



Service for the Lord's Day

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

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

Prelude“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord” Godspell – Hallelujah Broadway <https://youtu.be/qzLrs3eKbXk>

Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: On this second Sunday of Advent we focus on peace. In Luke 19:41-42, we hear these words: “As Jesus came near and saw the city of Jerusalem, he wept over it, saying, ‘If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!’”

The Lighting of the Second Candle of Advent – PeaceMaren Tirabassi

One: In this season of Advent, we are called to watch, wait and prepare our hearts and lives once again for the in-breaking of God's Love Incarnate - Emmanuel. Last Sunday, we lit the candle of Hope. (*Light one candle*) This morning we light the Advent Candle of Peace. *The second Sunday in Advent, is often called the Sunday of Peace. In the United States the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution, which abolished slavery, is remembered on this day, December 6. The Christmas Carol, “O Holy Night,” was specifically imported to the United States from France (where it was banned because the lyricist was a communist and the composer was Jewish) by John Sullivan Dwight, an abolitionist, because of its third verse: “Truly Christ taught us to love one another – broken are chains in the Gospel of Peace. The one enslaved is Christ's sister or brother, and in love's name, all oppression shall cease ... (Light second candle.)*

The Advent Music “O Holy Night” Josh Groban <https://youtu.be/17killxSdC0>

The Advent Reflection on Peace

<https://ecospiritualityresources.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/advent-2018-paths-to-peace.pdf>

“We often refer to the Christ Child as the Prince of Peace. We exchange a sign of peace during worship. When someone dies, we pray: May s/he rest in peace. We pray for peace in our world, our families, our selves. Nobel awards a Peace Prize. We assume that God's reign will be one of Peace on Earth. What are your feelings about the topic of peace? How do you respond to the two quotes on the cover page? In the Hebrew Bible, “shalom” is translated “peace.” Shalom is about wholeness. Each part of us (e.g., cells, organs, systems) is a whole entity, working for the good of the whole. Each person is part of larger wholes. Ultimately we are integral parts of our interconnected, expanding creation. No one and no thing can be excised from that whole. “When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.” (John Muir) Justice demands that each be given its proper respect. Note that shalom is not the absence of tension or even of conflict...As we ponder God's gift of Jesus and of peace this Advent, let's remember that "justice and righteousness" are needed to keep ourselves and the entire web of life whole/at peace. Any single thing we do for peace will affect many people, many other issues. As with the mobile (on right), touching any one part affects the whole. Butterfly wings flapping somewhere influence weather patterns elsewhere; stones cast into water result in ripples that extend and intersect. We cannot do one thing in our interconnected universe!”

Saturday Morning, 10 AM Jan Richardson – The Advent Door

Justice and Peace meet at the café,
sit together,
hands folded around steaming cups,
heads bent over the paper.
They are not taking in
the news of the world
with sorrowing eyes
and the clucking of tongues.
They are instead planning their itinerary,
plotting their map,
looking for the places where
they might slip in.
Their fingers touch, release,
touch again as they read,
moving with the half-aware habits
that come only with long living alongside.
They have met, parted,
met again on countless mornings
like this one, torn and taken
by turns.
They put the paper aside
they brush away the crumbs
they talk quietly

they know there is work to do.
But they order one more cup:
there is savoring they must do before
the saving begins.
They lean in,
barely touching
across the table for
a kiss that makes a way,
a world.

— Jan Richardson

In these Advent days, may we witness and work for the meeting of mercy and truth, justice and peace around us and within us. Blessings.

The Prayer

One: Let us pray... Prince of Peace, reveal yourself to us today. We need peace in our lives, our homes, our families, our church, and our whole world. Help us to slow down and seek out the peace you provide, so we may become peacemakers for ourselves and others. In your name, Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

The Advent Hymn “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Meredith Andrews
https://youtu.be/NOxJFN-9_vs

We Listen for God’s Word

The Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

A voice says, ‘Cry out!’

And I said, ‘What shall I cry?’

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;*
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,*
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

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 Meditation

“For Crying Out Loud!

