



**Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday
November 20, 2022 at 11:00 am**

Welcome to Oakmont Presbyterian Church!
We are pleased to have you join us for worship today.

GATHERING IN FAITH

Reflection in Preparation for Worship
“Make no mistake,’ said Mrs. Beaver, ‘if there’s anyone who can appear before Aslan [the Christ figure] without their knees knocking, they’re either braver than most or just plain silly.’ ‘Then he isn’t safe?’ said Lucy. ‘Safe?’ said Mrs. Beaver... ‘Course he isn’t safe. But he’s good. He’s the King, I tell you.” C. S. Lewis, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, ch. 8

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

Prelude *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise* JuBELLation Ringers; Roberta Erickson, Director
arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

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

Introit *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* Tenors and Basses of The Chancel Choir
arr. Hal H. Hopson

Call to Worship *Leader: The days are surely coming when the Lord will raise up a King.*
People: He shall reign as King and deal wisely, and execute justice and righteousness in the land.
Leader: In the King’s days, Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. Steve Wilson

*Hymn of Praise *Blessing and Honor* Hymnal, No. 147
**Blessing and honor and glory and power,
Wisdom and and riches and strength evermore,
Give we to Christ who our battle has won,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.**
**Hear through the heavens the sound of the Name,
While rings the earth with Christ's glory and fame;
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower
Echo these praises and tell of God's power.**

**Ever ascending the song and the prayer;
Ever descending the love that we share;
Blessing and honor and glory and praise—
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.**

**Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.**

*Prayer of the Day (please remain standing)

Steve Wilson

Prayer of Confession

Ronnie Bailey

Lord, Your Word tells us Your wrath goes forth as a whirling tempest that will burst upon the heads of the wicked. Because our hearts and minds lead us away from You, we confess that we are wicked in Your sight.

...time for silent confession

Yet we have hope. **You have offered mercy to those who repent. May we embrace Your love and may it transform us to live as the free and forgiven people You have called us to be. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God has freed us for joyful obedience. If you are in Christ, you are free and forgiven.

People: Let us 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. Amen.

*Act of Praise

Congregation Singing

Gloria Patri/Glory Be to the Father

Hymnal, No. 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Doug Crist

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Pew Bible, OT, page 725

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Time with the Children

Ronnie Bailey

Children go to JAM after time with children.

New Testament Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

Pew Bible, NT, page 200

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Don't Say I Didn't Warn You!

Steve Crocco

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response

O God of Earth and Altar

Hymnal, No.291

Stanzas 1-2, Gilbert Keith Chesterton, 1906
Stanza 2 alt. Jane Parker Huber, 1985
Stanza 3, Jane Parker Huber, 1985

Welsh folk melody
Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865
As in *English Hymnal*, 1906

1. O God of earth and al - tar, Bow down and hear our cry;
2. From all that ter - ror teach - es, From lies of pen and voice,
3. A - wak - en us to ac - tion And forge us in - to one,

Our earth - ly rul - ers fal - ter, Our peo - ple drift and die;
From all the eas - y speech - es That make our hearts re - joice,
De - fy - ing sect and fac - tion; O God, Your will be done!

The walls of gold en - tomb us, The swords of scorn di - vide;
From sale and pro - fa - na - tion Of hon - or and the sword,
Op - pres - sive sys - tems snare us; Our ap - a - thies in - crease.

Take not Your thun - der from us, But take a - way our pride.
From sleep and from dam - na - tion, De - liv - er us, good Lord!
Great God, in mer - cy spare us For jus - tice and for peace!

Text: Stanza 3 © 1985 Jane Parker Huber. Used by permission.

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

Steve Wilson

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

Call to Offering

Steve Crocco

A Choral Offering
I Believe in Christ

Chancel Choir

John Longhurst/arr. Mack Wilberg

*I believe in Christ; He is my King! With all my heart to Him I'll sing;
I'll raise my voice in praise and joy, in grand amens my tongue employ.
I believe in Christ; He is God's Son. On earth to dwell His soul did come.
He healed the sick; the dead He raised. Good works were His; His name be praised.*

*I believe in Christ my Lord, my God! My feet He plants on gospel sod.
I'll worship Him with all my might; He is the source of truth and light.
I believe in Christ; He ransoms me. From Satan's grasp He sets me free,
And I shall live with joy and love in His eternal courts above.*

