



**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
July 31, 2022 at 10:00 am**

**GATHERING IN FAITH**

Prayer in Preparation for Worship  
Dear God, we come to worship You today. We come to sing, pray, and listen. You always hear us.  
Help us to hear You. Amen.

Introduction to the Hymn of Response (see bulletin pages 5-6) Steve Wilson/Jamie Fair

Welcome Steve Crocco  
Please sign, pass and return Friendship Record pads during this time of announcements.

Trinity Chimes *In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.*

Ministry of Music Jamie Fair, Alto  
*He Was Despised* Air for Alto, from *Messiah*, George Frideric Handel  
*He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows*  
*and acquainted with grief.*  
—Isaiah 53:3

Call to Worship Steve Crocco  
*Leader: Eternal God, You are the power behind all things:*  
**People: behind the energy of the storm, behind the heat of a million suns.**  
*Leader: Eternal God, You are the power behind all minds:*  
**People: behind the ability to think and reason, behind all understanding of the truth.**  
*Leader: Eternal God You are the power behind the cross of Christ;*  
**People: behind the weakness, the torture, and the death, behind unconquerable love.**  
*Leader: Eternal God, we worship and adore You.*  
**People: Amen!**

\*Hymn of Praise *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* *Hymnal, No.457*  
**I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,**  
**My only trust and Savior of my heart,**  
**Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;**  
**I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.**  
  
**Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,**  
**Reigning omnipotent in every place:**  
**So come, O King, and our whole being sway;**  
**Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.**

**Thou art the life, by which alone we live,  
And all our substance and our strength receive;  
Sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,  
And give us strength in every trying hour.**

**Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,  
No harshness hast Thou and no bitterness;  
O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,  
That we may dwell in perfect unity.**

**Our hope is in no other save in Thee;  
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;  
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,  
That in Thy strength we evermore endure.**

\*Prayer of the Day (please remain standing)

Steve Crocco

Prayer of Confession

Steve Wilson

**Loving God, we bring to You the burden of our sin, trusting in Your mercy to forgive and in Your power to redeem. We have struggled to follow You faithfully, and seem always to have one foot slipping from Your path. We are tangled in doubts that grow from fear, and we trip over the stubble of our self-centeredness.**

....moment of silent prayer

***Eternal God, though our past cannot be undone, our future is one step before us. Cast Your light upon our lives that we may see clearly the choices before us. Create within us the desire to follow You and the strength to take Your lead, that with both feet we may walk faithfully, joyfully according to Your Holy plan.***

Assurance of Pardon

*Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!*

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory be to God. Amen.**

\*Act of Praise

**Congregation Singing**

*To God Be the Glory*

*Hymnal, No. 485, Stanza 1*

**To God be the glory, great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done.**

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Time with the Children

*Play and Rest*

Steve Wilson

Children will return to sit with their parent(s).

Prayer for Illumination  
Old Testament Reading  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God!**

Isaiah 53:1-5

Julie McKenzie  
Pew Bible, OT, page 683

Gospel Reading  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God!**

Matthew 25:14-30

Pew Bible, NT, page 28

Sermon

*The Stewardship of Pain*

Steve Wilson

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*Hymn of Response

*We Cannot Measure How You Heal*

See Bulletin pages 5-6

Faith Community & Concerns, the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Steve Crocco

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts  
Call to Offering

Steve Wilson

A Vocal Offering

Jamie Fair, Soloist

*Blessings*

Laura Story

*We pray for blessings. We pray for peace, comfort for family, protection while we sleep.  
We pray for healing, for prosperity. We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering.  
And all the while You hear each spoken need,  
yet love us way too much to give us lesser things.*

*Refrain*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops?  
What if Your healing comes through tears?  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?  
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?*

*We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear. And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near.  
We doubt Your goodness. We doubt Your love,  
as if ev'ry promise from Your Word is not enough.  
And all the while You hear each desp'rate plea, and long that we'd have faith to believe. (R)*

*When friends betray us, when darkness seems to win,  
we know that pain remind this heart that this is not,  
this is not our home. It's not our home.*

*'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops?  
What if Your healing comes through tears?  
What if a thousand sleepless nights are what it takes to know You're near?  
What if my greatest disappointments, or the aching of this life,  
Is a revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?  
And what if trials of this life, the rain, the storms, the hardest nights  
Are Your mercies in disguise?*

A Reflective Doxology (please remain seated)

using tune: *OLD HUNDREDTH*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

Steve Wilson

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD

\*Hymn of Dedication

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

*Hymnal, No. 101,  
stanzas 1, 2, 4*

**When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

\*Charge and Blessing

Steve Wilson

Postlude

*Hornpipe (from Water Music Suite)*

Organ

George Frideric Handel

*We Cannot Measure How You Heal*



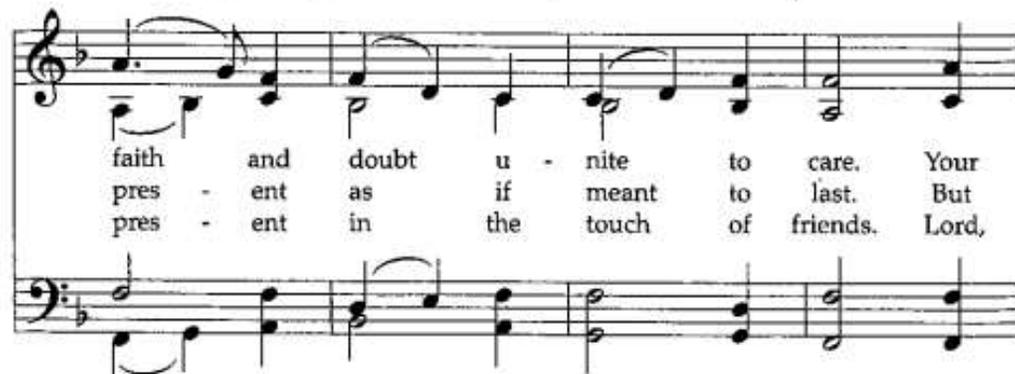
1 We can - not mea - sure how you heal or  
2 The pain that will not go a - way, the  
3 So some have come who need your help and



