

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org

JESUS
is
ALWAYS with
YOU



– Drawing by Bo Weber

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

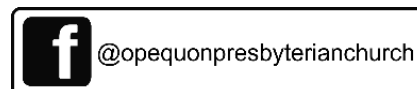
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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:



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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
Facilities Coordinator	Robert Sydnor
Nursery Supervisor.....	Laurie Carver
Faith Community Nurses.....	Bill Martin, Mike Nutry, Pat Williams

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 4, 2024 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Youth & Young Adult Family Sunday; Communion

***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 the offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

✠ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ✠

PRELUDE..... *O God Beyond All Praising*

Arranged by: Robert Wallace

(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

OPENING MUSIC..... *Amazing Grace*

Arranged by: Bragi Þór Valsson

Joshua Batcha & Finn Berson (saxophone); William Heavner (piano)

†GATHERING SONG No..... *We Are Singing*

[refrain] **We are singing, for the Lord is our light,
We are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, for the Lord is our light,
We are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.**

**The Lord is the strength of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?
Though foes may be near to destroy; the Lord will be our light. [refrain]**

**One thing have we asked of the Lord, yes, this is the thing we seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord; to live with God forever. [refrain]**

**When burdens are heavy to bear, our shelter is God alone.
Our feet are lifted high; yes, high upon a rock. [refrain]**

**We walk in the strength of the Lord, God's love is ever sure.
We shout that the world may hear, we sing a joyful song. [refrain]**

†CALL TO WORSHIP (written by the Astorino Family)

How good is it to sing praises to the Lord

Praise the Lord

He heals the broken hearted

Praise the Lord

He determines the stars in the sky

Praise the Lord

He casts the wicked to the ground

Praise the Lord

He puts the clouds in the sky so that the rain will help the grass

Praise the Lord

He takes pleasure in those who fear him

Praise the Lord

Let us all praise the Lord together in worship.

†OPENING HYMN No. 744*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

**Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION (written by the Birchenough Family)

As we stand before God, let us acknowledge the times we have relied on our own strength, neglecting the boundless power and tender care of our Creator. Let's approach this time of confession with sincerity, seeking forgiveness for our shortcomings and opening our hearts to grace that heals, restores, and transforms.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (written by the Birchenough Family)

Gracious and Merciful God, we come before you, acknowledging the vastness of your wisdom and the depth of your understanding. We admit that we sometimes rely on our own strength and understanding, neglecting to fully trust in you. Forgive us for

moments when our actions or words may have hindered others from knowing the love and grace found in Christ. Grant us the courage and compassion to proclaim the good news in both word and deed. We acknowledge the need for your healing in this world. For the times we ignored the cries of the suffering, when we turned away from the brokenhearted, we seek your forgiveness. Lord, renew the spirit within us. May our lives reflect the transformative power of your love, and may we be instruments of healing, compassion, and reconciliation in your world. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER *Jesus Loves Me*
Adelyn Astorino (violin)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (written by the Hathaway Family)

God knows you by name. He strengthens you when you feel powerless. He heals you when you're brokenhearted and offers you new mercies each day. Thank God for His unfailing love and forgiveness.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 43 *On Eagle's Wings*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,

say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

[refrain] **And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

The Snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:

under his wings, your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. [refrain]

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. [refrain]

For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. [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 ☞

ANTHEM.....*Healer of Our Every Ill*

Youth Families & Young Adult Choir

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow. You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love. Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:21-31Pew Bible p. 582

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Mark 1:29-39.....Pew Bible p. 813

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES (written by the Barr Family)“Resting with God”

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 796 *We Come to You For Healing, Lord*

**We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit’s touch we may again be whole.**

**As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
we know you come among us still with power to heal again.**

**You touch us through physicians’ skills,
through nurses’ gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends who lift our lives in prayer.**

**Through nights of pain and wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience, Lord, your calming peace to know.**

**We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days your grace will heal,
sustain.**

SERMON.....“Healing & Hiding”

Rebekah Witt, Director for Youth & Young Adults

☞ **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD** ☞

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS (written by the McGunnigle Family)

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*
Arranged by: William Heavner

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) & PRAYER OF DEDICATION (written by the Sherman Family)

