



Service for the Lord's Day

The Garden of Eden

September 8, 2019

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 *PH* # 304 (Verse 1) "Jesus Loves Me!"

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Call to Worship [Responsive] Matt Meier

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: The protection of earth's vitality, diversity and beauty is a sacred trust between our Creator and us!

Many: Praise is due to you, O God, In Zion;

One: You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;

Many: God's rivers brim with water to provide their grain.

One: This is how you provide it: By drenching its furrows, by leveling its ridges, By softening it with showers, by blessing the first fruits.

Many: You crown the year with your bounty; Abundance flows wherever you pass;

One: The desert pastures overflow,

Many: The hillsides are wrapped in joy,

One: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

Many: **The farm fields are clothed in wheat and corn; They shout and sing together for joy.**

One: The protection of earth's vitality, diversity and beauty is a sacred trust between you, Creating One,

Many: **and with us, as your stewards entrusted with earth's care.**

One: May our worship of you be found in our care of your creation today and every day!

***Opening Hymn** PH # 267 "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

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

One: Let us pray... O God, your creative love brought forth our world, Once a garden where humans could taste and see beauty and goodness.

Many: **But our eyes do not always see the sacredness of Creation.**

One: We do not always remember that it is Gift given so that all humans may live and flourish.

Many: **Our inattention to your gift, the Earth, is changing the world we live in.**

One: Even mighty glaciers weep now.

Many: **Our lifestyles create pollution that blots out the sun. The very skies above us are threatened. Seas rise and whole peoples lose their homes.**

One: O God, we ask you to call us to renewal and to stewardship of your world.

Many: **Call us to solidarity with the earth and all its creatures.**

One: Give us new vision to see the fragile beauty that remains with us.

Many: **Give us new spiritual energy to become active in loving the world through our daily lives,**

One: Give us new voices to speak out for environmental solidarity.

Many: **Bless us with a love of your Creation so that we may glimpse your Eden once again. 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: Are you more of a beach, mountain, forest, ocean, back yard, or garden person?

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 Matt Meier

One: Let us pray... O God, you draw us into your community of love with people across the ages and around the world.

Many: **By the same Spirit that binds us together speak to us that what we read and ponder may enliven us and stretch us to trust and follow you; through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Narrator: This is the story of how it all started, of Heaven and Earth when they were created. At the time God made Earth and Heaven, before any grasses or shrubs had sprouted from the ground—God hadn't yet sent rain on Earth, nor was there anyone around to work the ground (the whole Earth was watered by underground springs)—They formed the Human out of dirt from the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. The Human came alive—a living soul. (Adamah, which means of the earth or ground.)

Then God planted a garden in Eden, in the east. God put the Human They had just made in it. God made all kinds of trees grow from the ground, trees beautiful to look at and good to eat. The Tree-of-Life was in the middle of the garden, also the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil. A river flows out of Eden to water the garden and from there divides into four rivers. The first is named Pishon; it flows through Havilah where there is gold. The gold of this land is good. The land is also known for a sweet-scented resin and the onyx stone. The second river is named Gihon; it flows through the land of Cush. The third river is named Hiddekel and flows east of Assyria. The fourth river is the Euphrates.

God took the Human and set them down in the Garden of Eden to work the ground and keep it in order. God commanded the Human,

The Creator: "It's not good for the Human to be alone; I'll make them a helper, a companion."

Narrator: So God formed from the dirt of the ground all the animals of the field and all the birds of the air. They brought them to the Human to see what they would name them. Whatever the Human called each living creature, that was its name. The Human named the cattle, named the birds of the air, named the wild animals; but they didn't find a suitable companion. God put the Human into a deep sleep. As they slept God removed one of their ribs and replaced it with flesh. God then used the rib that they had taken from the Human to make another Human, and presented her to the Human. The Human said,

The Human One: "Finally! Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh! Name her Woman for she was made from the Human One."

Narrator: Therefore a person leaves their parents and embraces their other. They become one flesh. The two of them, partners, are caretakers of all that God created. Now they were naked, but they felt no shame.

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

Many: We give thanks to God!

The Sermon Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

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

We Respond to God's Love

***Affirmation of Faith** [Responsive]

One: We believe in God,

Many: **the Creator and Lord of all that is. In Your hand is the life of every thing: of trees and plants, animals and insects and the breath of every human being.**

One: We believe in Jesus the Christ, the Redeemer of all that we have damaged,

Many: **our broken souls and our broken world, who offers new life when we love our neighbors, our neighbors sun and soil, water and air, creatures of the seas, air, and land.**

One: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

Many: **the Sustainer of this community and future generations, and the source of hope and courage to care about creation, especially when sustainability seems hopeless. We promise to work together and with God, to be stewards of this gift, our home. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

One: We pray to the Lord...

