

Oxford Presbyterian Church
Ascension of the Lord Sunday
Sunday, Aug 27, 2017

Liturgist: Paula Foltz

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

God Most High, we gather to honor and glorify you.
Receive our invitation to dwell with us.
Enfold us in your presence and
fill us again with holy awe and mystery.
We are yours and we claim you as our Lord. Amen.

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" setting, Timothy Shaw

CHORAL INTROIT "Joyful Psalm of Praise" J. Martin

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 8 and Proverbs 8)

One: O Lord, you reveal wisdom and spiritual insight
through your presence in creation.

**All: When we look at the heavens,
we see your vastness.**

When we look at seas teeming with fish
and verdant fields painted like a canvas,
we see your creativity and your bounty.

Your name is: Majestic, Compassionate, Glorious, and Inspiring.

Your name is: Beautiful, Tender, Amazing, Powerful, and All-Encompassing
Lord.

**For all of this and so much more,
we praise your name. Let us worship God!**

***HYMN** "All Creatures of Our God and King" #15

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

As the people of God, let us now confess our sin:
**God, our fears and prejudices run deep. Sometimes we can only see
our own point of view. We stick with those who are like us, rarely
venturing outside our comfort zones. We do not hear those crying for
justice and true peace. We blame those who are suffering and in
need, instead of standing by them. We deny the power of your gospel
to unite us with those who are different from us. Lord, give us eyes to
see and ears to hear. Open us to new possibilities of life for all of your
people, and use us to enact the new life given in Christ.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Christ died for us. Christ rose from the grave conquering sin and death. He
makes all things new. He continually makes each one of us new, and he calls
us into the new life he has prepared for us. Know that you are forgiven and
be at peace.

***SHARING THE PEACE**

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children in Preschool through Grade 8
are dismissed to class following the children's message.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, Word made flesh, let us come to this word open to being surprised.
Silence our agendas; banish our assumptions; cast out our casual
detachment. Confound our expectations; clear the cobwebs from our ears;
penetrate the corners of our hearts with this word. We know that you can, we
pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Genesis 1:20-31

Holy wisdom, holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Creation Story & Original Blessing"

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*HYMN *"All Things Bright and Beautiful"* #20

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *"Down to the River to Pray"* Traditional
arr. Sheldon Curry

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *"His Eye is On the Sparrow"* #661

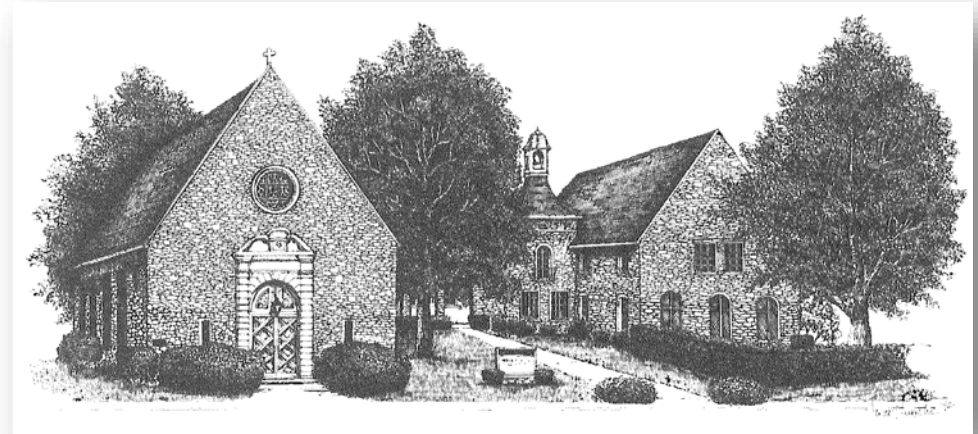
*BLESSING

Everlasting God, let us dwell this day on blessings. For you have made all creatures great and small. All things fashioned and formed by you, all things blessed and called good by you. May our relationships with all creatures great and small mirror your intentionality, your spacious love, your care, and your bountiful mercy. Nourish us with your words, empower us in fellowship and community, and send us out to offer your grace and peace to all. Amen.

