

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 10, 2026

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



Mother's Day &
Christian Family Sunday

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, 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

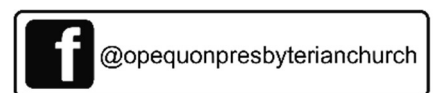
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

- ☞ **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..... *Pure Imagination*

By: Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 515 (v. 1, 4) *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.**

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

†CALL TO WORSHIP

God is waiting for us

With a tender heart and a searching question.

God is ready for us

With truth and wisdom from a deep well.

God is blessing us

With springs of living water.

God is sending us

To sing, pray and witness every day.

God is here.

Let the conversation begin.

†OPENING HYMN No. 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,**

**most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.**

**We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

We gather here to worship our loving, nurturing God, who knows us intimately, loves us unconditionally, teaches us the way we should go, and comforts us in times of need. In our rushed lives, however, we forget to stop and give thanks for the many wonderful people who support us, teach us, love us, and help us become better, more faithful servants of the God who put them within our view. Let us confess to our faithful God our failure and our stress.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, persistent friend, you weave so many wonderful people into our lives: fathers and mothers, children and youth, friends and neighbors, teachers and preachers. Yet do we stop to acknowledge them as blessings from God? Do we say a word of thanks or whisper a prayer of gratitude? Have we told our appreciation, written a word of encouragement, sung their praises? Faithful God, forgive us for taking anyone for granted. Give us eyes to see the miracles of love around us. Give us hearts that know you care for each and every one. Give us voices to sing our thanks, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included within that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love, be loved, and to serve. Alleluia! Amen.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 611 (v. 1) *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.

†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..... *Nothing Left to Say*

By: J. Paul Williams & Patti Drennan

When I see the morning rise, when I gaze at cloudless skies or watch a golden eagle as she flies, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say, God is. When I watch the children play, dancing through a summer's day dreaming, singing, laughing all the way, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say, God is. When I see the falling snow, touch the beauty of a rose, trace the winding river as it flows; when I see a caring face, or a simple act of grace, people reaching out with love's embrace. When I hear a symphony, view creation's tapestry or wonder at life's sacred mystery, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say, there's nothing left to say. Lord, I stand amazed, nothing left to say.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Acts 17:22-31.....Pew Bible p. 902

NEW TESTAMENT READING: John 14:15-21Pew Bible p. 878

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "What Do We Know?"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN..... *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

Traditional African-American Spiritual

He's got the whole world, in his hands. [x3]

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got the sun and the moon...

He's got everybody here...

He's got the tiny little babies...

He's got the whole world...

☞ **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD** ☞

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *Children's Corner I: Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum*
By: Claude Debussy

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

As we strive to have faith in you, O God, we give thanks for your faith in us. As we seek to make our home in you, we hope that you will find a home in us, so that all we have, all we say, all we do, may be to your glory. We pray in the name of your Son, who gives the gift of faith. 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 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 *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

He's got the whole world, in his hands.

He's got the whole world, in his hands.

He's got the whole world, in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

†POSTLUDE

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

In honor of all mother's and women of Opequon, the Christian Education Team is purchasing a professionally made banner that can be displayed in our sanctuary and other areas. We have chosen a Thanksgiving themed banner that says, "Give Thanks unto the Lord for He is Good!" This banner is a gift in honor of all Opequon women and mothers. We are pleased to get this gift and look forward to using it in the coming Thanksgiving season. A very happy Mother's Day.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Ben and Winter Brooks for all mothers.

Let's decorate the Sanctuary with Begonias for Pentecost Sunday!

