



# Service for the Lord's Day

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day  
May 8, 2022 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.

**The Gathering Music** ..... "Amazing Grace" arr. Floeter  
"Be Thou My Vision" arr. Shackley

## **The Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** ..... "Amazing Grace" arr. Mayor

## **The Lighting of the Peace Candle**

### **A Moment of Silence for Prayer**

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

*One:* The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

*One:* There are different spiritual gifts,

**Many: but the same Spirit.**

*One:* There are many of us,

**Many: but the same Spirit who gives to us all.**

*One:* There are different ministries,

**Many: and the same Lord.**

*One:* There are many places for us to serve,

**Many: and the same Lord who calls to us all.**

*One:* There are different activities,

**Many: but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.**

*One:* There are many of us,

**Many: and one God who calls and equips us for service.**

**The Opening Hymn** (words by Carol M. Bechtel)..... “For Such a Time as This”  
(to the tune of “Amazing Grace”)

A hymn of joy today we raise For ministries and gifts;  
For all the ways you bid us join Your cloud of witnesses.  
Your faithful life, O Christ, inspires; Your brokenness makes whole;  
Your resurrection calls us forth And opens long-closed doors.  
For all the saints whose lives shine forth As templates of your grace,  
We give you thanks and pledge our lives In gratitude to trace.  
Our world cries out to hear your name; The Church in mission risks,  
As men and women join to serve For such a time as this.

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

*One:* Let us pray... God, our Mother, we walk in the company of the women who have gone before,

*Many:* **Mothers and sisters of the faith, both named and unnamed, Testifying with ferocity and faith to the Spirit of Wisdom and Healing.**

*One:* They are the judges, the prophets, the martyrs, the warriors, poets, lovers and Saints

*Many:* **Who are near to us in the shadow of awareness, in the crevices of memory, in the landscape of our dreams.**

*One:* We walk in the company of Deborah,

*Many:* **who judged the Israelites with authority and strength.**

*One:* We walk in the company of Esther, who used her position as Queen

*Many:* **to ensure the welfare of her people.**

*One:* We walk in the company of you whose names have been lost and silenced,

*Many:* **who kept and cradled the wisdom of the ages.**

*One:* We walk in the company of Mary Magdalene,

*Many:* **who wept at the empty tomb until the risen Christ appeared.**

*One:* We walk in the company of Julian of Norwich,

*Many:* **who wed imagination and theology proclaiming “all shall be well.”**

*One:* We walk in the company of Sojourner Truth, who stood against oppression,

*Many:* **righteously declaring “ain’t I a woman!” in 1852.**

*One:* We walk in the company of the Argentine Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, who turned their grief to strength,

*Many:* **standing together to remember “the disappeared” children of war with a holy indignation.**

*One:* We walk in the company of Alice Walker,

*Many:* **who named the lavender hue of womanish strength.**

*One:* We walk in the company of the women from OCPC, who through their faithful service in the mission and ministry of this community,

*Many:* **paved a way for women to serve as Elders, Deacons, and Ministers of Christ.**

*One:* We walk in the company of all Mothers and Sisters of the faith,

*Many:* **who teach us to resist evil with boldness, to lead with wisdom and strength, and to heal with compassion and love.**

*One:* We walk in the company of one another. In the Risen Christ’s name we pray.

**ALL: 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:** Name a woman in history that has inspired you.

## **We Listen for God’s Word**

**The Prayer for Illumination** [Responsive]

*One:* We come to you, O God, day and night,

*Many:* seeking your face and longing to hear your voice. Amen.

**The Scripture**

Luke 18:1-8

(Readers’ Theatre)

**Narrator:** Jesus told them a story showing that it was necessary for them to pray consistently and never quit. He said,

**Jesus:** “There was once a judge in some city who never gave God a thought and cared nothing for people. A widow in that city kept after him:”

**Widow:** ‘My rights are being violated. Protect me!’

**Jesus:** “He never gave her the time of day. But after this went on and on he said to himself,”

**Judge:** ‘I care nothing what God thinks, even less what people think. But because this widow won’t quit badgering me, I’d better do something and see that she gets justice—I’d better give her the protection she seeks, or she’ll keep coming and wear me out!’”

**Narrator:** Then Jesus said,

**Jesus:** “Do you hear what that judge, corrupt as he is, is saying? So what makes you think God won’t step in and work justice for his chosen people, who continue to cry out for help? Won’t he stick up for them? I assure you, he will. He will not drag his feet. But how much of that kind of persistent faith will the Son of Man find on the earth when he returns?”

**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**

Celebration of Women in Ministry  
<http://ocpchurch.com/files/137224577.pdf>

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

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

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

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

*One:* With holy reverence, we remember irreplaceable women, O God. We honor those who nurtured us and taught us to honor and love you, O God.

**Many: May their example of Christian faith help transform us into your image.**

*One:* We honor women who feed the hungry, clothe the unclothed, befriend the lonely, and comfort the comfortless. We bless them for unselfishly loving your people as you love us.

**Many: May you continue to meet their needs as they minister to others.**

*One:* We honor women grieving the loss of loved ones.

**Many: May you, O God, continue to comfort them with your Word, spoken and blessed. May we learn to encourage them as they have encouraged us.**

*One:* We honor women pregnant with your unborn sons and daughters, O God.

**Many: May you shelter them and the children they bear under the shadow of your almighty presence.**

*One:* We honor our sisters throughout the world who need your spiritual, economic, and physical healing.

