

# OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

[www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)



## INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

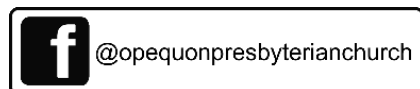
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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](http://www.opequonchurch.org/giving)**  
**or scan the QR code here:**



**Follow us on Facebook:**



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Pastor .....	David R. Witt
Associate Pastor.....	Julia H. Burkley
Parish Associate.....	Tracie Martin
Church Office Administrator .....	Rachel Lesink
Church Finance Administrator .....	Ken Smiy
Director of Christian Education.....	Carole Witt
Youth & Young Adult Director .....	Rebekah Witt
Director of Music.....	Susan Homan
Organist .....	William Heavner
Sexton .....	Robert Sydnor
Nursery Supervisor.....	Laurie Carver
Faith Community Nurses.....	Bill Martin, Mike Nutry, Pat Williams

# A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Second Sunday After Epiphany*

**January 14, 2024 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

**\*Thank you for taking the time to silence your phones before we begin the Worship Service.**

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting.

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

**Bold print = All in unison.**

## ✠ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ✠

PRELUDE..... *Be Thou My Vision*

Arranged by: Robert Thygerson

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION

"Dominican Republic Medical Mission"

Rebecca & Max Agbayani

†GATHERING SONG No. 452 ..... *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;**

**I want to see you; I want to see you;**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;**

**I want to see you; I want to see you;**

**to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.**

**Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."**

**Holy, holy, holy. Holy holy, holy.**

**Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.**

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The boy Samuel heard God's voice in the night.

**We come listening for God's voice.**

The disciple Philip heard God's voice through Christ, inviting him to follow.

**We come listening for God's voice.**

God knew us before we knew ourselves.

**We come listening for God's voice.**

Our minds, bodies, and souls belong to God.

**We come listening for God's voice.**

We come to this place to listen and follow.

**Let us worship God.**

†OPENING HYMN No. 410 ..... *God Is Calling through the Whisper*

**God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,  
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.  
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:  
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?**

**God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,  
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.  
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:  
God is calling – can you hear? God is calling – can you hear?**

**God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,  
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.  
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:  
God is calling – and we hear! God is calling – and we hear!**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey already knows the confessions of our hearts and is ready to forgive, let us confess our sin before God and before one another, joining in our unison prayer followed by moments of silent prayer.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as children in need of your constant care. We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves. Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Lead us to honesty and faith so that we may begin again with renewed strength; in Jesus' name, we pray.**

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness, and by grace we have been saved. In Jesus' name, you are forgiven. Your sins are no more. You have been made clean. God strengthens you with freedom through the Holy Spirit, in Christ our Lord.

## LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 634 ..... *To God Be the Glory*

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!**

**So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,**

**who yielded his life an atonement for sin,**

**and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

[refrain] **Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,**

**and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,**

**and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;**

**but purer and higher and greater will be**

**our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.** [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.**

## ✠ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ✠

CHOIR ANTHEM.....*Speak, O Lord*

By: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend; Arranged by: Mary McDonald

*Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word; Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness, That the Light of Christ may be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility; Test our thoughts and our attitudes In the radiance of Your purity. Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority. Words of pow'r that can never fail, Let their truth prevail over unbelief. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truth unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on Your promises, And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, 'til Your Church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory! Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the truth of Your Holy Word.*

## THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10.....Pew Bible p. 215

NEW TESTAMENT READING: John 1:43-51.....Pew Bible p. 863

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."Listening for God"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 722 .....*Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*

**Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living  
echoes of your tone. As you have sought, so  
let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.**

**O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering  
and the wavering feet. O feed me, Lord, that  
I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.**

**O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious  
truths which you impart. And wing my words that  
they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.**

**O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my  
very heart o'erflow in kindling thought and  
glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.**

**O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you  
will, and when, and where until your blessed  
face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

SERMON....."Can You Hear?"

