



Service for the Lord's Day

5th Sunday after Pentecost

July 10, 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 "On Eagle's Wings" – Joncas – arr. Carter
"Here I Am, Lord" – Schutte – arr. Carter

The Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" – Converse – arr. Schaum

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

A Moment of Silence for Prayer

The Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: In the beginning, the Creator fashioned an earth creature, a human, out of the clay of the earth, and blew into its nostrils the breath of life.

Many: **And the human became a living being.**

One: Life began with the first sacred breath.

Many: **Life still begins with breath.**

One: From the first breath we breathe,

Many: **our Creator has given us responsibility over our own human bodies,**

One: All life begins at first breath.

Many: **From our first breath, to our last breath, and every breath in-between, God is with us!**

The Opening Hymn PH # 316 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with life anew.

That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will—To do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me Glows with Thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I never die,
But live with thee the perfect life Of Thine eternity.**

(Repeat verse 1)

The Prayer of the Day [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... Holy, gracious and loving God, You are wise beyond our knowing.

Many: You have gifted us with intelligence, memory, reason, and skill.

One: You fill our lives with experiences in which we may freely use these gifts.

Many: We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

One: Before we breathed our first breath,

Many: You knew us.

One: You know our deepest thoughts, our fiercest passions, our desperate longings, our ancient hurts, our wildest dreams and our strongest fears.

Many: We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

One: As You breathed the first breath of life into us,

Many: You also breathed into us Your Spirit of liberation and justice, free will and grace,

One: and set us free to live our lives as human beings fully alive.

Many: We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

One: Creating One, in whose likeness we are created,

Many: We are complex beings, living complicated lives.

One: Give us the courage to discern and choose what is right and what is good, knowing that the two may not always be the same.

Many: We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

One: Help us – and help us help others –

Many: to respect all of life especially the lives of women who have been denied reproductive justice,

One: had their intelligence questioned,

Many: their rights taken from them,

One: their choices limited,

Many: and their freedom denied.

One: In Your Sacred Image, we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Many: Inspire our minds,

One: fire our spirits, and strengthen our wills

Many: that justice and compassion may always be our companions on this journey

One: and we may know your peace and justice for all.

Many: Thanks be to God! 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: “What is a favorite book you have read or a story you have heard?”

We Listen for God's Word

The Prayer for Illumination [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... God, you reach into our lives not through instruction, but story.

Many: **Open our hearts to be attentive: that seeing, we may perceive, and hearing, we may understand, and understanding, may act upon your word, that still lives and speaks to us. Amen.**

The Scripture

Genesis 16:1-6

Sarai, Abram's wife, hadn't yet produced a child.

She had an Egyptian handmaid named Hagar. Sarai said to Abram, "God has not seen fit to let me have a child. Sleep with my handmaid. Maybe I can get a family from her." Abram agreed to do what Sarai said.

So Sarai, Abram's wife, took her handmaid Hagar and gave her to her husband Abram. Abram had been living ten years in Canaan when this took place. He slept with Hagar and she got pregnant. When Hagar learned she was pregnant, she looked down on her mistress.

Sarai told Abram, "It's all your fault that I'm suffering this abuse. I put my handmaid in bed with you and the minute she knows she's pregnant, she treats me like I'm nothing. May God decide which of us is right."

"You decide," said Abram. "Your handmaid is your business."

Sarai was abusive to Hagar and Hagar ran away.

Genesis 30:1-9

When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she envied her sister, and she said to Jacob, "Give me children, or I shall die!" Jacob became very angry with Rachel and said, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"

Then she said, "Here is my handmaid Bilhah; go in to her, that she may bear upon my knees and that I too may have children through her." So she gave him her handmaid Bilhah, and Jacob went in to her. And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son... Rachel's handmaid Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

When Leah saw that she had ceased bearing children, she took her handmaid Zilpah and gave her to Jacob. Then Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a son.

