



Service for the Lord's Day

All Saints' Sunday – Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 5, 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“When the Saints Go Marching In” and “Swing Low Sweet Chariot” arr. James Koerts
(You are invited to place pictures of your loved ones on the Memorial Table.)

The Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Highland Cathedral” Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)

The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer [Responsive]

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

***Many:* And also with you.**

One: Friends, We gather this morning, surrounded by the memories of our loved ones. Some worshipped beside us in these pews, others lived among us at home as family, while others were our neighbors in community. While we live in a death denying culture, trying to keep death at bay, far removed from us, as people of faith, we are reminded in the story of God's suffering love for all people in the life and death of Jesus, that death cannot be avoided. However, we gather in the assurance of God's promise that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus.

***Many:* Trusting in this promise, we are gathered here this morning standing firm in the Word which wipes away all tears,**

One: where a banquet table has been set,

***Many:* where death has been swallowed up forever.**

One: We do not fully understand or believe it.

***Many:* And yet here it is: the power of Christ's life within us, around us, and among us.**

One: So let us be glad and rejoice together that nothing in life or in death can separate us from God's Love.

The Opening Hymn *PH* # 526 (verses 1-4) “For All the Saints”

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Call to Reconciliation

One: Friends, In life and in death, we belong to God. In sure and certain hope of this promise, we are free to confess how we have forgotten God’s presence in our lives and in the lives of our loved ones who have died. Together, let us pray...

The Prayer of Confession [Responsive]

One: Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith.

Many: **We confess that we are indifferent to your will.**

One: You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent.

Many: **You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. One: You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid.**

ALL: **In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ.**

The Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the good news: We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

Many: **If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.**

One: Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Many: **God’s steadfast love endures forever. 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 share the name of a loved one you are remembering and a brief memory of them?”**

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

Romans 14:7-12

Common English Bible

We don't live for ourselves and we don't die for ourselves. If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. This is why Christ died and lived: so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. But why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you look down on your brother or sister? We all will stand in front of the judgment seat of God. Because it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will give praise to God. So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Luke 20:38

The Inclusive Bible

God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. All are alive to God.

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

The Music "Shall We Gather at the River"

The Service of Remembrance and Communion

One: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

One: Surrounded by so "Great a cloud of witnesses" and trusting in the assurance that nothing in life and in death can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus, we pause this morning to remember our loved ones who over the past year have died, and surround us in that great cloud of witness and forever in our hearts. (*Silence*)

We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice, and the memory that binds them to us in this season of remembrance. **Alden Johnson, Caleb Wipperfurth, Evelyn Reiner, Lorin Fulton, Betty Mennenga, Barbara Baker, Stanley "Stub" Lund, Fred Trailer.**

Many: May God's eternal love surround them.

One: We pause and remember the pain of loss, the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health, the loss of a way of life we took for granted. We have all experienced so much loss over this past year, and throughout our life times. We pause to gather up our collective pain and offer it to God, asking that from God's hands we receive the gift of peace.

Many: Refresh, restore, renew us O God, and lead us into your future.

One: We also take time to remember ourselves during this time. We pause and remember these past weeks and months, the disbelief, the anger, the down times, the poignancy of reminiscing, missing the hugs and handshakes of family and friends, who are unable to be safely with us in our life celebrations and grief. Yet, we give thanks for all the new and creative ways people have found to offer us their support and compassion during these difficult and challenging times.

Many: Let us remember that dawn defeats darkness.

One: And finally, we pause and remember our faith and the gift of hope, which the Faith story offers to us. We remember that God shares our life and promises us a place and time of no more pain or suffering.

Many: Let us remember the One who shows the way, who brings the truth and who bears the light.

The Music

“Amazing Grace”

Bill McInnes (Bagpipes)

The Invitation

One: Friends, Come to the table as all saints come, as God's people always do, with love hope and questions...Come to the table with your mourning – old or new or delayed – and your celebration of memories, and your imagination of possibilities for times yet to come, because here you are welcome, in a weeping, laughing communion of saints, in a weeping, laughing communion ... of us. And so now we come, clothed in our own sad times, and our cloud of witnesses to hope – all the saints we have known, the saints we will know, and the saints we are.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God-with-us in life and in death, bless us and bless these gifts. May the Spirit rest upon this time and this table, surrounded tenderly by our memories of saints as on sacred times and tables long ago. so that this loaf may be broken love, and this cup a well of blessing, for we pray in the words of our ancestors that we claim as our own ...praying...

ALL: 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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of Bread and Cup

The Prayer [In Unison]

Spirit of Christ, stay with us where we stay, as familiar as our daily plates and cups. Go with us where we go, safe and full of love. May we, your eager and sometimes awkward saints, carry in us a Communion from which all can share – comfort for loss, courage for speaking, compassion for healing. We give you thanks for both the shelter and the road. Amen.

Offering of Our Tithes and Our Gifts to God

We Depart to Do God's Will

The Closing Hymn *PH* # 364 “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

I sing a song of the saints of God, Patient and brave and true,
Who toiled and fought and lived and died For the Lord they loved and knew,
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, And one was a shepherdess on the green;
They were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, And God's love made them strong;
And they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, The whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, And one was slain by a fierce wild beast;
And there's not any reason, no, not the least, Why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past, There are hundreds of thousands still;
The world is bright with the joyous saints Who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, In church or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
For the saints of God are just folk like me, And I mean to be one too.

The Sending [Responsive] Rev. Scott Marrese-Wheeler

One: Friends, In these days, as we grieve and celebrate our beloved dead, may we know how they endure with us, holding our hearts and encompassing us with a fierce and stubborn love that persists across time and distance. May that love help light our way in the life that is continuing to unfold for us. As we prepare to depart, I offer you this blessing by Jan Richardson:

ENDURING BLESSING

What I really want to tell you is to just lay this blessing on your forehead, on your heart; let it rest in the palm of your hand, because there is hardly anything this blessing could say, any word it could offer to fill the hollow.

Let this blessing work its way into you with its lines that hold nearly unspeakable lament.

Let this blessing settle into you with its hope more ancient than knowing.

Hear how this blessing has not come alone— how it echoes with the voices of those who accompany you, who attend you in every moment, who continually whisper this blessing to you.

Hear how they do not cease to walk with you, even when the dark is deepest.

Hear how they encompass you always— breathing this blessing to you, bearing this blessing to you still.

Many: Amen.



Our liturgy this morning is from: Communion Liturgy ~ by Maren Tirabassi; The Sending ~ Jan Richardson; from The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief.

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.

- Special Music today is provided by Bill McInnes, a professional bagpiper. Bill works with Pastor Scott at Gunderson Funeral Home as a Service Associate.
- Our musician today is Marian Korth.

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.

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.

WORSHIP SERVICES UPDATE:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 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.

Cambridge 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



A drop box is located outside the food pantry doors for your donations.



Thank
YOU!

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

