



**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
August 13, 2023 at 10:00 am**

**GATHERING IN FAITH**

Prayer in Preparation for Worship

Holy God, Giver of all gifts, we praise You for the blessings You have given to us. You have been the light in our darkness, our strength to persevere, our hope in all seasons. Praise be to You, Loving and Faithful One, now and evermore. Amen.

- Welcome Steve Crocco
- Recognition of our 2023 Graduates (see list on page 10) Ronnie Bailey
- Trinity Chimes *In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.*
- Call to Worship (Psalm 100) Steve Wilson  
*Leader: Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts of God with praise;  
Give thanks and bless God's holy name!*  
**People: For the Lord is good; God's love is eternal, and God's faithfulness has no end.**  
*Leader: Let us worship God.*
- Hymn Sing The congregation is invited to call out favorite hymns from *The Hymnal*.

1. O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to -  
2. Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we  
day and sing the love a-maz-ing that  
bring, that we who know your fa-vor may  
songs can-not re-pay; for we can on-ly  
serve you as our king; and whe-ther our to-  
won-der at ev-ery gift you send, at  
mor-rows be filled with good or ill, we'll  
bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out  
tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you  
end: We lift our hearts be-fore you and  
still: To mar-vel at your beau-ty and  
wait up-on your Word, we hon-or and a-  
glo-ry in your ways, and make a joy-ful  
dore you, our great and might-y Lord.  
du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

WORDS: Michael Perry (Heb. 13:15)

MUSIC: Gustav T. Holst

Words © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns (admin. by Hope Publishing Co.)

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Call to Confession  
Prayer of Confession

Ronnie Bailey

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.**

.... moment of silent prayer

**O Lord, set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us wisdom to follow where You lead us; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

Sung Affirmation of Grace  
*Pavonne*

Chancel Choir and Friends; Eric Waggoner, Piano  
Andrea Klouse

*Alas; and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die?  
Would He, His sacred head devote to sinners such as I?  
Well might the sun in darkness hide His glories in,  
When God our maker died to pardon us from sin.*

*Amazing pity, amazing, pity! And grace unknown, and grace unknown!  
He suffered, He suffered, suffered for me!*

*Yet drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe,  
Here Lord, I give myself away 'tis all that I can do.*

*Alas, and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die.  
Would He His sacred head devote, head devote to sinners such as I?*

– Isaac Watts

Assurance of Pardon

*Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.  
Know that you are loved by God and forgiven.*

**People: Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Ministry of Music/Act of Praise  
*Symphonia on HYFRYDOL*

Roberta and Robert Erickson, Handbell Duet  
arr. Kevin McChesney

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling – text in Hymnal, No. 376*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Lee Nichols  
OPC Temporary Pastor

Psalm Reading

Psalm 91

*Leader: You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty -*

**People: you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”**

*Leader: For God will rescue you from the snare of the hunter and from the deadly plague.*

**People: God's wings will cover you, and you will find refuge beneath them; God's faithfulness will be your shield and defense:**

Leader: you shall not fear any terror in the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;  
**People: nor the plague that stalks in the darkness, nor the sickness that lays waste at noon.**  
 Leader: A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.  
**People: You will only have to look with your eyes, and you will see the reward of the wicked.**  
 Leader: Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,  
**People: no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**  
 Leader: For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.  
**People: Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**  
 Leader: You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.  
**People: I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**  
 Leader: They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them,  
**People: with long life will I satisfy them and show them my salvation.**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

Time with the Children		Ronnie Bailey
Epistle Reading		Addy Bursick
Philippians 1:1-11		Pew Bible, NT, page 196
<i>The Word of the Lord.</i>		
<b>Thanks be to God!</b>		
Sermon	<i>Thank You!</i>	Steve Wilson

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*Hymn of Response      *Come Now and Give God Your Thanks*      see bulletin page 7  
 † This hymn is dedicated to the OPC congregation at the end of one life chapter and the beginning of another. It was written to capture our shared faith and ministry.  
 -Steve Wilson, August 2023

Choral Surprise	<i>Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace</i>	Philip WJ Stopford
See page 9 ** for music note		March 2023

Faith Community Concerns, the Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer      Steve Crocco  
**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 Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts		
Call to Offering and Prayer of Dedication		Steve Wilson

A Choral Offering Chancel Choir and Friends; Ken Crawford, Trumpet  
Craig Courtney  
*One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*  
*One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died,*  
*One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was and is and shall be evermore.*  
*There is one body, one spirit, as you were called to one hope.*  
*One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all,*  
*above all, and through all, who is in you all.*  
*One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died,*  
*One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was and is and shall be evermore.*  
*Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts,*  
*we are given to each other for the unity of faith,*  
*that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the fullness of Christ.*  
 – C. Courtney/Ephesians 4:4-6, 13

\*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 Blessing (Patrick of Ireland, (c. 389-461) Steve Wilson  
*May the strength of God pilot us.*  
**May the power of God preserve us.**  
*May the wisdom of God instruct us.*  
**May the hand of God protect us.**  
*May the way of God direct us.*  
**May the host of God guard us.**  
**Amen.**