Today is the last day to submit your begonia orders/dedications. Forms are available in the Gathering Area and may be placed in the offering or put in the church office mailbox. Please indicate "begonias" with your payment.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Strukoff & DeCeault Families	Michelle Hall	Michael Callahan
Jeff Klinefelter	Tom Callahan	Nancy Guthrie
Mia Beato	Brandon Teets & Family	David Goode
Mike Shade	Barbara Donegan	Caroline Hastreiter
Jaxson Hughes	Brad & Denise Lincoln	Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Deanna Deck	Chick Doroffe	Mike & Trish Crawford
Lincoln	Mo & Heide Mohler	Pastor Kristin Whitesides
Heather & Christian Barlowe	Kimberley Meyers	June & Nathan Windle
Karen Lemons & Family	Jay Horne	Judy Gaines
Krista Bowen	Charlie Clark	Tim Loftis
Bonnie Triplett	People of Lebanon	Ken Johansen
Whitney	Rusty Lohr	Lynne Rosamilia
Nancy Brown	Garvin Fishel	JoAnne Farrell
Jenna Boyer	Marge & Tim Higgins	Paulette Fazio
Margaret McDaniel	Joel Witt	Katie Happel
Katie Wolf	Susan Arthur	Judy Camper
Beverly Souders	Tammy Mowery Earhart	Candi Gardner
Vern Gamble	Mary Bremer	David Lewis
Hannah Wheeler	David Emery	David DesMarias
Jean Steidel Family	Benjamin Fernandez	Megan Tschappat
Robyn Ervin	Dan Cammer	Charlotte Rosamilia
Al Schollenberger	Middle East War	All Struggling with Mental Illness
Bud & Becky Proctor	Our Soldiers	Mike Shade
Bill Gesell	Harry Newman	Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Cheri Norris	Nathan Smith & Tracy	Cindy Corell
Rob Stratton	Roger Murphy	Nancy Kerns
Carol Tubbs	George & Carole Schwantes	Ukraine
Andrew, Isabella, & Jacob Hammer	Gary McDowell	Ethiopia Church Mekane Jesus
Kaley, Matt, & Emmet Bender	Rick Ours	
Betty Ganoe	Jolissa Matthews	
	Riley Fitzgerald	
	Sara Frey	
	Max Riley	

☞ **PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES** ☞

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, Eli Keaton

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – May 10 (Mother's Day; Christian Family Sunday)

Honoring Those Who Are Moms to Us! Celebrating Families!

- 8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room (no Zoom this week)
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
- 12:15 PM Senior Outreach Ministry
- 1:30 PM Spring Arbor Worship

THIS WEEK

- Monday: 5:30 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
- 11:00 AM Retired Teachers – Picnic Shelter (rain: Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 PM GLOW Gathering – Italian Delight (Stephens City)
- 7:00 PM Vision Team – Bageant Room
- Wednesday: 12:00 PM Happy Days – Fellowship Hall
- 5:30 PM Youth Logos Extension – Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- Thursday: 10:30 AM Tai Chi – Picnic Shelter/Memorial Sanctuary
- Friday: * **Deadline for June Newsletter Submissions** *
- 6:30 PM Young Adult Cookout & Picnic

NEXT SUNDAY – May 17 (Ascension Sunday; Graduate Sunday)

*Celebrating One Year of Our "Place at the Table" Capital Campaign;
Honoring Graduates; Welcoming New Members; Blood Pressure Checks
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; Acts 1:1-14 Sermon: "Jesus' Power"*

- 8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM VBS Team Meeting – Memorial Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room & Zoom
- 11:00 AM Worship & Reception of New Members– Sanctuary & Livestream
- 12:15 PM Fellowship Reception – Gathering Area
- 12:15 PM Youth Families & Graduates Lunch – Fellowship Hall
- 3:00 PM Piano Studio Recital – Sanctuary & Gathering Area
- 4:00 PM Mission Sunday Planning – Bageant Room

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE CARD SHOWER

Congratulations to our high school graduates! We invite you to shower Noah Cutrona, Alex Sardelis, Austin Shook, and Kate Wilfong with cards. All cards are due **today**. Write their first and last name on the front. You may put them in Rebekah Witt's mailbox near the Church Office. Thank you!

WHO WILL BE OUR 2026 OLDER ADULT OF OPEQUON?

Opequon is blessed with so many fantastic older adults. They make Opequon's ministry so full. Who do you think is deserving of being our ***Older Adult of 2026?*** Take a few moments to nominate an older adult for this honor. Share WHO you would like to nominate and WHY. Nomination forms are available in the Gathering Area. You can drop a nomination in the box there or email them to Carole Witt (dce@opequonchurch.org). The session joyfully reviews all the nominations and makes the final selection. The Older Adult of 2026 will be announced at the Older Adult Luncheon on May 27. NOMINATIONS ARE Due TODAY.

WATERING THE GARDEN

Roots & Shoots is looking for volunteers to help water the garden until the drip irrigation is turned on. If you're willing to help out, please email Sheyenne Ervin (sheyenneervin@gmail.com).

