



Service for the Lord's Day

4th Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

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

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude

The Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Day by day, God leads us:

Many: to the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.

One: Day by day, Jesus calls us:

Many: to pour out ourselves in service, to anoint the stranger with hope.

One: Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

Many: the community we could be, the family we are called to become.

The Opening 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 Opening Prayer [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... Loving Shepherd, you know our names;

Many: **you care for us.**

One: When we face darkness and death,

Many: **walk beside us.**

One: When we hunger for your love,

Many: **fill us with your presence.**

One: When we are fearful,

Many: **feed us at your table.**

One: May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy

Many: **all the days of our lives. 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: **“Who is the one person’s voice you wish you could hear speaking to you again?”**

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

John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They

will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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 Reflection

Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

We Respond to God’s Love

The Musical Reflection

The Pastoral Prayer [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

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, who taught the disciples 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

We Depart to Do God's Will

The Closing Music *PH* # 411 "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

Arise, your light is come! The Spirits call obey;
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

The Sending [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

One: Friends, May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

Many: Amen.

One: May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

Many: Amen.

One: May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

Many: Amen.

One: May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

Many: Amen.

One: And the Blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems and Sanctifies, be upon you and all you love.

Many: Amen.

One: Go now out into the world to be the Light and Love of Christ, serving, caring, working for justice and peace in all you say and do.

Many: We go to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

***Song of Dismissal** PH # 432 “Canto de Esperanza”

May the God of hope go with us every day, Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way, Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace, Singing, share our joy with all,

Working for a world that’s new, Faithful when we hear Christ’s call.

Postlude ???



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Call to Worship ~ written by Thom Shuman on Lectionary Liturgies; The Opening Prayer ~ written by Mary Petrina Boyd, and posted on Ministry Matters. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/> ; The Pastoral Prayer ~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship; The Sending ~ This blessing, often called a “Franciscan Blessing,” was written by Benedictine Sister Ruth Fox of Sacred Heart Monastery in Richardton, ND. It was originally written for graduates of Dickinson State University and published in 1989.

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)

Everyone is invited to stay for fellowship and refreshment following worship today.

- Our musician today is Angie Williams.

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:

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 7 WORSHIP & COMMUNION AT 10

AM – In-person worship continues this Sunday in the sanctuary. We are still mindful of the presence of COVID along with the cold and flu. If you are not feeling well, we would encourage you to remain home and join us for worship on our Facebook Live-Stream. Masks are also available for those who would feel more comfortable wearing them for their own health and safety. We do encourage people to encourage people to get vaccinated and boosted. Thank you.



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 —

Barbara Baker (Judy Pearson's sister)
Charleen Janus
Jan & Nancy Kristiansen
Marilyn Schuster

Victims of the growing number of Mass Shootings and gun violence in our nation.

Those recovering from storm damage across the United States.

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 2023: Randy Johnson.

Class of 2024: Mare Stewart, Mark Touhey

Class of 2025: Joe Leto, Melanie Rumpf

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