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 Original Handmaid's Tale and the Bible"

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

We Respond to God’s Love

An Affirmation of Faith for the Reproductive Rights of Women [In Unison]

We call for a religious and moral commitment to reproductive justice for all.

We acknowledge those women—in the U.S. and abroad—who do not have full access to reproductive healthcare services.

We recognize and affirm the value of every person, regardless of gender, nationality or socioeconomic status.

We affirm that all women are moral agents who have the capacity, right and responsibility to make decisions about their reproductive lives.

Women must be able to make their own moral decisions based on conscience and faith. The sanctity of human life is best upheld when we assure that it is not created carelessly.

Because life is precious, no woman should be coerced to carry a pregnancy to term.

We lament the punitive measures that limit women’s access to abortion services.

We mourn the 47,000 women who die and millions more who are injured each year because of unsafe abortions.

We lament the conditions that cause women to choose between basic necessities and health services they need.

We pledge to work until all women have the healthcare they need and deserve.

The Pastoral Prayer [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... Long ago in Galilee, there were many who were sick and suffering, isolated and oppressed. Wherever there was pain – you were there in solidarity and empowering liberation. We see and experience the same realities today. In the margins, in the hard, in the alone – you are there too. Confident of your commitment to wholeness and healing, we lift before you the wounds inflicted on your beloved queer and trans children. We name the rejection we have felt- from our churches, from our families and friends. We name that many of us wondered if you too had rejected us. Jesus Christ, lover of all,

Many: bring healing, bring peace.

One: We grieve the reality of a broken church that has been used as a place of harm rather than a safe harbor. So much pain has been inflicted. So many lies have been spread about God. In a church whose purpose is grounded in embrace, liberation, resistance, and community, instead it has enacted spiritual violence on children and adults alike. Jesus Christ, lover of all,

Many: bring healing, bring peace.

One: We hold in this space, those who have endured the worst of what the world has to offer. Those of every generation who have faced violence, the breaking of relationships, the

fading of hope when basic needs go unmet.

Many: Jesus Christ, lover of all, bring healing, bring peace.

One: In silence, we name within ourselves, the things we cannot bear to speak.

(silence)

One: Jesus Christ, lover of all,

Many: bring healing, bring peace.

One: We offer this our pray, in the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray, saying...

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

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, **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. (Click on the button with the green heart.) Thank you!



We Depart to Do God's Will

Closing Music *PH* # 386 "O for a World"

O for a world where everyone Respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done With justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared And misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, Equality achieved.

We welcome one world family And struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn; Outcasts belong, Who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, And all but love will cease.

The Sending [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

One: Friends, May the merciful and gracious God grant you strength in these difficult and trying times facing us as followers of Jesus.

May you find comfort and peace underneath the shelter of God's wings;

May you find love, support and understanding from family, friends and community;

May God endow you with compassionate, understanding, care-givers filled with wisdom, respect and kindness towards the choices people make.

And may all find a full healing in mind, body and spirit!

Go now, in God's name, to bring the healing and hope-filled Light to all!

Many: Amen.

We Carry the Light of Christ Out into the World

Postlude "There Is a Balm in Gilead" – spiritual – arr. Whitworth



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Call to Worship ~ Based on Genesis 2:7, adapted by Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler; An Affirmation of Faith for the Reproductive Rights of Women ~ <https://rcrc.org/prayers/>; The Pastoral Prayer ~ enfleshed.com/liturgy; The Sending ~ by Rabbi Bonnie Margulis, Reform Judaism, Madison, WI.

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.
- Thank you to Barb Brown, piano and Mare Stewart, flute, for our special music today.

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, JULY 17 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 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
Margaret Hawkins
Jan & Nancy Kristiansen
Jenine Spack
Caleb Wipperfurth, CHS graduate who is battling cancer

The family of Donald Hawkins and 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 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,

Business Manager: Ruth Poole

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

Pastor@OCPChurch.com

Facebook: Scott Marrese-Wheeler

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