Many: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer (*using 'debts' and 'debtors'...*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response *PH* #322 "Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

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] Matt Meier

God, help us to know the truth of your love in our lives; Enable us to grow in the grace we need to be agents of change for a better world. We dedicate ourselves and our gifts to your service. Amen.

We Depart to Do God's Will

***Closing Hymn** *PH* # 272..... “God of the Sparrow”

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

One: May we always walk gently upon the Earth, in right relationship, nurtured by your love, open to the wind of the Spirit,

Many: **taking only what we need, always open to the needs of others,**

One: making choices that bring wellbeing,

Many: **living with generosity,**

One: striving for justice,

Many: **honoring all with reverence, reconciliation and peacemaking,**

One: mindful of those who will come after recognizing our proper place as part of your whole creation.

Many: **Grant us the strength and courage, Creator, to live and work for such a radical transformation of your creation and Kingdom on earth before it is too late!**

One: As caretakers of all God's creation, let us go to serve this home we call Earth. And may the Creator, Child, and Spirit, be with you now and always.

Many: **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: Call to Worship ~ Based on Psalm 65, adapted by the Servants of Mary, Climate Change Prayers, <https://www.osms.org/ye/climate-change/prayer-on-climate-change.html>; The Prayer of the Day ~ Adapted from a prayer by Jane Deren - <https://www.osms.org/ye/climate-change/prayer-on-climate-change.html>; Affirmation of Faith written by 2009 Eco Stewards For the Faith and Environment Conference Montreat, NC; The Sending ~ from Christian Aid and Christian Ecology Link. Posted on Third Space blog.

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 Matt Meier.
- Our musician today is Emily Rausch.
- Our ushers/greeters today are Cheryl & Al Bettenhausen.
- **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.
- Copies of *These Days*, a daily devotional magazine, are available at the rear entrance. Donations are voluntary.

EVENTS —

- Wednesday, September 11 – 6:00 p.m. Session
- Next Sunday, September 15 – 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Deacons

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT SUNDAY —

- Liturgist – Judy Pearson
- Ushers/Greeters – OPEN
- Fellowship – Mardy Schilleman
- Nursery – Deacons



AUGUST 2019 Update

The Cambridge Food Pantry & Resource Center located at 211 South Street 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 of August are Monday 9 am to 12 pm & 4 pm to 5 pm, Wednesday 9 am – 12 pm and Thursday 9:00 am to 3 pm.

VOLUNTEERS If you would like to volunteer at the Food Pantry go to the CAP website at www.cambridgecap.net and click on the Get Involved Tab and then click Volunteerism. The link will then take you to the volunteer sign up. At present the Food Pantry could use client assistants from 5:15 to 7:15 on Monday evenings. Anyone without internet access can also sign up by calling the Food Pantry at 423-8142 and Nancy will sign you up and answer any questions you may have.

FRESH PRODUCE The Cambridge Food Pantry will take any extra vegetables you may have from gardens especially wanted are tomatoes and cucumbers.

FOOD NEEDED AT CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY

Currently the Food Pantry can use Sugar, Crackers, Hamburger Helper, Ramen Noodles, Tuna, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Hearty Progressive Soups, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Shampoo and Conditioner. **THANK YOU!**

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Griffin Clark (grandson of Bill & Patty Strobusch)

Teagan Mae Groves, Pastor Scott's great-niece (born July 11 to his nephew, Heath, & Heath's wife, Samantha)

Don Hawkins (husband of Margaret Hawkins)

Linda Johnson (mother of Randy Johnson)

Wade Kubina (son of Jo Kubina)

Shawn Spack (son of Jenine & Jack Spack)

John "Jack" Swank and his family (birth father of Renee Roland Johnson)

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 Vivian Olson 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. 2nd and 4th 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 2019: Mare Stewart, Mike Stitz

Class of 2020: Ann Febock, Renée Roland Johnson,

Class of 2021: Melanie Rumpf

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

Class of 2019: Joe Leto

Class of 2020: Randy Johnson, Judy Pearson

Class of 2021: Judy Schroeder, Cheryl Stitz

CHURCH STAFF

Music—

Accompanists: Karen Brunk, Marian Korth, Emily Rausch,
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