*CHORAL RESPONSE *"Go Now in Love and Peace"* P. Liebergen

*POSTLUDE *"Lord God, We All Give Praise to Thee"* J.G. Walther

**Please rise in body or in spirit*



Ascension of the Lord Sunday

Oxford Presbyterian Church

101 N. Main St. | Oxford, OH 45056 | 513.523.6364
office@oxfordpresbychurch.org | www.oxfordpresbychurch.org

Sunday, August 27, 2017



Sunday, August 27

Guest Speaker: Rev. Marcy Bain

9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday school
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux

Monday, August 28

6:00-8:00 CCNS Parent Meeting
(Molyneaux)
7:00 Art Class (Seminary)

Tuesday, August 29

8:00 PCCM Fellowship
(Graeter's)

Wednesday, August 30

5:30 Community Meal
(Seminary)

Thursday, August 31

7:00 Youth Group (Youth Room)

Friday, September 1

Saturday, September 2

10:00 A.A. (Molyneaux)

Sunday, September 3

Youth Mission Trip Sunday

9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday school
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux

OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Lawrence H. Bartel
Music Director: Kent Peterson
Organist: Lynn Jacobs
Pastor Emeritus: Dr. Joseph R. Hookey
Parish Associate: Rev. Diane Ziegler
Clerk of Session: Julia R. Fisher
Administrative Assistant:
Bridgite Dickerson:
office@oxfordpresbychurch.org
Financial Secretary: Mary Martin
finance@oxfordpresbychurch.org
Director/Teacher C.C.N.S.: Sarah Mapel:
513-207-3630
Newsletter Editor: Nancy Moeckel:
moeckenj@miamioh.edu
Custodian: Priscilla Parks
Sexton: Robert Simpson

OFFICERS OF OPC SESSION

Class of 2017: Gwen Fears, Kim Logsdon,
Mary Jane Roberts,
Robert Smith, Janet Ziegler

Class of 2018: Carol Klumb, Amy McGoldrick,
Katie Payne, Deb Sayers,
David Wilson

Class of 2019: Jenny Bailer, Lynn Cronk,
Greg Hughes, Nancy Moeckel,
Johanna Reinhart

DEACONS

Class of 2017: Danny Cross, Connie Everhart,
Matt Lykins, Rori Lykins,
Jean O'Connell

Class of 2018: Lee Fisher, Virginia Layton,
Joni Marcum,
Mary Jo McFadden,
Karen Shearer

Class of 2019: Carol Burkhalter,
Debbie Davidson,
Janet Holmes, Pat Roberts,
Diane Young

TRUSTEES

Class of 2017: Rick Bailey, Lisa Brunckhorst
Class of 2018: Nick Fears, Tom Holmes
Class of 2019: Keith Payne, Joe Simpson

Oxford Presbyterian Church
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www.oxfordpresbychurch.org

August 27 - September 3, 2017

Large-print bulletins and hearing assistance units are available from the ushers. **Please sign the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass them to your neighbors.**

WELCOME VISITORS! We're so glad you're here! We welcome you to participate in any or all activities of the church. Our congregational vision is to become "a more joyful, passionate, spiritually vibrant, inter-generational community of friends who are intentionally engaged in growing in faith, committed to serving our community and the world, and centered on transforming lives through the Good News of Jesus Christ." As a community of friends in Christ, our mission is: **Seeking God...** We strive to know God and love God. As fellow seekers, we welcome all who wish to learn and grow with us. **Serving others...** Following our Servant Savior, we give our time, talent and resources to help bring fullness of life to others. **Sharing Christ's love with all...** Through our words and actions, we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ. Filled with joy and hope, we build relationships across any boundaries that separate us."

WELCOME MIAMI STUDENTS! We're so glad you're here! We invite you to make this church your church home away from home during your time at Miami.

Greeters: Cia Beal and Violet Suit

Acolyte: Abbie Curry

The flowers on the communion table are given by Carol and Cal Klumb in celebration of their anniversary and looking forward to 41 more.

Mission Partners Prayer List:
Presbytery of the Miami Valley:
First United Presbyterian Church
Sister Churches: The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

Congregational Prayer Concerns:
Betty Barnhart, Pris Berry, Tracy DeGood, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Breanna Kinneman, Jan Reinhart, Marilyn Rettig, Sarah Soika, Stacey Winn

Email prayer requests to Jean O'Connell, connelljm17@yahoo.com, call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by the Trustees



Rev. Marcy Bain

Rev. Marcy Bain is a native Daytonian. She is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, where she earned her MDiv. She is currently working full time as a civil servant at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and she is also an ordained Teaching Elder in the PCUSA. She is active in the Presbytery of the Miami Valley where she is the committee chair for the Network, Support, and Grants committee. She considers it a real privilege to share in worship with all of us at OPC this morning.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Prior to the Children's Message, Children's Bulletins are available in the Narthex next to the Activity Bibles. Following the Children's Message, our teachers are waiting to welcome our students. Members of the Christian Education Committee will be available to escort students to their perspective rooms following the children's story.