Pastor David Witt

## ✠ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ✠

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC.....*He Leadeth Me*

Arranged by: Jason W. Krug

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

**Bless in every way, O Lord, the gifts of your people here given today  
and throughout this new week. Enrich the ministries of your people  
and make us grateful to be able to let go of the things we do not,  
finally, own. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Hymnal p. 37, sections 1-2) ..... *A Brief Statement of Faith*

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 ☞

†CLOSING HYMN No. 69 ..... *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*  
**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?**

[refrain] **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.**

**I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.**  
**I have wept for love of them. They turn away.**  
**I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.**  
**I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? [refrain]**  
**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.**  
**I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.**  
**Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.**  
**I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? [refrain]**

†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

### NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

While the familiar hymn, "Be Thou My Vision" is just a little over one hundred years old, it feels ageless. It wasn't until 1919 that the translation of a 6<sup>th</sup> century Irish poem was combined with an ancient folk melody, which came to be called *Slane*, named for a hill closely associated with the 5<sup>th</sup> century saint, Patrick. Some things happen almost spontaneously. That could describe today's offertory. In 1862, a Baptist minister was preaching on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. As he concluded his sermon, he was inspired to compose a poem he titled "He Leadeth Me." He turned his page of notes over and immediately jotted down the text, which was soon published in the Boston Watchman. William Bradbury, already a well-known hymnist, read the just published poem and composed a tune to set the words. While it is missing from our current and previous hymnals, this classic standard is found in over twelve hundred others.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sydney Burton  
 Art Littman  
 Martha Jackson  
 Family of Susan Ellen  
     Walker Werner  
 Rebekah DesMaris &  
     Family  
 Family of Eddie See  
 Carole Fox  
 Georgia Ricketts  
 Katie Schmidt  
 Dwayne  
 People in Japan  
 Families & Victims of  
     Shooting in Perry, IA  
 Jane Holsinger  
 Don Ratcliff  
 Sandy Lowry  
 Charlie Marple Family  
 Heather & Mark Leonard  
 Maddy Palmer  
 Sandy Widell  
 Patty Klinefelter  
 Peggy Myer

Carole Schwantes  
 Nancy Burkley  
 Rick Friedrichsen  
 Lynn Rosamila  
 Bereaved Israelites &  
     Palestinians  
 Jewish & Muslim Victims  
     Worldwide  
 Fred Johnston  
 Aliah  
 Bill Robinson  
 Curt & Nancy Budny  
 Marge & Tim Higgins  
 Dan Fleming  
 Terry Williams  
 Nancy Roberts  
 Joan Aylor  
 Graham Taylor  
 Norma Windle Albanese  
 Stephen Armstrong  
 Lori Jones  
 Carlene Lemasters  
 Valarie Foley  
 Cindy Weeks

José LaMont Jones  
 Cindy Correll  
 Douglas Dicks  
 Carol Nutry  
 Joyce Griffiths  
 June Windle  
 Nathan Windle  
 Mike Shade  
 Clay Knick  
 Rick Ours  
 Tim Loftis  
 Lillian Hanks  
 Katie Happel  
 Michael Weller  
 Parker Plumb  
 Maui  
 Cindia Stewart  
 Rich Valenti  
 Ray Anderson  
 Nancy Kerns  
 Kennedy Ransom  
 Ukraine  
 Ethiopia Church Mekane  
     Jesus

## ✿PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES✿

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



## SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

### TODAY – January 14

8:30 AM      Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream  
 9:45 AM      Faith Formation – Bageant Room  
 11:00 AM     Worship – Sanctuary  
 12:15 PM     Senior Outreach Ministry  
 1:30 PM      Spring Arbor Worship  
 2:00 PM      Open House – Julia’s new home

Monday:      \* **DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER** \*

11:00 AM    Memorial Service & Reception for Nathan Budny –  
 Sanctuary & Gathering Area