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

<http://www.ocpchurch.com/files/135349943.pdf>

The Music“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” The Choirs of Christ, Covenant and Westminster Presbyterian Churches in Madison <https://youtu.be/Kv5t4BDMZmo>

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation to Communion

The story is told that during the Blitz in World War II Britain, when the city was strafed and bombed, Operation Pied Piper evacuated many children to the country, but some remained in London and many of those were orphans. Some were sheltered in a Jesuit order of brothers, who noticed the children had trouble falling asleep or staying asleep, night after night. When the children were being put to bed one night, one of the brothers guessed the children’s problem was that they were anxious because of uncertainty in their lives, and gave each child a small piece of bread, saying something like this – “Hold on to your piece of bread while you are sleeping. Remember when you woke up this morning, we fed you and took care of you. When you wake up tomorrow, and we will be here for you. Let the bread remind you of this. Good night, children.” The children slept.

Friends, Come, to be comforted in the story of Bethlehem, and in this the House of Bread. Come to be comforted at this table by a handful of bread and a cup of love, that will stay with you always.

As we prepare to break bread and share the Cup of the New Covenant, we remember God’s

promises of Emmanuel, and a branch of Jesse's root, of Leader, Wisdom, Monarch, Key of all that is locked, and Dawn of every morning. And we remember the sacred story, that happened in the House of Bread for a new mother and a fostering father, sheep and shepherds, a few wise travelers with gifts and many, many angels. And we remember that the baby named Jesus, grew up to heal people, and teach them with strange parables, and to show them the way of God's Love.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Emmanuel, God with us, in our lonely nights, under our guiding stars, with the hopes and fears of all our years, we come for comfort, for peace of mind and peace on earth, for a blessing on our hands and the bread in them, on our lips and the cup we lift to it. Touch the bread before you, blessing it. Touch or pour and touch the cup before you, blessing it. May this bread and cup be your holy Life, that we may ponder in our hearts, and pray in our community, saying:

The Lord's Prayer *(The New Zealand Book of Prayer)*

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of Bread and Sharing of Cup

(You are invited to have your own piece of bread and juice. You may also substitute bread with a cracker, pastry or even a cookie. For juice, you may substitute it with coffee, tea, milk, or water. This is a symbolic sacramental meal we are eating together while physically apart.)

The Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray... God, we give you thanks that you have come to us in this bread and cup, and in your answer to all of our hopes and your offer of peace, deeper than any truce, truer than the upheaval that surrounds us. You have comforted us with your promise and your presence so that we too may comfort others and in doing so, preparing the way for Your eternal Peace on earth. Amen.

We Depart to Do God's Will

Closing Hymn "The Canticle of the Turning" https://youtu.be/Vc3S4QFQ_s

One: Friends, in this season of Advent, even as the darkness grows around us, swallowing up the light of God's Love and Light, we go forth and walk the path Christ walked, and still walks with us. Go forth and live as one instructed in the ways of the Lord. Take the weapons of your life and turn them into instruments of peace and justice.

Many: Let us go with Jesus, the light who guides us on our way.

One: May our hope be that the Sun of Justice will rise one morning on all humankind.

Many: May the God of Peace, our constant companion, lead us along paths of solidarity and hope, and give us the joy of being united in God's love. Praise be to our God who shows us the way to everlasting peace on earth! Amen.

Postlude "Peace Train" Yusuf / Cat Stevens – (Live at the Nobel Peace Prize Concert, 2006) <https://youtu.be/bwOscsBm2dk>



The liturgy this morning is from: Communion Liturgy is from Marian Tirabassi.

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)

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.)