**Many: May you meet their needs, Holy One, according to your riches in glory, we pray.**

*One:* We honor all the women who have gone before us, named and unnamed.

**Many: We give you thanks, O God.**

*One:* We bless those who wept for us, rejoiced with us, wiped our tears, prayed for us, and laughed with us.

**Many: We give you thanks, O God.**

*One:* We bless those who undauntedly sacrificed for us.

**Many: We give you thanks, O God.**

*One:* We honor all those who stand alongside and for these women. We bless those who encourage them to dream, who bring out the best in them, who help them bear their burdens, and who love them rightly, O God.

**ALL: May you watch over and keep all your people, these women and all who love them, with your care, gracious God. Consecrate this day for your glory. In the name of the Triune God, the one who parents us and creates us, who redeems us, and empowers us forever. Amen.**

## **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.**  
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## **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 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, **Vanco Mobile**. Search for "Vanco Mobile" 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 Music** *(Text © 1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette) ..... "God of the Women"*  
*(Used with Permission) (Traditional Irish melody "Be Thou My Vision")*

God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all,  
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth — Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray,  
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more — May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test, Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,  
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" — In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb, Prayed with the others in that upper room,  
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day — May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all, May we be joyful in answering your call.  
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near That we may share in your ministry here.

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

*One:* God’s gifts and mercies have been lavished upon us with abundance. These gifts and mercies have been taken up by many faithful people,

**Many:** and this day we celebrate the faithful women who have used their gifts and shared God’s mercies with us.

*One:* May we, inspired by God’s grace and the faithful women in our lives, go forth from this place,

**Many:** ready to serve, ready to listen, ready to answer God’s call.

*One:* Go in peace bearing the Light of God our Mother, Child, and Spirit and all God’s people said:

**Many:** Amen.

**We Carry the Light of Christ Out into the World**

**Postlude** .....“Come Thou Almighty King” arr. Larson



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Prayer of the Day ~ This litany is adapted by Rev. Liz Testa from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals; The Prayer for Illumination ~ <https://www.faithward.org/women-of-the-bible-study-series/the-persistent-widow-how-prayer-changes-things/> ; The Prayers of the People ~ Stacey Cole Wilson wrote this litany, included in 21st Century Africana Worship Resources; The Sending ~ Worship resources Celebrating Women in Ministry Sunday.

*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:

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 15 WORSHIP AT 10 AM** – In-person worship continues this Sunday in the sanctuary. We still recommend using masks but it will be optional for those vaccinated and boosted, If someone is not vaccinated, we request that you still wear a mask. Everyone must still be mindful of their own health and the health of others.



## UPDATE!

**The food pantry is currently seeking donations of:** Cereal, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Granola Bars, Crackers/Saltines, Cookies, Body Wash, Laundry Soap.

Monetary donations are always greatly appreciated!

For more information on how you can make a difference this holiday season, or to volunteer at the food pantry, please email: [foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us](mailto:foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us) or call Kerry at (608)423-8142.

The Cambridge Food Pantry website can be found at <https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/>

Thank you for your continued support of your Cambridge neighbors!

## **PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —**

Lorin Fulton  
Don Hawkins is in the Edgerton Care Center  
Jan & Nancy Kristiansen  
Jenine Spack

The families of Jack Spack, Ken Bilstad, Doreen Drennan, 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

**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 2022: Joe Leto, Mike Stitz. Clerk of Session: Judy Pearson

Class of 2023: Randy Johnson

Class of 2024: Mare Stewart, Mark Touhey

### **CHURCH STAFF**

#### **Music—**

**Accompanists:** Karen Brunk, Marian Korth, Karen Tordera,  
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





# Manifesto for women

*“Let Us Be Women Who Love,” written by Idelette McVicker, was originally published at [www.shelovesmagazine.com](http://www.shelovesmagazine.com).*

Let us be women who love.

Let us be women willing to lay down our sword words, our sharp looks, our ignorant silence, and towering stance and fill the earth with extravagant love.

Let us be women who love. Let us be women who make room.

Let us be women who open our arms and invite others into an honest, spacious, glorious embrace.

Let us be women who carry each other.

Let us be women who give from what we have.

Let us be women who leap to do the difficult things, the unexpected things and the necessary things.

Let us be women who live for peace.

Let us be women who breathe hope.

Let us be women who create beauty.

Let us be women who love.

Let us be a sanctuary where God may dwell.

Let us be a garden for tender souls.

Let us be a table where others may feast on the goodness of God.

Let us be a womb of life to grow.

Let us be women who love.

Let us rise to the question of our time.

Let us speak to the injustices in our world.

Let us move the mountains of fear and intimidation.

Let us shout down the walls that separate and divide.

Let us fill the earth with the fragrance of love.

Let us be women who love.

Let us listen for those who have been silenced.

Let us honor those who have been devalued.

Let us say, Enough! with abuse, abandonment, diminishing and hiding.

Let us not rest until every person is free and equal.

Let us be women who love.

Let us be women who are savvy, smart, and wise.

Let us be women who shine with the light of God in us.

Let us be women who take courage and sing the song in our hearts.

Let us be women who say yes to the beautiful, unique purpose seeded in our souls.

Let us be women who call out the song in another's heart.

Let us be women who teach our children to do the same.

Let us be women who love.

Let us be women who love, in spite of fear.

Let us be women who love, in spite of our stories.

Let us be women who love loudly, beautifully, divinely.

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