



Service for the Lord's Day

6th Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Please SILENCE ALL Personal Electronic Devices Before Worship.

We Gather as God's People

Welcome to our worship service. Take a moment to quiet yourself as we prepare ourselves for worship.

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

Welcome to Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church! In this space, we invite you to bring all of who you are - your identity, your beliefs, your doubts, your story. Our prayer is that together we will experience God's presence. We invite you to sign the pew pads, which will be passed from the back of the sanctuary to the front. Please fill out the information, share with the others in your row, and then pass it to the row in front of you. Thank you. After worship, please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Prelude

Announcements of Our Church Life and Ministry

The Centering Song *SF* # 2164 (sing 3 times; the last time, a cappella) "Sanctuary"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Call to Worship [Responsive] Deacon Judy Schroeder

Leader: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Leader: O God, you summon the day to dawn, you teach the morning to waken the earth.

***People:* Great is your name. Great is your love.**

Leader: For you the valleys shall sing for joy, the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

***People:* Great is your name. Great is your love.**

Leader: For you the powerful leaders of the earth shall bow down, and the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.

***People:* Great is your name. Great is your love.**

Leader: For in you, O God, there are no winners and losers, for we are all created equal, reflecting your love throughout all the world.

***People:* Great is your name. Great is your love.**

Leader: May our lives sing your praises in our worship and in our living.

***The Opening Hymn** *PH* # 464 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

* Please stand as you are able.

***The Prayer of the Day** [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Leader: Let us pray: Because you, Creator God, made the world, and intended it to be a good place, and called its people your beloved children; because, when things seemed at their worst, you came in Christ to bring out the best in us, so gracious God, we gladly say:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Because confusion can reign inside us, despite our faith; because anger, tension, bitterness and envy can distort our vision; because our minds sometimes worry small things out of all proportion; because we do not always get it right, we want to believe:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Because you have promised to hear us, and are able to change us, and are willing to make our hearts your home, we ask you to confront, control, forgive and encourage us, as you know best. (*Silence*) Then let us cherish in our hearts what we proclaim on our lips and by our living in your name:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer, and change our lives until we illustrate the grace of the God who makes all things new.

People: **Amen.**

***Two+** (*A new way to share the peace of Christ and greet one another.*)

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Matthew 18:20

Question: **Have you ever experienced an earthquake or another natural disaster?**

We Listen for God’s Word

The Children’s Message Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Blessing: You are God’s beloved child. With you God is well pleased.

Prayer for Illumination Deacon Judy Schroeder

Leader: Let us pray... O Risen Christ, open us to the power of your resurrection as we hear it proclaimed anew this day,

People: that we too might rise to new life in you. **Amen.**

Building a Bridge from the Conversion of Saul to the Arrest of Paul

The Scripture

Acts 16:16-40
(pages 136-137 N.T.)

Readers Theatre (*see insert*)

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

People: **We give thanks to God.**

The Sermon Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

... musical interlude for quiet personal reflection...

* Please stand as you are able.

We Respond to God's Love

***Affirmation of Faith** [In Unison] *from Reclaiming Jesus:
A Confession of Faith in A Time of Crisis*

WE BELIEVE how we treat the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner is how we treat Christ himself. “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” God calls us to protect and seek justice for those who are poor and vulnerable, and our treatment of people who are “oppressed,” “strangers,” “outsiders,” or otherwise considered “marginal” is a test of our relationship to God, who made us all equal in divine dignity and love. Our proclamation of the lordship of Jesus Christ is at stake in our solidarity with the most vulnerable. If our gospel is not “good news to the poor,” it is not the gospel of Jesus Christ.

THEREFORE, WE REJECT the language and policies of political leaders who would debase and abandon the most vulnerable children of God. We strongly deplore the growing attacks on immigrants and refugees, who are being made into cultural and political targets, and we need to remind our churches that God makes the treatment of the “strangers” among us a test of faith. We won’t accept the neglect of the well-being of low-income families and children, and we will resist repeated attempts to deny health care to those who most need it. We confess our growing national sin of putting the rich over the poor. We reject the immoral logic of cutting services and programs for the poor while cutting taxes for the rich. Budgets are moral documents. We commit ourselves to opposing and reversing those policies and finding solutions that reflect the wisdom of people from different political parties and philosophies to seek the common good. Protecting the poor is a central commitment of Christian discipleship, to which 2,000 verses in the Bible attest.

