



Service for the Lord's Day

6th Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day

May 14, 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 “Love Divine, All Love Excelling” arr. Unke

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude “Be Thou My Vision” arr. Whitworth

The Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: What does the Lord require of us?

Many: **To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

One: What does God command of us?

Many: **To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

Many: **But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.**

One: Let us worship the God who believes in us,

Many: **and trusts in us, and abides with us.**

One: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,

Many: **but will be beside us every step of the way.**

The Opening Hymn (Text © 1998 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette) “God of the Women”
(Used with Permission) (Traditional Irish melody “Be Thou My Vision”)
Included in “Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today’s Worship” (Geneva Press) and
“Voices Found: Women in the Church’s Song” (Episcopal Church Publishing)

**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 Opening Prayer [Responsive]

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

Many: Women 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 women whose faith has been important to our sacred story and whose names have also been lost and or 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 Julian Ward Howe who called women around the world

Many: to end violence and war by proclaiming a “Mother’s Peace Day.”

One: We walk in the company of Shannon Watt, who like Julia Ward Howe, called

Many: on Moms to Demand Action to end gun violence in our nation.

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 faithful leaders of Christ as Elders, Deacons, and Ministers.

One: We walk in the company of all who have kept 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. We pray in the name,

ALL: **of the One who showed us the Way of Peace, Jesus the Christ, 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 one woman in the Bible who has influenced your faith journey?”**

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

Isaiah 2

In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Leah, Rachel, and Jacob; that the Holy One may teach us Her ways and that we may walk in Her paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. She shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Leah, Rachel, and Jacob, let us walk in the Light of the Lord.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

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 “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” arr. Shackley

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

One: Let us pray... Mothering G-d, we dream of a world free of poverty and oppression, and we yearn for a world free of gun violence, mass shootings, and war.

Many: **And we pray for your peace.**

One: When our hearts ache for the victims of gun violence, war and oppression, help us to remember that you healed people simply by touching them...

Many: **and give us faith in our ability to comfort and heal bodies and minds and spirits that have been wounded and shattered by gun violence and war.**

One: When the injustice of this world seems too much for us to handle, help us to remember that you fed five thousand people with only five loaves of bread and two fish...

Many: **and give us hope that what we have to offer will turn out to be enough, too.**

One: When fear of the power and opinions of others tempts us not to speak up for the least among us, help us to remember that you dared to turn over the tables of money changers...

Many: **and give us the courage to risk following you without counting the cost.**

One: When we feel ourselves fill with anger at those who are violent and oppressive, help us remember that you prayed for those who killed you...

Many: **and give us compassion for our enemies, too.**

One: When we tell ourselves that we have given all we can to bring peace to this world, help us to remember your sacrifice...

Many: **and give us the miracle of losing a little more of ourselves in serving you and our neighbors.**

One: Walk with us, Lord, as we answer your call to be peacemakers. Increase our compassion, our generosity and our hospitality for the least of your children.

Many: **Give us the courage, the patience, the understanding, the self-honesty and the gentleness of spirit that are needed in a world filled with turmoil and terror to work to end gun violence by beating our weapons into instruments of healing and hope.**

One: And continue to teach us to pray, as you 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.
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* # 343..... "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

Called as partners in Christ's service, Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving Hope and confidence and peace.

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.

***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 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr. Shackley



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Call to Worship ~ written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH; The Opening Prayer ~ This litany is adapted by Rev. Liz Testa from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals; The Pastoral Prayer ~ written by Jack Knox, pastor of Salem (Oregon) Mennonite Church. Posted on Glocal Christianity: the blog of Matt Stone; 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:

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 21 WORSHIP AT 10 AM — In 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.

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.

The family of Betty Mennenga (mother of Angie Williams), 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.



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

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