- Help us save "pig points." For us to receive a rebate, please turn in your receipts from the Cambridge Piggly Wiggly in one of three ways: **1.** Place them in the brown bag in the narthex. **2.** Cheryl Stitz will do a porch pickup of any receipts that you may have. Call her at 608-695-1838 to make arrangements. **3.** Receipts can also be mailed to the church office. All funds received are used for mission projects. **Deadline to turn in receipts for this year is December 13.**

WORSHIP SERVICES UPDATE:

Due to the uncertainty of the winter weather, the Session voted to move worship to all-virtual through the end of February 2021. Pastor Scott, with the assistance of Sam Marrese-Wheeler, will be filming from the sanctuary for these worship services. As we are able, we are hoping to add some music. **Communion will be served on Christmas Eve - December 24; Sunday, January 3; Sunday, February 7.** As we have been doing, on Communion Sundays and Christmas Eve, we invite you to have some form of bread and beverage with you.

CHRISTMAS EVE UPDATE – 5 PM – PARKING LOT The Session voted, weather permitting, to hold a parking lot Christmas Eve worship service. We will be worshipping in our vehicles, tuned into 104.3. We do have battery operated candles to share for our traditional candlelight portion of the service. If the weather permits and it is not too cold or snowy, we hope to invite people to step out of their vehicles, masked up, to turn on their candles, and join in the song "Silent Night". More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

DECEMBER 13 WORSHIP AT 10 AM – Pastor Scott will be live-streaming worship on December 13 from the sanctuary via the OCPC Facebook page and over our YouTube channel.

NEW! Donate to our church, Presbyterian Church of Oakland-Cambridge, using the app, **Give+**. Search for “GivePlus Church” in your app store (Vanco Payment Solutions). Once it’s installed, find us using our zip code (53523), and set up one-time or recurring payments, OR use the QR Code below to access our donor page. A link to our donor page is also on our website www.ocpchurch.com. (Click on the button with the green heart) Thank you!



CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY – SEPTEMBER 2020 Update

Hello to all,

Hard to believe September is coming to a close. The month has gone by quickly.

We have settled into the new space in the lower level of the Nikolay Middle School. Even though the new space is ready to receive guests, we are still under a no-contact advisory from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). This means that the Cambridge Food Pantry will continue to offer drive up grocery pickups on Monday evenings from 5:30-6:30 until further notice.

We continue to receive tremendous support from both the Community Action Coalition of Wisconsin and Second Harvest. The community also continues to give generously to the program. However, with Winter approaching and the cold and flu season that comes along with it, we anticipate an increase in need for food and personal items in our community.

Below is a "wish list" for the food pantry. We would be grateful if you could continue to encourage your congregations, neighbors and friends to give what they can. There is a donation bin outside of the lower level doors of the middle school/food pantry entrance for non-perishable food items. Anyone wishing to donate perishable foods can contact me directly either by phone or email and I will make arrangements to accept those donations. Monetary donations continue to be the most needed and most efficient way to support the food pantry at this time.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Cambridge Food Pantry.

I hope you all remain healthy and safe.

Kindest regards,

Kerry Marren 608-423-8142 foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us www.cambridgecap.net

CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST: Hearty Soups, Canned pasta (SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, Beefaroni), Canned or packet tuna, Heat and serve complete meals (non-refrigerated/shelf stable), Individual cereal boxes/bowls, Individual oatmeal packets, Saltines, Ramen, Shampoo and conditioner, Laundry soap, Dish soap.

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Betsy (friend and caretaker of Ken Bilstad) Cards can be sent c/o Ken at 230 Bilstad Rd.
Griffin Clark (grandson of Bill & Patty Strobusch)
Ron Guthery (father of Michelle Wagner)
Don Hawkins (husband of Margaret Hawkins)
Sylvia Jensen
Linda Johnson (mother of Randy Johnson)
Jayne Kilian (daughter of Judy Pearson)
Nancy Kristiansen
Wade Kubina (son of Jo Kubina)
Stan Lund
Renee Roland Johnson
Marilyn Schuster (Oakwood Village East, 5565 Tanco Dr., Madison, WI 53718-1901)
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 families of Mark Olson on the death of his wife, Mary; Judy Brandt 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

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

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

Pastor@OCPChurch.com Facebook: Scott Marrese-Wheeler

Follow Rev. Scott on Twitter: @2revsScott