*I believe in Christ; He stands supreme! From Him I'll gain my fondest dream;
And while I strive through grief and pain, His voice is heard: "Ye shall obtain."*

*I believe in Christ; so come what may, with Him I'll stand in that great day
When on this earth He comes again to rule among the sons [and daughters] of men [humankind].*

*When on this earth He comes again to rule among the sons [and daughters] of men [humankind].
To rule again!*

–Bruce R. McConkie

*Doxology

using tune: *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Steve Crocco

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

*Hymn of Dedication

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymnal, No. 6

**Jesus comes with clouds descending see the Lamb for sinner slain!
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign!**

**Every eye shall then behold You robed in awesome majesty;
Those who jeered and mocked and sold You,
Pierced and nailed You to the tree,
Shamed and grieving, Shamed and grieving,
Shamed and grieving, Shall their true Messiah see.**

**Yes, Amen! Let all adore You high on your eternal throne;
Crowns and empires fall before You,
Claim the kingdom for Your own:
Come, Lord Jesus, Come, Lord Jesus,
Come, Lord Jesus, Everlasting Christ, come down!**

*Charge and Blessing

Steve Crocco

Postlude
He is King (Epilogue)

Organ
African-American Spiritual/arr. Robert J. Powell

*He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like Him.*
for full text, see *Hymnal* No. 153

WORSHIP NOTES

The REIGN OF CHRIST/ CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY ends the marking of the Sundays after the Day of Pentecost, and moves us to the threshold of Advent, the season of hope for Christ's coming again at the end of time. The day centers us on the crucified and risen Christ, whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. The celebration of the lordship of Christ thus looks back to Ascension, Easter, and Transfiguration, and points ahead to the appearing in glory of the King of kings and Lord of lords. As the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, Christ is the center of the universe, the ruler of all history, the judge of all people. In Christ all things began, and in Christ all things will be fulfilled. In the end, Christ will triumph over all the forces of evil. As a sovereign ruler, Christ calls us to a loyalty that transcends every earthly claim on the human heart. To Christ alone belongs the supreme allegiance of our lives. Christ calls us to stand with those who in every age confessed, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" For this festival day in the church year, the liturgical color is white. Gold accents are also appropriate for this celebration.

JAM stands for "**J**esus **A**nd **M**e" and will be our 2 classes for children. PreK through Grade 2 and Grades 3-6. We welcome any middle schoolers who desire to mentor and build relationships with our younger kids. **JAM** will be held after Children's Time that takes place during worship. We will have an engaging, fun, children's sermon and following that, children will join their classes in the education wing upstairs.

Children will play a major part in leading the **Family Christmas Eve Service (12/24 at 4:30pm)** the choir practices for the kids interested in participating are:

TODAY (NOV 20) there will be an early time from 10:15-10:45. There will also be a later time after church from 12:00-12:30. You can attend one or both times.

NOV 27- there will be no JAM during worship, but after time with the children the kids will still head upstairs for choir and Christmas carols until worship is over (around 12pm).

DEC 4-18, kids will be dismissed from worship at the beginning of the service. They will spend 11:10-11:45 in JAM; choir practice will run 11:45-12:15.

Next Sunday, November 27 – First Sunday of Advent

Steve Wilson will preach the sermon *Are You Open to a Surprise from God?* based on Luke 1:67-80.

Early Worship at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary – a more intimate service, approximately 45 minutes, with a simple worship order including the sermon and two congregational hymns with piano accompaniment.

Service for The Lord's Day - at 11:00 am – in the sanctuary. This traditional worship service includes a fuller liturgy, with sermon and congregational hymns. A variety of musical styles are offered by our various choirs accompanied by the pipe organ, piano and other musical instruments. **Next Sunday** sharing in the Ministry of Music will be the Chancel Choir.

Thanksgiving Worship TODAY at 5:00 pm *Feast for the Soul* – A simple worship service of Thanksgiving. Rev. Steve Wilson will be preaching *Throwing God a Kiss*. ***Feast for the Body*** (Thanksgiving dinner) will follow the service. Prior reservations are required and now closed.

Join the Chancel Choir for Advent/Christmas season... a season filled with beautiful music.

This short-term commitment would involve rehearsals on Thursday evenings - selected portions of certain Thursdays in November and entire Thursday rehearsals in December which begin at 7:00 pm. Sing for all of these or selected events - Advent Worship: Sundays November 27 and December (11am); The Christmas Carol Walk: Sunday December 11 (6-8:30pm); Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (10:00pm).

