



Service for the Lord's Day

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 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 Sam Marrese-Wheeler

The Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Sanctuary" arr. Pethel Lisa Leadholm, Sue Braden, & Mare Stewart—flutes; Bobbi Rumpf—violin; Barb Brown—piano

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, God created humankind and all creatures, great and small,

Many: **because God loved a good story.**

One: God rejoiced in the unfolding story of humankind,

Many: **watching them love and care for one another.**

One: As the earth began to populate, something changed in the storyline.

Many: **People became wicked, evil crept into relationships.**

One: What God once saw as good, and had blessed,

Many: **Now grieved God.**

One: So God decided to wipe the pages of the story of humankind and creation clean,

Many: **And start fresh, introducing a new story of humankind.**

One: May we be open to the telling of this story of good and evil, wickedness and brokenness,

Many: **but also one of grace and redemption.**

One: Friends, this is the story of us, the one we love to tell.

Many: **And God is fully present in and through it.**

Special Music Sam-Marrese Wheeler

The Opening Prayer [Responsive] Prayer of St. Francis

One: Let us pray... Lord, make us an instrument of your peace:

Many: **where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

One: where there is injury, pardon;

Many: **where there is doubt, faith;**

One: where there is despair, hope;

Many: **where there is darkness, light;**

One: where there is sadness, joy.

Many: **O divine Master, grant that we may 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 that we are born to eternal life.

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: **“Have you ever been in a flood?”**

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 6-9 (various verses) Readers Theatre (*see below*)

Genesis 6

Narrator: When the human race began to increase, with more and more daughters being born, the sons of God noticed that the daughters of men were beautiful. They looked them over and picked out wives for themselves. Then God said,

Creator God: “I’m not going to breathe life into men and women endlessly. Eventually they’re going to die; from now on they can expect a life span of 120 years.”

Narrator: This was back in the days (and also later) when there were giants in the land. The giants came from the union of the sons of God and the daughters of men. These were the mighty men of ancient lore, the famous ones.

God saw that human evil was out of control. People thought evil, imagined evil—evil, evil, evil from morning to night. God was sorry that he had made the human race in the first place; it broke her heart. God said,

Creator: “I’ll get rid of my ruined creation, make a clean sweep: people, animals, snakes and bugs, birds—the works. I’m sorry I made them.”

Narrator: But Noah was different. God liked what she saw in Noah.

This is the story of Noah: Noah was a good man, a man of integrity in his community. Noah walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

As far as God was concerned, the Earth had become a sewer; there was violence everywhere. God took one look and saw how bad it was, everyone corrupt and corrupting—life itself corrupt to the core. God said to Noah,

Creator: “It’s all over. It’s the end of the human race. The violence is everywhere; I’m making a clean sweep. Build yourself a ship from teakwood. Make rooms in it. Coat it with pitch inside and out. Make it 450 feet long, seventy-five feet wide, and forty-five feet high. Build a roof for it and put in a window eighteen inches from the top; put in a door on the side of the ship; and make three decks, lower, middle, and upper. I’m going to bring a flood on the Earth that will destroy everything alive under Heaven. Total destruction. But I’m going to establish a covenant with you: You’ll board the ship, and your sons, your wife and your sons’ wives will come on board with you. You are also to take two of each living creature, a male and a female, on board the ship, to preserve their lives with you: two of every species of bird, mammal, and reptile—two of everything so as to preserve their lives along with yours. Also get all the food you’ll need and store it up for you and them.”

Genesis 7

Narrator: Next God said to Noah,

Creator: “Now board the ship, you and all your family—out of everyone in this generation, you’re the righteous one. Take on board with you seven pairs of every clean animal, a male and a female; one pair of every unclean animal, a male and a female; and seven pairs of every kind of bird, a male and a female, to insure their survival on Earth. In just seven days I will dump rain on Earth for forty days and forty nights. I’ll make a clean sweep of everything that I’ve made.”

Narrator: Noah did everything God commanded him. Noah was 600 years old when the floodwaters covered the Earth.

Genesis 8

Narrator: After forty days Noah opened the window that he had built into the ship. Noah sent out a raven; it flew back and forth waiting for the floodwaters to dry up. Then he sent a dove to check on the flood conditions, but it couldn’t even find a place to perch—water still covered the Earth. Noah reached out and caught it, brought it back into the ship.

He waited seven more days and sent out the dove again. It came back in the

evening with a freshly picked olive leaf in its beak. Noah knew that the flood was about finished.

He waited another seven days and sent the dove out a third time. This time it didn't come back.

In the six-hundred-first year of Noah's life, on the first day of the first month, the flood had dried up. Noah opened the hatch of the ship and saw dry ground...God spoke to Noah:

Creator: "Leave the ship, you and your wife and your sons and your sons' wives. And take all the animals with you, the whole menagerie of birds and mammals and crawling creatures, all that brimming prodigality of life, so they can reproduce and flourish on the Earth."

Narrator: Noah disembarked with his sons and wife and his sons' wives. Then all the animals, crawling creatures, birds—every creature on the face of the Earth—left the ship family by family. Noah built an altar to God.