MEN OF OPEQUON (MOO)

MOO will gather **tomorrow** at Chick-fil-A for dinner at **6:00 PM**, followed by our meeting at **7:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We will share in devotions and prayer and enjoy a special presentation by our own George Schember. George and his wife, Jeanne, live in the "Daniel Morgan House," the second oldest house in Winchester that was the home of General Daniel Morgan, American pioneer and Revolutionary War soldier, tactician, and hero. George has great insights to share about General Morgan as we mark 250 years since our country's founding. All men are invited.

GLOW: God-Loving Opequon Women meet Tuesday

GLOW is Opequon's multi-aged women's group that meets monthly to build friendships and enjoy heart-warming activities together. GLOW enjoyed a Progressive Dinner throughout the church last month. This **Tuesday**, women will enjoy DINNER OUT at Italian Delight in Stephens City. Plan to meet at the restaurant at **6:00 PM**. We will share some devotions and enjoy each other's company over dinner. We look forward to welcoming Opequon women for a delightful evening together. All Opequon women are invited.

HAPPY DAYS GATHERING

The monthly older adult fellowship time known as 'Happy Days' will be held this **Wednesday, May 13**, at **12:00 noon** in the Fellowship Hall, beginning with a covered dish lunch. Rotisserie Chicken is provided as well as drinks. Bring a covered dish to share as part of the lunch. After lunch, the program will feature a guest speaker from the Rescue Mission, sharing about all that is going on there. All older adults are welcome. Come enjoy the friendships, warmth around the tables and this informative time.

ANNUAL OLDER ADULT LUNCHEON

The special annual Older Adult Luncheon will be held on **Wednesday, May 27**. Entertainment by Rich Schempp and his Quartet begins in the Sanctuary at **11:30 AM** with the luncheon to follow in the Fellowship Hall at **12:15 PM**. The luncheon menu includes Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit Salad, Rolls, and Apple Crisp with Vanilla Ice Cream. Please RSVP to the church office (540-662-1843) or to Carole Witt (dce@opequonchurch.org) by **May 17**.

TIME to REGISTER FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

Summer is coming and we will kick it off with fun-filled nights at Vacation Bible School. Vacation Bible School will be held **June 14-17, (Sunday – Wednesday) 5:00 – 7:30 PM**. The theme is: "EVERY LIVING THING!" We will be focusing on how every living thing needs Food, Water, Shelter, Air, and Community, based on Psalm 104. Vacation Bible School is open to 4-year-olds through 8th grade with an adult class as well. Get your children and their friends registered to join us for this magnificent time. Registration forms are at the VBS HUT in the Gathering Area and available online.

- Children & Youth Registration: <https://forms.gle/SjMUNVAnDkrJKRWK8>
- Adult Class Registration: <https://forms.gle/k9HFYAUZS9HHEZxx6>

VBS Volunteers are also needed to make all this happen. We especially need some Kitchen helpers and Group Guides. Let us know how you might like to help us with VBS. Volunteer forms are available at the VBS hut or talk to Carole Witt.

SAVE THE DATE: Stronger Together Panel Discussion

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, May 21** at **6:30 PM** for a panel focusing on practical partnership opportunities designed to connect our church and schools with identified needs. It is open to everyone, and all Opequon educators are especially encouraged to attend! *(See details in the May newsletter.)*

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Doug Joyner

Beadle: June Malone

Door Greeters: Sven Thulin,
Kathi Lehnhard

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Wygant

Building Stewards: Ben &
Winter Brooks

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Pauline Cruz

Beadle: Shirley Tomblin

Door Greeters: Sven Thulin, Pat Heavner

Ushers: Marj Praml, Kyle Homan, Vern
Gamble, Paige Littman, Adelyn Astorino,
Aubrey Astorino

Acolyte: Paige Littman

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

- ✂ How did today's music witness to your faith in an unseen God?
- ✂ How do you understand that "He's got the whole world in His hands?"

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

- ✂ What base understandings do you use to make decisions?
- ✂ How do you know if your decisions are right?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

- ✂ Does your personal faith feel real?
- ✂ Where do you find reason to believe in God... in Jesus Christ?
- ✂ How do you deal with others who might not have a similar faith?

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