1:00 PM      Disciple Bible Study – Bageant Room

6:00 PM      Windsong – Sanctuary

6:00 PM      Safety Team Meeting – Bageant Room

Tuesday:     10:00 AM    Staff Meeting – Bageant Room

7:00 PM      Session Meeting – Bageant Room

Wednesday: 12:00 PM    Music at Noon - Sanctuary

4:30 PM      LOGOS (Theme: “Polar Bears & Penguins Night”)

6:30 PM      Worship on Wednesday (WOW) – Sanctuary

7:15 PM      Adult Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Thursday:    10:30 AM    Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary

10:30 AM    WANC Meeting – Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM      Sherando Food Pantry

Friday:       5:00 PM      Drop-Off Items for Bake Sale

Saturday:    9:00 AM      Officer Orientation – Bageant Room & Sanctuary

2:00 PM      Memorial Service for Don Larsen – TVOR Chapel

5:00 PM      OPC Spaghetti Dinner & Bake Sale by Youth – Fellowship  
 Hall & Kitchen

### NEXT SUNDAY – January 21, 2024

*Ordination, Installation & Commissioning of New Officers;*

*Blood Pressure Checks; Youth Bake Sale*

*Scriptures: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20*

8:30 AM      Worship – Sanctuary

9:45 AM      Faith Formation – Bageant Room

10:40 AM     **Congregational Meeting** – Sanctuary

11:00 AM     **Worship with the Ordination, Installation & Commissioning of  
 New Officers** – Sanctuary & Livestream

12:00 PM      Fellowship Reception – Fellowship Hall

## **KEEPING IN STEP WITH OUR CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

Everyone's safety is of utmost importance at Opequon Church. Over the years, we have worked to develop a strong Child Safety Policy. An important component of that policy is that background checks are conducted on anyone that works with children and youth through the ministries of OPC. The Opequon Safety Team feels it is crucial to do official background checks every five years. This year (2024) will be a time when we need to be contacting many of you for the five-year refresher of background checks. Please be patient and understand that this is for everyone's safety. We will be doing background checks gradually now that 2024 has begun and as we move through the early part of the year. You may be contacted and asked to complete a form which begins this renewal process. Thank you.

## **OPEN HOUSE!**

Pastor Julia is all moved in and settled in her new home and would love to have you come and visit! Drop by any time **2:00 PM – 5:00 PM today**, or **11:00 AM – 3:00 PM on Friday, January 26** for Java with Julia. Jackson (doggo), and Hazel (kitty), look forward to welcoming you! Her address is 104 Braeburn Dr, Winchester. Please park in the marked visitor parking spots right down the block.

## **LIFE GOES ON**

The Life Goes On lunch gathering for tomorrow has been cancelled, but we look forward to seeing you at our next gathering on February 19!

## **MUSIC AT NOON**

This **Wednesday, January 17**, the **noon** hour will be filled with the music of our sanctuary organ and piano. Church members, neighbors, and guests are invited to come and go as their schedules allow for this time of "just music." Feel free to pass along this invitation to those outside our church family. All are welcome!

## **SPAGHETTI DINNER & BAKE SALE TO SUPPORT YOUTH**

The Opequon Youth invite everyone to come enjoy a plate full of spaghetti (gluten-free pasta available), eat some bread, and purchase bake sale items on **SATURDAY, January 20**, at **5:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. The Bake Sale will continue into **Sunday** morning as well. No reservations required for the Spaghetti Dinner. We greatly appreciate your monetary donations towards supporting Youth who will attend the Massanetta Middle School Conference and the High School Mission Trip during Summer 2024! If you would like to provide baked goods, please let Rebekah Witt know ASAP (wittrebekah2@gmail.com or 540-686-0752). Thank you for your generosity.

