanctuary
	12:00 PM Reception – Gathering Area

NEXT SUNDAY – October 26

Reformation Sunday; Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

Scriptures: 1 Peter 4:7-11 Sermon: "With Whatever Gift"

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	GIFT Event – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
3:30 PM	Officer Training – Bageant Room
5:00 PM	Young Adult Bonfire – Basketball Court

CHILI COOK-OFF TIME!

It's time for our traditional Chili Cook-Off! Be sure to bring your appetite to the Fellowship Hall **TODAY** at **12:15 PM** and enjoy an assortment of chili with all the fixins', cornbread, desserts, and drinks with our OPC family and friends!

SPECIAL CLEANING NOTICE

The pews and carpets in the Sanctuary and both sets of stairs are being cleaned tomorrow and Tuesday. For your safety, these areas will be blocked off until they are fully dry and everyone will need to use the elevator to access the downstairs areas.

LIFE GOES ON

Life Goes On will be treated to an Autumn Tea by Becky Proctor in Fellowship Hall **tomorrow** at **noon**. Let Pastor Tracie Martin know if you are planning to come. Please think about attending, even if you have not joined us before!

MEN OF OPEQUON (MOO)

MOO will gather at the Pleasant Valley Road Chick-fil-A in Winchester **tomorrow night** at **6:00 PM**. We'll then travel over to the Shihadeh Innovation Center for a tour and presentation by Dr. Jason Van Heukelem, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools. The center is a hub of workforce development for the community, serving both high school students and adults. All men are invited for this most informative and inspiring time.

FAITH FORMATION: Discerning Spiritual Gifts Class

Come explore the gifts and traditions of the Spirit on **Tuesday** at **1:30 PM** with Pastor Tracie Martin in the Bageant Room. You do not need to be a Bible scholar – just bring an open mind and a sense of exploration!

STAFF SCHEDULE NOTE FOR THIS WEEK

October 16-19: Rebekah Witt – Shenandoah Presbytery Youth Retreat

GIFT EVENT – NEXT SUNDAY @ 9:45 AM (Fellowship Hall)

Come join in the great experience as all ages gather together for a terrific time! The theme this month is based on a children's book titled "Maybe God is Like That Too." When a young boy wonders where to find God in his city, his grandma reminds him that he just needs to know where to look. It turns out God's spirit is at work all around him. Come enjoy some refreshments and thought-provoking conversation, surprising inspiration along with lots of laughter woven throughout. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT. Everyone is invited!

TRUNK & TREAT EVENT COMING

We will be holding a TRUNK & TREAT event within our Logos night on **October 29, 5:00-5:45 PM**. This is a fantastic way for children to enjoy a safe Halloween event. TRUNKERS ARE NEEDED. You are invited to come open your vehicle trunk, decorate it with a theme, provide a treat to children that visit your trunk, and possibly have a simple game. There are many ideas if you google 'Trunk & Treat.' Give the gift of wholesome fun to our young people – be a TRUNKER. Let Carole Witt know if you can be a TRUNKER. (dce@opequonchurch.org)

LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT!

It is that time of year when we are thinking ahead to Advent. We are inviting you to consider contributing to our Advent Devotional by sharing your own thoughts and reflections in writing for one of the Advent days readings. The theme for the devotional is "OFFERING HOPE AND PEACE." Ponder these things: How do you offer hope and peace to someone else? How do you feel hope and peace yourself? What brings you hope and peace? The Advent Devotional is treasured each year and blesses many. Writings need to be submitted to Carole Witt by **November 16**. The Advent Devotional booklet will be prepared and ready for the first Sunday of Advent. Please consider writing, sharing your thoughts and reflections. If you are willing to write or have questions, please contact Carole Witt (dce@opequonchurch.org).

THE GARDEN HARVEST CONTINUES...

The garden harvest is still going strong! Beans, beets, carrots, chard, and sweet potatoes are growing beautifully as we continue to gather food for our hungry brothers and sisters in Christ. Honey from our church bees will be available soon – stay tuned for details! And, mark your calendars: our annual Roots & Shoots Garden SeedMoney Fundraiser begins **November 15**. Thank you for helping our garden ministry grow and feed others!

THANKSGIVING BANANA BOXES ARE HERE!

Banana boxes are in the hallways and on the porch! Help us fill them with donations of Thanksgiving food for families in need. Each box contains a list of items needed and more details. Filled boxes should be returned by **Sunday, November 16**. Bless you and thank you for helping those in need!

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Tim Hoffman

Beadle: Bud Proctor

Door Greeters: Kathi Lehnhard, Pam Olsen

Hospitality Greeter: Ellen Cunningham

Ushers: Terry Hartman, Shannon Brannon, Tim
& Kathy Hoffman, Conner Link, Henry Link

Acolyte: Conner Link

Livestream: Susan Ritter, John White

Building Stewards: Betty Chicklo, June Malone

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Chip Blake

Beadle: Bill Wellman

Door Greeters: Alice Foley,
Bonnie Pitzer

Hospitality Greeter: Judy
Moody

Ushers: Andy Homan, Joel Witt,
Kevin Reed, Shiloh Ervin,

Kate Wilfong, Max Riley

Acolyte: Shiloh Ervin

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

- ✂ How did today's music witness to the strength and power of God made known through the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives?
- ✂ How did you like the new hymn, "Let Your Kingdom Come?"

Notes on Today's Prayers

- ✂ Is there a special form of language that should be used for prayer?
- ✂ Did you have time to add your own, personal prayers to the public ones?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

- ✂ Is it easy to look for new solutions for problems?
- ✂ How could you make that easier?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

- ✂ Have you ever been in a situation where injustice seemed to be winning? What did you do? Do you wish you had been able to do something else?
- ✂ Do you ever wonder why bad things happen without people protesting? What can we do as Christians when injustice occurs?