God...thought:

Creator: "I'll never again curse the ground because of people. I know they have this bent toward evil from an early age, but I'll never again kill off everything living as I've just done. For as long as Earth lasts, planting and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never stop."

Genesis 9

Narrator: Then God spoke to Noah and his sons:

Creator: "I'm setting up my covenant with you including your children who will come after you, along with everything alive around you—birds, farm animals, wild animals—that came out of the ship with you. I'm setting up my covenant with you that never again will everything living be destroyed by floodwaters; no, never again will a flood destroy the Earth."

Narrator: God continued,

Creator: "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and everything living around you and everyone living after you. I'm putting my rainbow in the clouds, a sign of the covenant between me and the Earth. From now on, when I form a cloud over the Earth and the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll remember my covenant between me and you and everything living, that never again will floodwaters destroy all life. When the rainbow appears in the cloud, I'll see it and remember the eternal covenant between God and everything living, every last living creature on Earth."

Narrator: And God said,

Creator: "This is the sign of the covenant that I've set up between me and everything living on the Earth."

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

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

The Musical Response

“Glorify Thy Name” with “We Will Glorify” arr. Pethel
Lisa Leadholm, Sue Braden & Mare Stewart—flutes;
Bobbi Rumpf—violin; Barb Brown—piano

We Respond to God’s Love

The Pastoral Prayer [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... Gracious God, In love You created us, and in love You sustain us, day after day. So it is with confidence that we bring our prayers to You,

Many: knowing that You hear us, and will respond.

One: We pray for the world around us, for the many who continue to suffer and call out for help: for those without enough to eat in the Cambridge area, and everywhere; for those caught up in violence and political uprisings; for those picking up the pieces after a natural disaster; for those desperate to find work to support their families.

Many: Gracious God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

One: We also pray for family and friends who are suffering:
those struggling physically or emotionally,
those working to overcome mental illness;
those facing challenges at home or at work;
those grieving the death of a loved one.

Many: Gracious God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

One: God, You have called us to pray for our enemies;

Many: to bless, rather than curse, those who deliberately seek to harm us.

One: We bring their names before You now—
those who have hurt us, physically or emotionally;
those who have spread rumors about us,
or turned our friends against us.

Many: We ask You to bless them.

One: Open our hearts so that we may see them as You see them, and be able to respond to them with Your love.

Many: Gracious God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

One: We pray for Your church around the world, that it would be a living demonstration of Your coming kingdom:

Many: offering hospitality to all, ready to help in times of need,

One: showing love to friends and enemies alike, seeking to live in peace with all.

Many: Gracious God, hear our prayer, and in Your love, answer.

One: God, we praise You for Your faithful love, and for the mercy You have shown toward us.

Many: Open our eyes to recognize Your presence in our lives.

One: Give us grace to hear Your call, and courage to follow without hesitation,
Many: knowing that Your way is the pathway that leads to life and love.

One: In the name of Jesus, who taught his followers 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

Special Music Sam-Marrese Wheeler

The Sending [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

One: Friends, in this time and place, maybe we glimpsed a foretaste of the kingdom of God?
Let it hold you

Many: and let it send us so we will never be at peace until all are fed

One: until all know home,

Many: until all are free,

One: until justice is done,

Many: until peace is the way,

One: until grace is the law,

Many: until love is the rule,

One: until God’s kingdom comes,

Many: until God’s kingdom comes.

One: As followers of the Christ, let us go to be the bears of God’s love, not fearing the rising tide of darkness, but living always a people who reflect the light of God. And all God’s people said:

Many: Amen.

We Carry the Light of Christ Out into the World

Postlude Sam Marrese-Wheeler



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Pastoral Prayer ~ re:Worship website.

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)

- Thank you to Barb Brown, piano, Lisa Leadholm, Sue Braden & Mare Stewart, flutes, and Bobbi Rumpf, violin, for our special music today.
- Thank you also to Sam Marrese-Wheeler for playing 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, SEPTEMBER 18 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.

DO YOU NEED A HANDYMAN? – OCPC friend David Ludington is interested in doing some handyman work. If you have some little projects around your house, please talk to David at church or email him at numberonedad1989@gmail.com.



UPDATED WISH LIST!

The Cambridge Food Pantry has been seeing a sharp increase in food insecurity among our neighbors, and like everywhere in America, the high cost of food and other household items is having an impact on our inventory.

With the growing number of neighbors in need and the low supply of food on our shelves, I am reaching out to ask for your help.

With the winter months ahead of us, the need will only increase, please consider helping your neighbors by donating to the food pantry.

The food pantry is currently seeking donations of: Soup (variety of canned soup), Corned Beef Hash, SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, other canned meals and pastas, Crackers (Saltines, Ritz, etc.), Baked Beans, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Pancake Syrup, Shampoo and Conditioner, Men's and Women's Deodorant, Razors, Bath Soap, Laundry Soap, Toothpaste.

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 generous support!

Kerry Marren, Community Activities Program, Cambridge Food Pantry Coordinator

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,
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