Offering Our Tithes and Gifts to God

Offertory Music

***Offertory Response** *Sing the Faith* # 2036 “Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”; let the poor say,
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”; let the poor say,
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.” Give thanks!

***Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving** [In Unison] Deacon Judy Schroeder
Holy God, may these gifts we offer show we recognize your claim upon us. Use them so your grace, your love, your justice and your hope may be shared with everyone who needs them. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place. All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving point to you as their fulfillment. And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our ken, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus. For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him. Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

People: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose, we fall silent and remember him who came because words weren't enough. Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside, emptying our hearts, and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting, the forgiving which Christ alone can offer. Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. And let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

People: **Amen.**

The Words of Institution

* Please stand as you are able.

The Breaking of Bread and Sharing of Cup

(You are invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament of Communion. Please come down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip in the cup on either side, eat, and return to your seat by the outside aisle. If you are unable to come forward, please let us know, and we will serve you in your seat.)

The Prayer after Communion [Responsive]

Leader: Source of life, and breath, and being, breathe into the dry dust of our existence. Nourished in body by bread and juice,

People: **may we strive for the nourishment of all bodies: may we work to end hunger in this creation that provides amply for all.**

Leader: Nourished in spirit by the Body which is within our own, may we strive for the incorporation of all:

People: **may we work to break the barriers that divide us from one another and from you.**

Leader: In the love that sustains us, and the Spirit that animates us, may we give all thanks and praise to you, O God of all. Amen.

We Depart to Do God's Will

***Closing Hymn** PH # 386.....“O for a World”

***The Sending** [Responsive]..... Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Leader: From where we are to where you need us,

People: **Jesus, now lead on.**

Leader: From the security of what we know to the adventure of what you will reveal,

People: **Jesus, now lead on.**

Leader: To refashion the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,

People: **Jesus, now lead on.**

Leader: Because good things have been prepared for those who love God,

People: **Jesus, now lead on.**

Leader: As followers of the Way that Jesus walked and lived, go out into the world in peace, sharing the love of God, the grace of the Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit with friend and stranger today and every day.

People: **Amen!**

***Song of Dismissal** PH # 432 “Canto de Esperanza”

**May the God of hope go with us every day, Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, Bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace, Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new, Faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

Postlude



The liturgy this morning is from: A Wee Worship Book, Iona Community, Scotland, Wild Goose Publication.

Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church is committed to using language in such a way that all members of the community of faith may recognize themselves to be included, addressed, and equally cherished before God. Seeking to bear witness to the whole world, the church struggles to use language which is faithful to the biblical truth and which neither purposefully nor inadvertently excludes people because of gender, color, or other circumstance in life. (Book of Order, W-1.2006)

Everyone is invited to stay for fellowship and refreshment following worship today.

- Our liturgist today is Deacon Judy Schroeder.
- Our musician today is Marian Korth.
- Our usher/greeter today is Judy Pearson.
- **Nursery care is provided today by the Deacons.**
- Printed copies of sermons are available in the box on the wall outside of the church office and on our website www.OCPChurch.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS —

- If you would like to be added to the mailing list for our newsletter, *The Good News*, please send either your email (preferred) or snail mail address to the church office. (Our addresses are listed on the last page of the bulletin.)
 - **The Mission Committee reminds all folks to share their loose change in the Least Coin Crock, as a reminder of the prayers they say. Think of all the coins we would have if every time you prayed, you set aside a coin. These funds are to be used for local mission work. This is a year-long mission collection.**
- Help us save “pig points.” Please turn in your receipts from Piggly Wiggly in the brown bag in the narthex, so that we can receive a rebate. All funds received are used for mission projects. **The next deadline for receipts is Sunday, June 10.**
- Copies of *These Days*, a daily devotional magazine, are available at the rear entrance. Donations are voluntary.

