



Service for the Lord's Day

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 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 "A Mighty Fortress" – arr. Rouse
"Son of God, Eternal Savior" – arr. Floeter

The Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" – arr. Shackley

The Call to Worship [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God's love for all the earth.

Many: In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God's grace fo all creation.

One: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God's people.

Many: In the Decalogue, we see the sign of God's hope and justice for each person to live in peace with God and neighbor.

One: the days of the prophet, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

Many: As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the sign of God's promise among us.

The Opening Hymn PH # 356 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace,
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise,
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above,
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

The Call to Reconciliation

One: Perhaps we have spoken words which harm another. It may be we have failed to honor another of God's children. Maybe we have let our fears, our worries, our desires come between us and God. Whatever we might have done, God waits to listen to us, to offer us grace and healing. Join me as we pray together saying,

The Prayer of Confession [Responsive]

One: Eternal One, even with those simple commandments, we manage to get it wrong.

Many: **We misuse your name on an almost daily basis, and dishonor our friends and neighbors by talking behind their backs.**

One: We hunger for what others have, and think we can put you in a box,

Many: **storing you away on a shelf.**

One: We find little enough time for our families, for ourselves, you, much less setting aside an entire day for that rest you call Sabbath.

Many: **Forgive us, Abiding Love. We think we are so wise with the choices we make, only to end up with all that keeps us from you.**

The Assurance of Pardon

One: Day to day, God offers us mercy and hope. Moment to moment, we are surround by God's never-ending love. Friends, trust this Good News for you! God takes our brokenhearted prayers and crafts them into words of grace, of joy, of peace.

Many: **Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! 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: **“Can you name at least two of the Commandments?”**

We Listen for God's Word

The Prayer for Illumination [Responsive]

One: Let us pray... Holy Wisdom, we ask that your Spirit would guide us in meditation on your Word,

Many: **that we might be led more deeply into knowledge of you and love for all your creatures and creations. Amen.**

Narrator: Then God spoke all these words:

Commandment 1: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

Commandment 2: You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

Commandment 3: You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Commandment 4: Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God.

Commandment 5: Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Commandment 6: You shall not murder.

Commandment 7: You shall not commit adultery.

Commandment 8: You shall not steal.

Commandment 9: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Commandment 10: You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Psalm 19

Common English Translation

One: The law of the Lord is perfect,

Many: reviving the soul;

One: the decrees of the Lord are sure,

Many: making wise the simple;

One: the precepts of the Lord are right,

Many: rejoicing the heart;

One: the commandment of the Lord is clear,

Many: enlightening the eyes;

One: the fear of the Lord is pure,

Many: enduring forever;

One: the ordinances of the Lord are true

Many: and righteous altogether.

One: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

Many: sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

One: Moreover, by them is your servant warned;

Many: in keeping them there is great reward.

One: But who can detect one's own errors?

Many: Clear me from hidden faults.

One: Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.

Many: **Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression.**

One: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,

Many: **O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

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. Hugh Drennan

... musical interlude for quiet personal reflection... "There Is a Higher Throne"

Getty/arr. Larson

We Respond to God's Love

Affirmation of Faith [Responsive] *An African Creed*

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything in it. God created men and women and wanted them to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on earth. We have known this High God in the darkness, and now we know God in the light. God promised in the book of God's word, the Bible, that God would save the world and all the nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good God's promise by sending the son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and humankind, showing that the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross. He died and lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, he rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him. All who have faith in him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, announcing the good news to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

Special Prayer Music *PH* # 404..... "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand;

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on the light; Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near;

When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call,

Hold my hand lest I fall; Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.

The Pastoral Prayer [Responsive]

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.

Many: **In Your mercy, 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.

Many: **Lord, in Your mercy, 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.

Many: **Lord, in Your mercy, 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.

Many: **Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

One: In the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught us 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* # 281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through;
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

The Sending [Responsive]Rev. Hugh Drennan

One: Hear this: the Lord our God is the one and only Lord. Therefore go out into the world to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength,

Many: **and love others as we have learned to love through Christ.**

One: And may God give you justice and freedom; May Christ Jesus set you free for love; and may the Holy Spirit go where you go and protect you on your way.

Many: **We go in peace to love and serve others as Jesus commanded us to do. 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 “Rock of Ages” – arr. Shackley



Our liturgy this morning is from: The Call to Worship ~ from the **Lent 2006** liturgy, posted on the **Seekers Church** website. <http://www.seekerschurch.org/>; The Assurance of Pardon ~ @Thom Shuman – Lectionary Liturgies; The Pastoral Prayer ~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship; The Sending ~ Adapted from Nathan Nettleton LaughingBird.net.

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.

- Today we welcome our Guest Preacher Rev. Hugh Drennan. Hugh, a previous pastor here, is now retired and lives in Lake Mills, Wisconsin. On his retirement business card the heading reads, “At play in the fields of the Lord.” That means he plays a lot of golf among other things.
- 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:

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, OCTOBER 29 WORSHIP 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.

FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST: Cereal, Hearty Soups, Canned Meals (Ravioli, etc.), Instant Potatoes, Corned Beef Hash, Hamburger Helper, Salad Dressing, Ketchup, Cake Mix and Frosting, Sugar, Shampoo and Conditioner. Donation bin is located outside of the lower level middle school/food pantry entrance and monetary donations are gladly accepted via the Food Pantry website <https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/> or by mail to P.O. Box 54, Cambridge WI 53523. Thank you!

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

Dale Febock
Jan & Nancy Kristiansen
Marilyn Schuster
Dick Trailer

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

Those recovering from fire and storm damage across the United States.

The families of: Fred Trailer (Dick's brother); Stub Lund; Barbara Baker (Judy Pearson's sister); 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.

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