For the complete rehearsal schedule or to find out more, please contact Michael Frank at mfrank@oakmontpresby.org or at 412-828-5770 x206.

This group of dedicated singers is open to OPC members, friends and members of the community, grade 9 through adult. Join us!

Hymns taken from:

- *The Presbyterian Hymnal – Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs*, 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chancel Flowers – 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: November 27; December 4, 11 and 18.

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) 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 or contact Carol Heimerich at 412.242.1028.

OPC Film Series - Join us at 7:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Brochures are available in the vestibules. Elevator door entrance opens at 6:15 pm.

DEC 2 – *The Age of Adaline* (2015)

DEC 16 – *Redeeming Love* (2022)

Soups On! – On **NOV 17, Soups On crew made Creamy Tomato Basil Soup and Beef and Barley Stew** which are available in the downstairs freezer for yourself, a loved one, a neighbor or anyone who needs a cup of cheer!. You can reach Barbara Price at 4bpprice.808@gmail.com or at 412-727-7695 if you have questions or would like to join us.

Retirement Celebration Planning Committee (“OPCRCPC”) Save the Date - Friday July 14, 2023, for the celebration dinner for Dr. Steve Wilson as he retires from OPC. Invitations and details will come later, for now just make sure you mark your calendar!

The Planning Committee would like to contact former OPC members to inform them of Steve's retirement. If you are aware of and have contact information for any former members, let Sherry Geis know at geisherry@gmail.com or at 724-443-5447 to share the names and addresses.

In addition, if you were a member of either Riverside or First Presbyterian Churches when they merged to form OPC, please let one of the committee members know. Committee members are Chris Little, Nancy Sloan, Kathy Bowser, Lin Ewing, and Sherry Geis.

Books! Books! Books! A large number of books are available in Friendship Hall. Feel free to take whatever you'd like! DO NOT return them. (If they have OPC labels, cross out before donating elsewhere.)

OPC Social Dining Out Groups - We will be putting together new OPC Social Dining Out Groups beginning in January. The dining out groups consist of dinner groups and lunch groups. This is a great way to get to know our OPC family. Please contact Pat Zanella if interested: home: 724-733-1338; cell: 412-877-7523; or email pazanella@hotmail.com

Save the Date – 40th Annual Christmas Carol Walk, Sunday, December 11 – begins at 6:00 pm at Oakmont United Methodist Church. Finale begins at 7:30 pm at OPC featuring the combined choir and many favorite Christmas carols sung by all, concluding with the Hallelujah Chorus. Cookie reception will follow the finale hosted by OPC! Invite a friend!

Cookie Donations Needed for Carol Walk Reception – OPC is the host for this year's Christmas Carol Walk finale and cookie reception on **Sunday December 11th**. We are in need of cookie donations for the reception. Please indicate your willingness to provide cookies on the Friendship Pad. Please plan to bring your cookies to the church kitchen the morning of December 11th so that they may be plated for the evening reception. *Thank you for your help!*

The Angel Tree is back! Each Star on the tree in the 5th Street vestibule has wish lists for children in need, whose names the Deacons acquired from East End Cooperative Ministry in East Liberty and Riverview Community Action Corporation here in Oakmont. **To participate, choose a Star from the tree, record your name and phone number on the Blue Sign Up Sheet next to the corresponding number that is on the Star, purchase gifts choosing from the suggestions on the back of the Star, return the gifts in a bag and place it under the Angel Tree no later than Sunday, December 4.** You can wrap the gifts or leave unwrapped for Deacon Elves to wrap. Contact Debby Malandra (720-903-5731) or Sherri Dimon (412-999-1725) with questions. Thank you for sponsoring these children and providing them with a joyous Christmas!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to Art King of Harvest Valley Farm, Gibsonia. For a number of years Art has generously donated pumpkins and gourds to enhance our Thanksgiving worship with their natural beauty. We are appreciative of his generosity and give thanks for him and for all those who work hard to grow this produce. You can visit Harvest Valley Farm and Market online at harvestvalleyfarms.com. The market is located at 6003 Cunningham Rd, Gibsonia, PA at the intersection with Route 8. Stop by and check it out.

2023 Generosity Update - As of 11/13/22, we have received \$285,314 pledges for 2023. Our goal is \$580,000. The Property/Finance and Generosity Committee thanks you for your kind and generous gifts for our continued Christian work and service at OPC.

