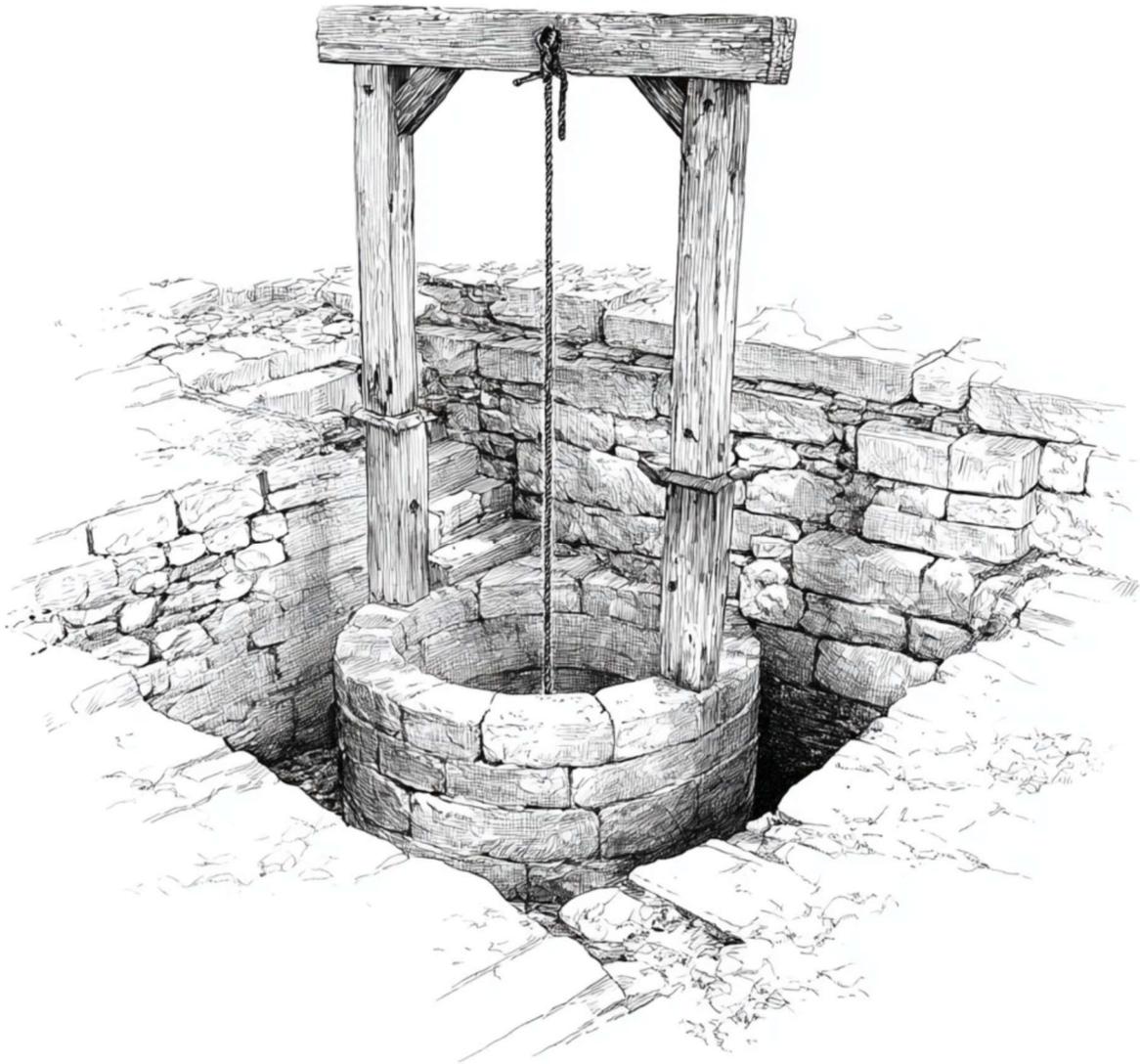


OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 8, 2026

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM



Third Sunday in Lent
"On the Road with Jesus"

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

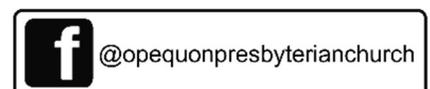
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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

Third Sunday in Lent

- ☞ **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..... *When You Believe*
By: Stephen Schwartz

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 626 *As the Deer*

**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

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

We have come to give thanks and to sing songs of praise!

We are the people of God's pasture; we trust that God will bring us through the wilderness.

We seek God's living water and praise God's holy name!

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

**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 may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering, 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 to assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin, first in unison prayer, then in personal silence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus, friend of all, once again on the road, 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 FORGIVENESS

We know that God is with us even in our sufferings, for suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts. Thanks be to God!

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 438 (v. 1-2)..... *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed
be of sin the double cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.
Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and thou alone.

