



# Service for the Lord's Day

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Outdoor Worship

Blessing of the Animals

October 10, 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** ..... "How Great Thou Art"

### **The Call to Worship** [Responsive]

*One:* The Peace of Christ be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

*One:* As we gather to worship the Creator of all the earth and every creature great and small, we do so remembering the words of St. Francis of Assisi, who prayed this prayer:

**Many:** Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

*One:* Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

**Many:** Where there is injury, pardon;

*One:* Where there is doubt, faith;

**Many:** Where there is despair, hope;

*One:* Where there is darkness, light;

**Many:** Where there is sadness, joy.

*One:* O Divine Master, Grant that we may

**Many:** not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

*One:* To be understood as to understand;

**Many:** To be loved as to love.

*One:* For it is in giving that we receive;

**Many:** It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

*One:* And it is in dying

**Many:** that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

**Music** *PH* # 267 ..... “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

*Refrain:*

**All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small  
All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors, And made their tiny wings.**

*Refrain*

**The purple headed mountain, The river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning That brightens up the sky.**

*Refrain*

**The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.**

*Refrain*

**God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.**

*Refrain*

**The Prayer of the Day** [Responsive]

*One:* Let us pray... Let us give thanks to God for the gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* For the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers and trees;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* For the trust you have shown in giving into our care these, our pets;

**Many: We thank you, Lord.**

*One:* That each pet here may be treasured with care;

**Many: We pray to you, Lord.**

*One:* That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

**Many: We pray to you, Lord.**

*One:* May we continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation. Amen.

**We Listen for God’s Word**

**The Scripture**

Psalm 104

Nan C. Merrill – Praying the Psalms

*One:* At your Word, the waters divided,

**Many: becoming rivers and lakes and mighty oceans;**

*One:* storms came to ensure the balance and to renew the earth.

**Many: The mountains rose, the valleys became low in the places that You did appoint.**

*One:* You brought harmony to all the earth, that life might spring forth in abundance.

**Many: You created springs to flow into the valleys; they flow between the hills.**

*One:* Giving drink to every creature of the field, quenching their thirst as your Living Water quenches ours.

**Many: With the air, You have given birds their habitation; they sing among the branches.**

*One:* The majesty of Creation is seen throughout the land,

**Many: the sounds of Creation mingle with the music of the spheres.**

*One:* Through your Word, grass came forth for the cattle, and plants for us to cultivate,

**Many: That we might have food from the earth, and wine, the fruit of the vine,**

*One:* Oil and healing herbs of many varieties, and bread, our daily sustenance.

**Many: The trees are watered abundantly and with the sun, provide the air we breathe.**

*One:* Every living creature has its home: the birds nest in trees, the wild goats upon the mountaintop; even the rocks provide protection.

**Many: You created the moon to mark the tides and seasons,**

*One:* the sun, that rises and sets in beauty.

**Many: In darkness, when night comes, the creatures of the forest roam the earth.**

*One:* They eat their fill, each according to their need; You provide their food.

**Many: When the sun rises, they disappear from sight and lie sown in their dens.**

*One:* As your people go forth to their work,

**Many: You are there to guide them.**

*One:* O You, who know all hearts, how manifold are your works! In wisdom You have created them all;

**Many: the earth is filled with your creatures.**

**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!**

### **Words to Reflect on Before the Meditation**

‘Apprehend God in all things, for God is in all things. Every single creature is full of God, and is a book about God. Every creature is a word of God. If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature even a caterpillar, I would never have to prepare a sermon so full of God is every creature’

### **The Sermon**

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

<http://ocpchurch.com/files/136378408.pdf>

**The Hymn PH # 455 (alternate lyrics)..... “All Creatures of Our God and King”**

**All creatures of our God and king, Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God made the hamster and the dog God made the cat, the bird, the frog  
Sing praises! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Thanks be to God for deer and fox, For eagles, sparrows, and for hawks Alleluia! Alleluia!  
For the giraffe, for the baboon For manatees and for raccoons  
Sing praises! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless And worship God in humbleness Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Our lives are blessed by pets we love; And we sing thanks to God above.  
Sing praises! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **The Blessing of the Animals Liturgy**

**Blessing the Animals** .....by Jan Richardson

You who created them  
and called them good:  
bless again these creatures  
who come to us  
as a blessing  
fashioned of fur  
or feather  
or fin,  
formed of flesh  
that breathes with  
your own breath,  
that you have made  
from sheer delight,  
that you have given  
in dazzling variety.  
Bless them  
who curl themselves  
around our hearts,  
who twine themselves  
through our days,  
who companion us  
in our labor,  
who call us  
to come and play.  
Bless them  
who will never be  
entirely tamed  
and so remind us  
that you love  
what is wild,  
that you rejoice  
in what lives close  
to the earth,  
that your heart beats  
in the heart of these creatures

you have entrusted  
to our care.

## **Prayer for Our Pets**

*One:* Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and God's servant Francis. Amen.

## **Invitation to Come Forward with Animals (or their photographs)**

### **Prayer for Each Animal**

O God for \_\_\_\_\_ we give thanks. Bless \_\_\_\_\_ to live into his/her purpose as your creature with a long and healthy and happy life. May \_\_\_\_\_ receive love and give love always. Amen.

*One:* We remember our animal companions who are no longer with us physically. We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the variety of ways they enriched and blessed our lives. We are confident that our Creator continues to care for them.

## **We Respond to God's Love**

### **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](http://www.ocpchurch.com). (Click on the button with the green heart.) Thank you!



# We Depart to Do God's Will

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

God of the sparrow, God of the whale, God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe, How does the creature say Praise.

God of the earthquake, God of the storm, God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe, How does the creature cry Save.

God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace, How does the creature say Thanks.

God of the hungry, God of the sick, God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care, How does the creature say Life.

God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love, How does the creature say Peace.

God of the ages, God of the hand, God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy, How do your children say Home.

**The Sending** ..... Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

*One:* Go out into the world, love one another. Cherish your animal family, protest against abuse and neglect of our animals; exercise stewardship of ALL creation, so that ALL can experience God's Shalom. Go out into the world, my horizontal and vertical brothers and sisters in Christ. In the name of the Creator, Child and Spirit,

*Many:* Amen.

**Postlude** ..... “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”



The liturgy this morning is from: Words to Reflect On Before the Meditation ~ Meister Eckhart, a 13<sup>th</sup> century Christian mystic.

*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)*

- Our musician today is Karen Brunk.

## **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 17 WORSHIP 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](mailto:foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us) [www.cambridgecap.net](http://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 (Alden Estates, Room 419; 1130 Collins Rd.; Jefferson, WI 53549)

Jan & Nancy Kristiansen

Judy Pearson

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](mailto:Office@OCPChurch.com) or [Pastor@OCPChurch.com](mailto:Pastor@OCPChurch.com)  
**Web:** [www.OCPChurch.com](http://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](mailto:Pastor@OCPChurch.com) Facebook: Scott Marrese-Wheeler  
Follow Rev. Scott on Twitter: @2revsScott