Dear Lord, our everlasting God, scripture tells us that you provide strength to the weary, hope to the downtrodden, and healing to the sick. We offer to you these gifts that they might be used to help spread this message of hope in communities near and far that others may come to know the abundance of your blessings and continue to share your gospel, just as Simon, Andrew, James, and John did with you in Galilee. Thank you for the abundant life you provide us. Continue to guide us in the sharing of the good news. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (written by the Tibbs Family)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (Hymnal p. 9-10)

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Music

Closing Communion Prayer

☞ **WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME** ☞

†CLOSING HYMN No. 800 *Sometimes a Light Surprises*

**Sometimes a light surprises the child of God who sings;
it is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings;
when comforts are declining, he grants the soul again
a season of clear shining to cheer it after rain.**

**In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue
the theme of God's salvation and find it ever new;
set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,
"Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may."**

**It can bring with it nothing but he will bear us through;
who gives the lilies clothing will clothe his people, too;
beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed;
and he who feeds the ravens will give his children bread.**

**Though vine nor fig tree neither their longed-for fruit should bear,
though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there,
yet God the same abiding, his praise shall tune my voice;
for while in him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.**

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE No. 539 (v. 1, refrain) *We Will Go Out With Joy*

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.**

[refrain] **Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

†POSTLUDE

COMMUNION TODAY WILL INVITE YOU FORWARD

We will come forward to the communion table to receive the sacrament this morning. Each section of pews should move to the left as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available in the center section. Please see an usher for assistance. Please come forward, receive a piece of bread handed to you and eat immediately. Receive a small cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) and drink immediately, taking your used cup back to your pew and placing it in the cup holder. Return to your seat by the right aisle of your section.

Elders serving at the 8:30 AM service today are: Rebecca Agbayani, Lance Astorino, Marc DesMarais, Robin Owens, Al Owens, Beth Barr, and Jay Tibbs.

Elders serving at the 11:00 AM service today are: Rebecca Agbayani, Beth Barr, Bill Berson, Kirsta Weber, and Jason Hathaway.

<h3>NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC</h3>
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"O God beyond all praising, We worship you today And sing the love amazing That songs cannot repay" is the text of the opening verse of the hymn serving as this morning's prelude. It is set to the majestic tune, "Thaxted," pulled from the "Jupiter Suite," and part of Gustav Holst's larger work "The Planets." Many of us can claim knowledge that the African American Evangelist, Thomas A. Dorsey is credited with the 1930's gospel hymn, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." While he composed the text, he borrowed and then adapted the tune from an 1855 hymn, "Must Jesus Bear

the Cross Alone." Dorsey's new gospel song was first recorded in the late 1930's. By the mid 1950's it was so popular that Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin, and Elvis Presley had all recorded hit versions. It was said to be Martin Luther King, Jr.'s favorite hymn. Just moments before his death in 1968, he instructed his music leader, "make sure you play 'Precious Lord, Take My Hand' in the meeting tonight. Play it real pretty." Days later, Mahalia sang it at his funeral.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Lisa, Kevin, and Erika Reed and Lauren (Reed) Matthews in celebration of birthdays and memory of Dick and Ann Martin. We love and miss you!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Peggy Myer	Jewish & Muslim Victims	Carol Nutry
Emma Kate Hathaway	Worldwide	Joyce Griffiths
Bill Perkins	Fred Johnston	June Windle
Sandy Widell	Aliah	Nathan Windle
Mike Shade	Curt & Nancy Budny	Clay Knick
Liz Martin	Marge & Tim Higgins	Rick Ours
Nick Corvino	Dan Fleming	Tim Loftis
Angie Cain	Terry Williams	Lillian Hanks
Art Littman	Nancy Roberts	Katie Happel
Martha Jackson	Joan Aylor	Michael Weller
Carole Fox	Graham Taylor	Parker Plumb
Georgia Ricketts	Norma Windle Albanese	Maui
Katie Schmidt	Stephen Armstrong	Cindia Stewart
Carole Schwantes	Lori Jones	Rich Valenti
Nancy Burkley	Carlene Lemasters	Ray Anderson
Rick Friedrichsen	Valarie Foley	Nancy Kerns
Lynn Rosamila	Cindy Weeks	Kennedy Ransom
Bereaved Israelites &	José LaMont Jones	Ukraine
Palestinians	Cindy Correll	Ethiopia Church Mekane
	Douglas Dicks	Yesus

✿ **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 – February 4

Youth & Young Adult Family Sunday; Communion

- 8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
- 9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room
- 9:45 AM Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