†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..... *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Music by: Lisa Hoekstra

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the Mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love. Here I raise my Ebenezer, here by Thy great help I've come, and I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love, the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above. Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face; clothed, then, in blood-washed linen, how I'll sing Thy wondrous grace! Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; take my ransomed soul away. Send Thine angels now to carry me to realms of endless day. Send Thine angels now to carry me to realms of endless day.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

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

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

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."Are You Thirsty?"
Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 182 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*
I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.**

SERMON....."At the Well"
Pastor David Witt

☞ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *Ridgecrest*
By: Joseph M. Martin

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

**God of grace, you have gifted us with life in Christ. Today we bring
the gifts of our work and the gifts of our hearts. May all that we
bring and all that we are be your means of grace in the world, that
all people may encounter your good news. Through Christ our Lord,
we pray. Amen.**

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Hymnal p. 35) *The Apostles' Creed*

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. 65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty.
Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.**

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE No. 748..... *Go with Us, Lord*

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.**

†POSTLUDE

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Diana Treece in memory of her mom, Carol Treece.

*In Remembrance:
Darrell George Griffiths
November 15, 1938 - March 2, 2026
"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.
"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die,
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."
- John 11:26-26*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

McClure/Denham Family	Don Gibson	Ken Johansen
Joyce Griffiths & Family	Maximus Serros	Bonnie Pitzer
Middle East War	Karen Lemons & Family	Lynne Rosamilia
Our Soldiers	Anne Aisenberg &	Cor & Agnes Kamerman
Bud Proctor	Family	Sue Friedrichsen
Courtney Rose & Family	Forrest Family	JoAnne Farrell
Hunter	Susan Ritter	Michelle Whiteman-
Harry Newman	Melissa McGunnigle	McKee
Dawn Phillips	Tyler Johnson	Paulette Fazio
Nathan Smith & Tracy	Nancy Guthrie	Katie Happel
Roger Murphy	David Goode	Joyce Williamson
George Schwantes	Murray Shantz	Judy Camper
Carole Schwantes	Michelle Hall	Candi Gardner
Dominican Medical	Carol Nutry	Krista Strukoff
Mission Team	Denise Weidele	(DeCeault)
Gary McDowell	Caroline Hastreiter	David Lewis
Marge & Tim Higgins	Lori Jones & Stephen	David DesMarias
Robin Eddy	Armstrong	Megan Tschappat
Phil Sommer	Dan Cammer	Judy Orndorff
Rick Ours	Sharon Boyd	Charlotte Rosamilia
Jean Smith Family	Beth Drummond	Susan Arthur
Jolissa Matthews	David Emery	Bill Gesell
Avalanche Victims &	Carolyn Morgan	All Struggling with
Families	Jill Crocket	Mental Illness
Kathy Ludwig & Family	Ray Klinefelter	Mike Shade
Riley Fitzgerald	Mike & Trish Crawford	Jewish & Muslim Victims
Todd Bennett	Pastor Kristin Whitesides	Worldwide
Sara Frey	Jordan Hartman	Cindy Corell
Max Riley	Scarlett Kibler	Nancy Kerns
Michael Callahan	David Cohen	Kennedy Ransom
Larry Sisler	June & Nathan Windle	Ukraine
Shawn Flaugh	Al & May Schollenberger	Ethiopia Church Mekane
Donald Elson	Judy Gaines	Yesus
Debbie Manuel	Tim Loftis	

☞ **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,
Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes, Eli Keaton

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – March 8 (3rd Sunday in Lent)

Daylight Saving Time Begins

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
9:40 AM	VBS Team Meeting – Assembly Room
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room & Zoom
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Spring Arbor Worship
3:00 PM	Windsong Rehearsal & Dinner – Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
4:00 PM	Newcomers' Class – Memorial Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday:	6:00 PM	MOO Meal – Chick-fil-A
	6:00 PM	Windsong – Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	MOO Gathering – Fellowship Hall
Tuesday:	9:30 AM	Tuesday Morning Mission – Bageant Room
	1:30 PM	Angel Class – Bageant Room
	5:30 PM	CAT Team – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	GLOW Gathering – Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Vision Team – Bageant Room
Wednesday:	12:00 PM	Happy Days – Fellowship Hall
	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: Spring Forward Night)
	7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
Friday:	6:30 PM	Young Adult Fondue Party – Rebekah Witt's House

NEXT SUNDAY – March 15 (4th Sunday in Lent)

Blood Pressure Checks; Baptism (11:00 AM)

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 9:1-41 Sermon: "Open My Eyes"

*** Deadline for April Newsletter Submissions ***

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
9:45 AM	Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Worship & Baptism – Sanctuary & Livestream
12:15 PM	Potato Bake Luncheon – Fellowship Hall

STAFF SCHEDULE NOTES

March 9-12: Rebekah Witt – Continuing Education
March 11: Rachel Lesink – Out of the Office
March 13-14: David & Carole Witt – Out of Town

NEWCOMERS' CLASS

Are you new to Opequon Church or our community? Would you like to know more about the heritage, mission, and vision of Opequon Church? Do you have some questions about what, where, when, why, and how we do things within this faith community? Would you like to become a member of Opequon? If you said "yes!" regarding any of these questions, you are cordially invited and encouraged to attend our Newcomers' Class **TODAY** at **4:00 PM** in the Memorial Sanctuary.