## **GIFT EVENT**

Join us for a GIFT Event on **Sunday, January 28**, at **9:45 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. GIFT means “Generations in Faith Together” as all ages combine one Sunday a month for a themed intergenerational experience. The theme this month is “Once Upon a Star,” with a focus on this season of Epiphany. Come hear the fascinating story of *Song of the Stars* and enjoy some special Epiphany experiences. It will be a morning of wonder and intrigue. There will surely be some special morning refreshments (STAR cookies, GOLD coins, and more), and thought-provoking conversation. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT.

## **2024 MEDICAL MISSION – MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

Our Medical Mission Trip Team is collecting over-the-counter medical supplies listed below **now through January 28** to bring to the Dominican Republic. Expiration dates for all donated items MUST be AFTER 3/31/2025. Please place items in the black and yellow tubs in the Gathering Area. To support our team financially, visit our MMI fundraising page at <https://mmiorg.app.neoncrm.com/MMIOPC>. *(see the January newsletter for more details)*

Vitamins (NOT gummy; adult / prenatal / children's; with / without iron)

Acetaminophen (adult / children's)

Ibuprofen / Motrin (adult / children's)

Naproxen / Aleve

Omeprazole / Pantoprazole

Pepcid / Famotidine

Flonase / Nasacort

Moisturizing Eye Drops

Voltaren Gel / Icy Hot

Triple Antibiotic Ointment

Claritin / Zyrtec / Allegra (adult / children's)

Selsun Blue / Dandruff Shampoo

Urine Test Strips

## **2024 FLOWER CHART**

To sign-up to provide the flowers for an upcoming worship service in 2024, please click on the “Flower Chart” link at the bottom of our OPC website or the Flower Chart posted in the church office.

## **BEADLES & DOOR GREETERS**

Please take a moment to sign-up to be a Beadle or Door Greeter by contacting the church office or using the link on our website to view the schedule.

## **CHURCH OFFICE/STAFF SCHEDULES THIS WEEK**

➤ Through January 15: Rebekah Witt – out of the office

To reach a staff member or if a pastoral concern arises, contact the church office (540-662-1843 or [office@opequonchurch.org](mailto:office@opequonchurch.org)) or please note who is away and email one of the pastors directly and we will get back to you in a timely manner.

## CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Session of Opequon Presbyterian Church calls for a meeting of the congregation next **Sunday, January 21, 2024**, at **10:40 AM** in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to approve proposed changes to the church's Deacon/Congregational Care Ministry, changes that have been approved and recommended by Session. Details of the recommended changes are outlined on the first page of OPC's January newsletter. Please be present for this meeting as active participants in the life of Opequon Church, exercising your right and responsibility of membership.

## WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

### 8:30 AM Worship

**Liturgist:** Jack Youngblood

**Beadle:** Brenda Steffens

**Door Greeters:** Winter & Ben Brooks

**Hospitality Greeters:** Lisa & Bill Frye

**Ushers:** Mike & Wendy Wygant, Alex Plumb,  
Mike & Trish Crawford, Pam Olsen

**Bell Ringer:** Mo Mohler

**Livestream:** Susan Ritter, Ellen Cunningham

### 11:00 AM Worship

**Liturgist:** Vern Gamble

**Beadle:** Ron Smith

**Door Greeters:** Heather & Steve  
Burton

**Ushers:** Marj Praml, Kyle Homan,  
Jason Hathaway, Vern Gamble,  
Hudson Homan, Finn Berson

**Acolyte:** Hudson Homan

## WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

### Notes on Today's Music

✂ How did God call you through today's music?

### Notes on Today's Prayers

✂ Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?

### Notes on Today's Children's Sermon

✂ How is God calling you?

### Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✂ How are the five senses essential to our lives?

✂ How do hearing and seeing particularly direct our paths?

✂ What helps you to listen for God?

✂ Where, in what place, and through what person or persons do you hear the call of the Lord? Consider it each day this week.

✂ Who has awakened in you, a new prayer, a hope, an insight?

✂ Who are the people who invited you to "come and see" Jesus?

✂ Is there someone around you to whom you could extend that invitation today?

✂ How will our scripture lessons from 1 Samuel and John guide you this week?