



Service for the Lord's Day

18th Sunday after Pentecost – Hybrid Worship
September 26, 2021 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 questions, and your story wherever you are on your journey in life. Our prayer is that together we will experience God's presence.

Prelude "Seek Ye, First"

The Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

Many: **My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

One: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Many: **Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the high- ways to Zion.**

One: For the LORD God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Many: **O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

One: Let us worship God.

Music *PH* # 426 "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let me seek Your erring children lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead The wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed Your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The precious things which you impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach The hidden depths of many a heart.

**O use me, Lord, use even me, Just as you will, and when, and where;
Until your blessed face I see, Your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

The Prayer of the Day [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... We thank you, God, for drawing us to this place and time

Many: and for interrupting us with your gift of life in Christ.

One: Whether we have heard the news many times over, or are this day listening with brand new ears, surprise us with your justice and righteousness,

Many: that our lives might turn in the right direction;

One: startle us with your goodness and mercy,

Many: that we might receive your empowering forgiveness;

One: stagger us with your hope and peace,

Many: that our eyes will remain wide open as we leave this place, wondering what you will be doing this week in our world and in us.

One: This we pray in the name the One we follow, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

We Listen for God's Word

The Scripture

Ephesians 6:10-20 NRSV

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

John 6:56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?"

It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go?

You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

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

“The Trouble with Jesus”

Mr. Tim McNurlen

<http://www.ocpchurch.com/files/136334708.pdf>

We Respond to God’s Love

The Prayer Music Fav # 145 “Jesus Calls Us”

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth, saying “Christian, follow me.”

Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us; by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

The Pastoral Prayer [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... God, like the Israelites in the wilderness, we too have known Your love, and experienced Your care and provision. You invite us to extend that love to the world around us— to care for others as deeply as we care for ourselves. And so we bring the needs of our world before You now. In Your mercy,

Many: hear our prayer.

One: We pray for the many who do not have enough: enough food to eat, or shelter to keep warm; enough employment, or money to pay their bills; enough medicine or medical care. Lord, in Your mercy,

Many: hear our prayer.

One: We also pray for those who have more than enough, but who still struggle to find meaning and purpose in life; who indulge in dangerous or self-serving activities to dull their pain or loneliness. Lord, in Your mercy,

Many: hear our prayer.

One: God, Your grace reaches out to all of us. You call us to live as citizens of heaven, working together with one heart and mind. Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of the Good News we have received, offering our lives in service of Your kingdom, where the last are first, and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

Many: hear our prayer.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying...

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.

Offering of Our Tithes and Our Gifts to God

In response to God's generosity, and in support of the ongoing ministry and mission at Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church, we invite you to share your financial support in several ways.

- 1. For those worshipping in-person, a basket is placed at the entrance to the sanctuary for you to leave your offering.**
- 2. You may also mail in or drop-off your offering at Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church, 313 E. Main Street, Cambridge, WI 53523.**
- 3. You may also donate online, using these directions:** Use the app, **Give+**. Search for "GivePlus Church" in your app store (Vanco Payment Solutions). Once it's installed, find us (Presbyterian Church of Oakland-Cambridge) 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!



We Depart to Do God's Will

Closing Hymn *PH* # 387 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.**

**Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse and power to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee.**

**Early let us seek Thy favor; Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.**

The Sending (Prayer of St. Patrick)

One: Christ be with us,

Many: Christ before us,

One: Christ behind us,

Many: Christ in us,

One: Christ beneath us,

Many: Christ above us,

One: Christ on our right,

Many: Christ on our left,

One: Christ where we lie,

Many: Christ where we sit,

One: Christ where we arise.

Many: Christ in the heart of every one who thinks of us,

One: Christ in every eye that sees us,

Many: Christ in every ear that hears us.

One: Salvation is of the Lord,

Many: Salvation is of the Christ,

One: May your salvation, O Lord, be ever with us. And all God's people said:

Many: Amen!

Postlude "Majesty"



The liturgy this morning is from: The Call to Worship ~ based on Psalm 84; The Prayer of the Day ~ written by Peter L. Haynes. Posted on the website of the Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren; The Pastoral Prayer ~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship.

- Today we welcome our Guest Preacher Tim McNurlen. Tim is a Certified Lay Speaker. He has filled pulpits in Methodist and Moravian churches throughout Southern Wisconsin. Tim is also a professional actor who has performed in State Parks in Wisconsin and Schools throughout Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan. For over 33 years Tim has been in the banking industry. A profession that took him from Wisconsin to Iowa, Utah and Boston Massachusetts. Tim is looking forward to retiring in October 2022. And he is pleased to be sharing Worship with the Cambridge Presbyterian community.

- Our musician today is Karen Tordera. Karen is the choir director at Whitewater High School. She directs the handbell choir at the First United Methodist Church in Fort Atkinson. She accompanies choirs and individuals in the area. Karen lives in Cambridge with her husband and son.

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.

WORSHIP SERVICES UPDATE:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 WORSHIP AND COMMUNION AT 10 AM –

Hybrid in-person worship continues in the parking lot, weather permitting. We will invite you to bring your own lawn chairs as we gather outside. This will allow us to spread out and not have to wear masks. Please dress for the weather. If the weather does not allow for us to gather outside, we will move indoors and masks will be required.



Hello to all,

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: Canned Meats, Rice, Cookies/Sweets, Cereal, Egg Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Cleaning Supplies, Feminine Products, Shampoo and conditioner.

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Doreen Drennan

Jan & Nancy Kristiansen

Jack & Jenine Spack

The people and refugees of Afghanistan

The families of the military members who were killed in Afghanistan

The men, women and children of Afghanistan who were killed in this war.

The people impacted by Hurricane Ida

The people of Haiti following the earthquake

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

Pastoral Office Hours: Generally 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Wednesday 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 2021: Ann Febock, Melanie Rumpf

Class of 2022: Joe Leto, Mike Stitz

Class of 2023: Randy Johnson

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

Class of 2021: Judy Schroeder, Cheryl Stitz

Class of 2022: Cheryl Bettenhausen

Class of 2023: Judy Pearson, Mare Stewart

CHURCH STAFF

Music—

Accompanists: Karen Brunk, 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