MEN OF OPEQUON (MOO)

MOO will gather **tomorrow** at **6:00 PM** for dinner at Chick-fil-A (Pleasant Valley Rd) before meeting at the church for our monthly program at **7:00 PM**. This month, we welcome Ken Shank from the Winchester Astronomy Club. Join us to hear stories about the stars. Dessert will be provided.

GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN (GLOW) RESUMES!

GLOW is Opequon's multi-aged Women's group that meets monthly to build friendships and enjoy heart-warming activities together. GLOW resumes this month after being on break for the past two months. GLOW will meet this **Tuesday, March 10**, at **6:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be doing 'ESCAPE BOX CHALLENGES'. Sounds very intriguing. Come be part of a team working to get into their box in the time allotted. The GLOW Planning Team will be providing Soup, Sandwiches, Dessert, and Drinks before we begin our challenge and we will enjoy a special devotional time as well. 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, March 11**, at **NOON** in the Fellowship Hall, beginning with a covered dish lunch. Rotisserie Chicken is provided as well as drinks. AND this month with the theme "A Birthday Party for Everyone," homemade cake will be provided for dessert. You are invited to bring something other than dessert to contribute to the lunch. After lunch, we will enjoy some birthday party games suitable for everyone. All older adults are welcome. Come enjoy the friendships, warmth around the tables and this fun event in celebration of each of you.

LENT ITEMS AVAILABLE

The Road to the Cross for adults is a booklet of 'a word a day for Lent' written by Rev. Jill Paulson of Wildwood Presbyterian Church. May you find the focus of a word a day a great way to deepen and challenge your faith. Pick one up from the Gathering Area.

For Young People: Surprise Lent Item! The Lent item this week is a 'Lent Washcloth.' It feels good to get fresh and clean. As we wash up, throughout the week, we are encouraged to say 'SORRY' for times we may have been mean. Lent Washcloth packages have been given to all children and youth at Logos and are available in the Gathering Area.

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE MEETS NEXT SUNDAY

Opie's Playhouse will meet next **Sunday, March 15, 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**, in the Memorial Sanctuary. Please join us for fun, friends and fellowship at this Sunday morning playgroup. Families with infants, toddlers and elementary aged children are all welcome.

POTATO BAKE – NEXT SUNDAY

Join us for our Annual Potato Bake on **Sunday, March 15**, at **12:15 PM** in the Fellowship Hall! Enjoy fun, food, and fellowship – done "The Opequon Way!" Baked potatoes, fixin's, desserts, and drinks will be provided. Please consider bringing a salad or cold side dish to share. We look forward to seeing you there!

EASTER TULIP ORDERS

Tulip order/dedication forms are available in the Gathering Area and are due to the church office by next **Sunday, March 15**. The cost is \$10 each. Please indicate "tulips" with your payment.

ADULT TRIP TO MELROSE CAVERNS

An adult trip to Melrose Caverns (located outside Harrisonburg) is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 22**, meeting at **9:00 AM** at the church. Walk through the very places where Union soldiers lived, ate and slept. You'll see where they stored their provisions and how they moved them up and down between the caverns and the surface. The tour is 1 hour long. ONE SPOT REMAINS, and a waiting list is available. The cost for the trip is \$30 plus money for lunch at O'Neills. If you would like to sign up for this trip, let Carole Witt know in person or via email (dce@opequonchurch.org).

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Ellen Cunningham

Beadle: Betty Chicklo

Door Greeters: Alyce Callahan, Jeannie Wright

Ushers: Mike & Wendy Wygant, Steve & Heather Burton, LJ Strosnider, Bailey Rockwell

Acolyte: LJ Strosnider

Building Stewards: Steve & Heather Burton

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Austin Jenkins

Beadle: Bill Thomasson

Door Greeters: Kathi Lehnhard, Leslie Louthan

Ushers: Marj Praml, Kyle Homan, Jason Hathaway, Vern Gamble, Logan McGunnigle, Liam Pingley-Guzman, Sophia Pingley-Guzman

Acolyte: Logan McGunnigle

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How did today's music witness to the "living water" that Jesus offers?

Notes on Today's Prayers

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

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✂ What helps you with your thirst?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✂ When have you received water as a special gift in a time of need?

✂ What is "your well" on the road with Jesus?

✂ What barriers does Jesus break down at the well?

✂ How does Jesus know you?

✂ What are you thirsty for today?

✂ When has letting go of your expectations or rules allowed God to work freely in your life or in the lives of those around you?

✂ How will you pay attention to the people around you this week?

✂ What does the story of the Samaritan woman teach us?

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