EVENTS —

- Wednesday, May 9 – 6:00 p.m. Session
- Next Sunday, May 13 – 10:00 a.m. Worship and Sunday School
- **VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY —**
- Liturgist – Grace Leto
- Ushers/Greeters – Al & Trent Bettenhausen
- Fellowship – No fellowship coffee hour – Happy Mother’s Day!
- Nursery – Deacons

CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY & RESOURCE CENTER – APRIL 2018 Update

The Cambridge Food Pantry & Resource Center is open for shopping every Monday evening from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Guests are invited to shop every other Monday. Donation hours during the month are Monday 9 am to 12 pm & 4 pm to 5 pm, Wednesday 9 am – 12 pm and Thursday 8:30 am to 3 pm. Donations may also be dropped off at Nikolay Middle School Office, during school hours 7:45 am to 3:45 pm, Monday thru Friday.

CAMBRIDGE POSTAL CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE

Help The Cambridge Food Pantry on Saturday, May 12th by filling a bag with food and putting it out by your mail boxes for the mail carriers/volunteers to collect. The food will be brought to the Food Pantry to be sorted and put on shelves. Have bags of food out by mail box by 8:00 a.m.

ITEMS NEEDED AT FOOD PANTRY

The Cambridge Food Pantry can use the following items Hamburger Helper, Ramen Noodles, Canned Ravioli, Ketchup, Mayo, Sugar, Crackers, Tuna, Hearty Soups, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Jams and Jelly, Adult large bladder control briefs, Paper Towel, Toilet Tissue

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Sandy Berge (sister of Charleen Janus)
Griffin Clark (grandson of Bill & Patty Strobusch)
Don Hawkins (husband of Margaret)
Jayne Kilian (daughter of Judy & Monty Pearson)
Wade Kubina (son of Jo Kubina)
Richard Nye (son-in-law of Ann & Dale Febock, Tara's husband, deployed to Iraq)
Shawn Spack (son of Jenine & Jack Spack)
Mary Trailer
Rose Ann West
Betty Willmore
Jim Willmore
Phillip Yeadon

Our children and unchurched children and families, our military around the world, our enemies, our church leaders, families and individuals experiencing financial, job-hunting, health, or relationship problems.

The family of Patrick & Irene Sullivan, and other families who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

If you would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, please leave word in the church office or contact the pastor. Permission to be included in this publicly posted list has been obtained from those listed or their families.

Church Schedule

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. Sunday

Communion: First Sunday of each month

Church School: Children through grade 7 meet at 10:00 a.m. Sunday
(Labor Day to Memorial Day)

Video of Worship Service: Cable 98 or 987 Sun. 5:30 p.m.; Mon.-Tues. 8 a.m. & Noon
(Link to video also available on our website or Facebook page)

Fellowship & Refreshment: Following worship service each week

Pastoral Office Hours: Generally 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Tuesday or by appointment

Business Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday

(Church hours are approved by Session and posted on church entry doors.)

Telephone/Fax: 608-423-3001

Email: Office@OCPChurch.com or Pastor@OCPChurch.com

Web: www.OCPChurch.com

Mailing Address: 313 E. Main St., Cambridge, WI 53523-9629



Visit us on Facebook: Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church

SESSION (Meets the second Sunday of each month.)

Class of 2018: Mark Touhey

Class of 2019: Mare Stewart, Mike Stitz

Class of 2020: Ann Febock, Renée Roland Johnson,

BOARD OF DEACONS (Meets the third Sunday of each month.)

Class of 2018: Julie Anderson, Judy Schroeder

Class of 2019: Joe Leto

Class of 2020: Randy Johnson, Judy Pearson

CHURCH STAFF

Music—

Accompanists: Marian Korth, Angie Williams

Business Manager: Ruth Poole

Pastor: Pastor Scott Marrese-Wheeler: (608) 417-0231 cell;

Pastor@OCPChurch.com

Facebook: Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Follow Rev. Scott on Twitter: @2revsScott