an - swer ev - ery suf - ferer's prayer, yet  
guilt that clings from things long past, the  
some have come to make a - mends, as



we be - lieve your grace re - sponds where  
fear of what the fu - ture holds, are  
hands which shaped and saved the world are



faith and doubt u - nite to care. Your  
pres - ent as if meant to last. But  
pres - ent in the touch of friends. Lord,

*We Cannot Measure How You Heal - continued*

hands, though blood - ied on the cross, sur -  
pres - ent too is love which tends the  
let your Spir - it meet us here to

vive to hold and heal and warn, to  
hurt we nev - er hoped to find, the  
mend the bod - y, mind, and soul, to

car - ry all through death to life and  
pri - vate ag - o - nies in - side, the  
dis - en - tan - gle peace from pain, and

cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.  
mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.  
make your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

This 20th-century text from the Iona Community grapples with the realities of illness and pain, not only as they afflict the body but even more as they lay waste to mind and soul. The traditional folk melody helps to convey the sort of communal experience assumed in the last stanza.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1989  
MUSIC: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1989.  
Text and Music © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

YE BANKS AND BRAES  
LMD

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Next Sunday, August 7 at 10:00 am** – Steve Wilson leads an interview sermon with Beatriz Tarfur, a missionary from Peru.

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Hymns taken from:

- *The Presbyterian Hymnal – Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs*, 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.
- *Glory to God* – The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

**Calling All Scripture Readers** – What a blessing to hear different voices reading Scripture in worship. An orientation for Scripture readers will be held **Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**. Please call the church office (412.828.5770) or email Steve W. ([swilson@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:swilson@oakmontpresby.org)) to let us know that you will be coming. Thank you!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Chancel Flowers** – Today's flowers given in honor of Amy and Ron Burkert's 21<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on August 4. Would you like to place flowers in the sanctuary some Sunday to provide visual beauty to worship? One or two arrangements are welcome each week and can be placed *in memory of loved ones, in celebration of an event or to honor someone*, and all to the Glory of God. Contact Carla Lowman (412-826-5914) to RSVP your date with info and wording for the bulletin. We appreciate your assistance in beautifying our sanctuary!  
**Available dates: August 7, 21, 28.**

**Your OPC Family Cares About You!** Because there are times when you are ill, in the hospital or in emotional need and we don't know about it, please remember to contact the church office (412.828.5770) or a staff member ([mstecik@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:mstecik@oakmontpresby.org)) so we may support you in your time of need. You are loved!

**Prayer Requests** - Members of our church will pray for you and anyone in need. Please send prayer requests to: [prayers@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:prayers@oakmontpresby.org) or contact Carol Heimerich at 412.242.1028.

**Save the date!** – Homecoming Picnic, Sunday, September 11 – more details to come.

The **Deacons are assisting Light of Life in JULY** with their ministries which are in need of **\$5 gift cards for Giant Eagle or McDonalds** that are used as tokens of appreciation and recognition by the North Side staff. If you are able to contribute a gift card(s), please place them in the butterfly bag at the top of the steps in the 5th Street entrance.

**VBS at Oakmont United Methodist Church** Come join us for "ON THE CASE" Vacation Bible School at Oakmont United Methodist Church. It will be held **August 1-5; 6-8:30 pm**. Preschool thru 6th grade detectives will dig into a few of Jesus' parables to solve the mysteries of how to grow in faith, love, care and serve others. They will do this thru stories, music, crafts, games and snacks. (and its FREE) Register at [oumcyouthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:oumcyouthdirector@gmail.com).

## CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>July 31 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>WORSHIP</b> (Sanctuary) <b>and Via Livestream</b> and Children during worship (PreK–2 <sup>nd</sup> grade)
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>August 1</b>
12:00 pm	AA’s (Multi-Purpose Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854 (Multi-Purpose Room)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>August 2</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>August 3</b>
10:00 am	Women’s AA (Dining Room)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>August 4</b>
8:00 pm	NA’s (Dining Room)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>August 5</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>August 6</b>
5:00 pm	Chancel Choir Picnic (D. Harrell’s Garden)
8:30 pm	AA’s (Dining Room)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>August 7 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>WORSHIP AND COMMUNION</b> (Sanctuary) <b>and Via Livestream</b> and Children during worship (PreK–2 <sup>nd</sup> grade)
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)

### **OPC STAFF**

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson	Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Crocco	Associate Pastor
Michael P. Frank, III	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Ronnie Bailey	Education Director for Children and Youth
Maureen Stecik	Program Staff Assistant
Buster Harper	Custodian
Tracy Messenger	Financial Secretary of Accounting
Marge Kuhn	Financial Secretary of Contributions
Roberta Erickson	Handbell Choir Director
Ron Burkert	AV Team Coordinator

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