- Monday:
 - 10:00 AM Older Adult Ministry Meeting – Bageant Room
 - 1:00 PM Disciple Bible Study – Bageant Room
 - 5:00 PM LOGOS Leadership Team – Bageant Room
 - 6:00 PM Windsong – Sanctuary
 - 6:30 PM Nominating Committee Meeting – Bageant Room
- Tuesday:
 - 10:00 AM Staff Meeting – Bageant Room
 - 4:30 PM Tech Team Meeting – Bageant Room
 - 6:00 PM Ministry Team Night – Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday:
 - 4:30 PM LOGOS (Theme: Opposite Night)
 - 6:15 PM Our Daily Bread – Classroom 2 & Zoom
 - 7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- Thursday:
 - 10:30 AM Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
 - 7:00 PM Vision Team – Bageant Room
- Saturday:
 - 8:30 AM Church Leadership Retreat – Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY – February 11

Transfiguration Sunday; "Souper Bowl of Caring"

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9 Sermon: "The Light of Glory"

- 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

OLDER ADULT TEAM MEETING

The Older Adult Planning Team meets **tomorrow** morning at **9:30 AM** in the Bageant Room. This meeting is open to all older adults. The team discusses plans for upcoming Happy Days events and additional special events for older adults. A sweet treat and coffee are provided. Come join in the conversation and planning.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING CAN COLLECTION – FEBRUARY 4-11

Opequon Youth are collecting soup cans for the Souper Bowl of Caring! Please bring cans of soup types according to where you typically sit in the Sanctuary for worship services: **Choir Side = Vegetable/Beef; Center Section = Chicken Noodle; Window Side = Tomato.** Find the collection spot in the Gathering Area **today.** Which section of the Sanctuary will be crowned the winners and bring in the most soup cans?! All donations are due by **February 11** and will be given to the Sherando and Highland Food Pantries. Monetary donations for the pantries are welcome as well. Questions? Ask Rebekah Witt!

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE – TODAY (Memorial Sanctuary)

Our informal playgroup, Opie's Playhouse, will meet in the Memorial Sanctuary **today** from **9:45-10:45 AM.** All children ages 7 and under and their families are invited to come. Please join us!

SHOW US YOUR TALENT!

Looking for a stage to perform your song, dance, or musical talent? What about a favorite recitation? We've got your stage! Consider being part of our upcoming Talent Show – all types of entertainment welcome! Sign up in the Gathering Area to entertain or contact Marj Praml (540-327-2667 or pramlmarjory550@gmail.com).

OPC'S 8th ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

Join us for a potluck supper, live entertainment, and an evening of fun and fellowship on February 24 at 6:00 PM for our annual OPC Talent Show! The Fellowship Ministry will provide drinks and desserts.

2024 MEDICAL MISSION – MEDICAL SUPPLIES

The Medical Mission Team is currently collecting the following **non-medical supplies** through **February 18** for their trip to the Dominican Republic. Donations may be placed in the black/yellow tubs located in the Gathering Area.

Baseball Caps

Socks (all sizes)

Sandals (all ages/sizes)

Sneakers (all ages/sizes)

Dish Towels

Toothbrushes (adult & kids)

Nail Files

Glasses (reading or prescription)

Coloring Books

Stickers

To support our team financially, you can donate through our MMI fundraising page: <https://mmiorg.app.neoncrm.com/MMIOPC>.

For more info, check out the special Medical Mission Announcement on Opequon's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/Cv53dfvP4OM>.

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgists: Youth & Young Adults

Beadle: Vicky Astorino

Door Greeters: Ben Barnes,
Saunders & DesMarais Family

Ushers: Casey Orndorff, Kieran Orndorff,
Alex Plumb, Jordan Hartman, Carolyn
Campbell, Kennedy Jordan

Acolyte: Aubrey Astorino

Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Sam Sherman

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgists: Youth & Young Adults

Beadle: Peggy Hughes

Door Greeters: Ervin Family,
Birchenough Family

Ushers: Stephen Gamble, Aubrey
McGunnigle, Logan McGunnigle,
Bo Weber, Tucker Birchenough, Joel
Witt

Acolyte: Payton Hughes

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How does the music bring you healing or draw you closer to God?

Notes on Today's Prayers

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

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✂ How often do you take a break and truly rest with God?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

✂ What draws you closer to Jesus?

✂ Where do you need healing in your life?

✂ How will you find rest in the midst of society's obsession with busyness?

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