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Nursery: Infants through age 2, Nursery 1st Floor

Preschool: Ages 3-5, Preschool area, 1st Floor

Grades K through 2: K-1 Room, 2nd Floor

Grades 3-5: Art Room, 2nd Floor

Grades 6-8: Geneva Room, 2nd Floor

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OPW Fall Rummage Sale Review Questions for your upcoming test

Please Answer these simple questions:

1. Have you *thoroughly* looked *through* your closets, *even though* you did last winter, for items you can *throw* into the rummage sale?
2. Are *there* items of *theirs* (your friends and family) *they're* no longer using that you can donate?
3. Is it *too* much trouble to give one or *two* items to help raise mission money that OPW can give *to* help others?

Keep looking in your closets, cupboards, garage, attic and basement for stuff you no longer use, but others can. Have an Impact! Get ready to help! The action starts soon!

Be ready to join in the Drop off, Set up, Pricing and Fellowship
All-in-one on these Days
 Sept 11-15 (M-F), Sept 18-20 (M-W)
 10am-1pm and 3-7pm each day!
 Saturday Sept 16: by appointment
 (Call 523-6003 for appt. request)
 Drop off at the Church office:
 Any of these weekdays: 8:30-4:30



Mosaic of Peace 2018

Have you ever imagined kneeling where Jesus was born. . . or gazing from the Mount of Beatitudes onto the Sea of Galilee. . . perhaps walking the streets of Jerusalem?

Then the Mosaic of Peace is for you.

Presented by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, this 12-day conference from April 29-May 12, 2018 is designed for both laity and clergy. Participants will *experience* this remarkable and troubled region, *encounter* its diverse people, *explore* its rich history and complex current situation, and engage with those who seek its peace.

Registration just opened and already the applicants represent the diversity of the PC(USA) including the current co-moderators of our denomination, the Revs. Denise Anderson and Jan Edmiston.

For more information, please contact Pastor Lawrence who will be serving as a co-director of this journey, pick up a brochure from the bulletin board across from the staff offices, or visit - <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/mosaic/>



Altar flowers are needed for Sept. 17 and Oct. 8, 15, 22, and 29. You can sign up on the flower chart near the water fountain next to the Molyneaux Lounge or call Marge Smith at 523-2895. Thank you.

You're invited to be a part of our new photo directory.

When you participate in our directory photography program, in addition to a free 8x10 and copy of the printed directory, you will receive a link and security code to get our directory on line – on any of your mobile devices. The mobile directory features quick links you are going to love!

Photography dates

Sept. 21-23 in the Memorial Church
 Sept. 28-30 in the Seminary Building
 Weekdays 2-9 p.m.
 Saturdays 10a.m. – 5 p.m.

Three ways to schedule your appointment:

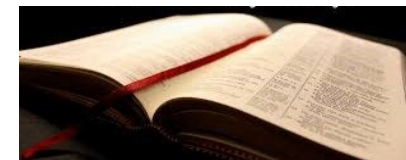
Use the link on our website (oxfordpresbychurch.org); Sign up after Church (Molyneaux Lounge); Call the Church Office ([513-523-6364](tel:513-523-6364))

Make your photo session appointment before September 8 for a chance to win one of six \$50 off photo certificate!



Come help us make a joyful noise!

THE TUESDAY EVENING CIRCLE will be meeting on September 5 at 7:30pm in the home of Billie Maynard, 135 Wayside Circle, Hamilton. Violet Suit is the co-hostess. Janet Holmes will lead the devotions. Jean O'Connell will be presenting the lesson. Anyone wanting a ride should call Karen Simpson, 523-8363.



Journey Through the Bible

Last week's Questions and Answers

- Proverbs mentions four things that are small, but wise. What are they? (Ants, Badgers, Locusts, and Lizards. - Prov. 30:24-28)
- Paul cherished a deep affection for Timothy. How does Paul describe his relationship to Timothy? (Paul feels so close to Timothy that he looks at him as his own child. - 1 Tim. 1:2,18)

Next week's Questions

- Which two animals does the prophet Isaiah compare the people who forget the Lord?
- What is the root of all kinds of evil according to Paul?



<Your Name Here>

AND I TRANSFORM LIVES

I TEACH CHURCH SCHOOL

Can you imagine your name here?
 Want to talk more about it?
 Contact Lynn: lcronk@woh.rr.com or sign up in the Molyneaux Lounge