Robin Gourley, Co-Chair of the Property/Finance and Generosity Committee

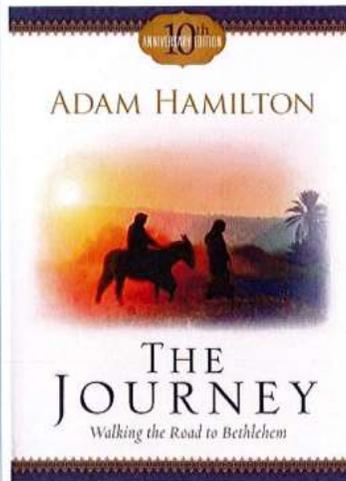
The **Women's Bible Circle** will be celebrating with a light holiday lunch and dessert on **Wednesday, December 7 at 1:00 in the Lona McCrea Room**. We hope to share time with some members of staff as well. After lunch we will be continuing our study Celebrating Sabbath. Our next lesson is "Sabbath and Surrender". Through the "manna" story we recognize it is a call to trust God to provide for our needs. It is a call to surrender our unhealthy striving for more wealth, more stuff and more success. It is a call to recognize when it is time to say, "Enough". We hope women of OPC will join us for this time of reflection and fellowship.

There will be **no Circle meeting in January but will resume in February** when our lesson will be *Sabbath and Servitude*.

Confirmation Class available for youth in grades 7-12 who would like to join the church. There are no requirements. Next class is Dec 4th. Youth will be joining the church on June 4, 2023. Contact Ronnie Bailey with questions.

THE JOURNEY

Walking the Road to Bethlehem



“Coffee and Conversation”
Oakmont Presbyterian Church

Sundays

November 27 - December 18, 2022

9:30 – 10:30 am

A video series with

Adam Hamilton

Adam Hamilton, nationally known pastor and author, presents this video retelling of the events leading up to the birth of Jesus Christ. Now in a 10th anniversary edition, the book and video series has become a classic that is viewed by hundreds of churches each year.

Dr. Katherine Williams and **Samuel Anderson** will host these special Advent sessions.

November 27	<i>Mary of Nazareth</i>
December 4	<i>Joseph of Bethlehem</i>
December 11	<i>Mary’s Visit to Elizabeth</i>
December 18	<i>From Nazareth to Bethlehem</i>

Come early for coffee and a Christmas donut !!!

CHURCH CALENDAR

TODAY	November 20 – Reign of Christ Sunday
8:30am	Early Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Adult Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
11:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary) and Via Livestream and Children’s JAM Classes
5:00 pm	Thanksgiving Worship (Sanctuary)
6:00 pm	Thanksgiving Dinner (Dining Room – Prior RSVP Required)
MONDAY	November 21
10:00 am	Church Decorating
12:00 pm	AA’s (Multi-Purpose Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854 (Multi-Purpose Room)
7:00 pm	JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
TUESDAY	November 22
7:00 pm	Our Journey Without Them (Marie Berg Chapel)
WEDNESDAY	November 23
10:00 am	Women’s AA (Dining Room)
THURSDAY	November 24 – Thanksgiving Church Office Closed
FRIDAY	November 25 Church Office Closed
SATURDAY	November 26
8:00 pm	AA’s (Multi-Purpose Room)
SUNDAY	November 27 – 1st Sunday of Advent
8:30am	Early Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Adult Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
11:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary) and Via Livestream and Children’s JAM Classes
12:00 pm	Youth Group Fall Party (for grades 6-12)

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

415 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oakmont, PA 15139
412-828-5770 (Office)
www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Time to order red poinsettias to enhance the sanctuary for Christmas.

Drop off your form at the church office or mail to OPC (415 Pennsylvania Avenue Oakmont PA 15139) and note "*Poinsettia Order*" on the envelope.

For questions, contact Dixie Anderson (412-418-0280) or (dixwa@comcas.net) or Ann Buechli (412-657-1746) or (hjea44@gmail.com).

December 6th is the last day to order poinsettias.



Quantity	Size	Price (each)	= Total
_____	4-5 inches (Pixie)	\$3.60	_____
_____	7 inches (2 stems)	\$11.25	_____
_____	8 inches (3 stems)	\$15.90	_____
_____	10 inches (5 stems)	\$36.75	_____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____