\*Blessing Steve Wilson

### DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL CALL

Opening Prayer and Comments Rev. Dr. Edwin van Driel  
Representative from Pittsburgh Presbytery and our Liaison

Reflections on Ministry and Expressions of Appreciation  
 Bev Taylor, Jack Kells, Sherry Geis, Janice French and Ron Burkert

#### Litany

Leader: Let us pray for the saving presence of our living Lord: In Your world,  
**People: be present, Lord.**  
 Leader: In this congregation,  
**People: be present, Lord.**  
 Leader: In this community,  
**People: be present, Lord.**  
 Leader: In this presbytery and the whole church,  
**People: be present, Lord.**

Leader: In the homes and hearts of all Your people,  
**People: be present, Lord.**  
 Leader: Let us pray for the mercy of the Lord: For work begun but not completed,  
**People: Lord, have mercy.**  
 Leader: For expectations not met,  
**People: Lord, have mercy.**  
 Leader: For wounds not healed,  
**People: Lord, have mercy.**  
 Leader: For gifts not shared,  
**People: Lord, have mercy.**  
 Leader: Let us give thanks for our journey together in this place: For friendships made, for joys celebrated, and for times of nurture and growth,  
**People: thanks be to God.**  
 Leader: For wounds healed, expectations met, gifts given, and promises kept,  
**People: thanks be to God.**  
 Leader: For our fellowship in Jesus Christ, and for the love of God, which has sustained us,  
**People: thanks be to God.**

### DISSOLUTION

Leader: Do you, the members and friends of Oakmont Presbyterian Church, release The Reverend Dr. Stephen M. Wilson from service as our pastor?  
**People: We do with thanks to God.**  
 Leader: Do you, Steve, recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with this congregation?  
*Pastor: I do with thanks to God.*  
 Leader: Loving God, Alpha and Omega, You are both beginning and end. Our endings and our beginnings are rooted in Your love. Whether near or far, we are held close by Your love and kept safe from any lasting loss. Let our time together end with Your blessing. Touch all memories with Your grace and peace. Help us to live with courage and gladness in the future You present us. In every time and place, may we offer You our highest and our best, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**People: Amen.**  
 Leader: Together, we witness these words of thanksgiving, forgiveness, and release. We rejoice in the ministry we have shared and pledge to one another continued support and prayer. With thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation and the ministry of God's servant, Steve; and with hope for God's abiding grace in the years to come; we experience with both sorrow and joy today's celebration of Steve's faithful ministry. With God's help and love, may our lives be blessed and our labors fruitful, as we offer ourselves gladly in the service of our common Lord.

### SENDING INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction		Rev. Dr. van Driel
*Hymn of Sending	<i>May God Support You All Your Days</i>	see bulletin, page 8
Postlude		Organ
<i>Grand Chorus in B-Flat</i> (abridged)		Théodore Dubois

*Come Now and Give God Your Thanks*

Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson, 2023

Marty Haugen, 1983, rev. 1993

$\text{♩} = 64$



1. Come now! Come now and give God your thanks, for God has  
2. Give thanks! Give thanks for all we have been, for time to -  
3. Look now! Look now and see a - new the peo - ple  
4. Sing now, a - loud a song of trust for God is

4



claimed you in wa - ter! From dark to light a new birth has  
geth - er, what bless - ing! Com - mu - ni - ty a - mong us by  
all a - round you. One fam - i - ly now joined in  
al - ways with us. A pres - ent help in calm and

8



come and now new life is un - fold - ing. Christ is yours and the  
faith with kind - ness, mu - tu - al car - ing. Of love and laugh - ter  
Christ for lov - ing ser - vice to - geth - er. Look to your right, a  
storm now guides us faith - ful - ly for - ward. A hope - ful fu - ture

12



Spi - rit too, em - pow - 'ring love in act - ion. God's love is  
we have shared, em - brac - ing one an - oth - er in days of  
sis - ter sings, to left a bro - ther's pray - ing. We are now  
God pro - claims, not on - ly now, for - ev - er! Praise God from

16



tan - gi - ble through us and how we live now is our wit - ness.  
joy and nights of pain, we have lived through them all to - geth - er.  
bound in grace and hope to share in the work God is giv - ing.  
whom all bles - sings flow: the Fa - ther, the Son and the Spi - rit.

20



1. - 3. 4.

## May God Support You All Your Days

1 May God sup- port you all your days, in times of  
2 May God con- firm your heart's de- sire and bring to  
3 May God be near you when you pray, to help you  
4 Our hope is in the Ho- ly One. The swift and

glad- ness and in need. May God re- mem- ber you with  
full- ness all your plans. May God's sus- tain- ing love in-  
with a gen- tle hand. May God for- ev- er guide your  
strong will sure- ly fall, but you will stand with God a-

grace and bless your ev- ery word and deed.  
spire your shouts of praise and joy- ful dance.  
way and lead you to the prom- ised land.  
lone, who hears and an- swers when you call.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009  
MUSIC: Lee Hastings Bristol Jr., 1962  
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DICKINSON COLLEGE  
LM



## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**Childcare is available - The nursery is OPEN this morning** and is **being staffed** by Betsey Sellers, who meets all the requirements for childcare here at OPC. (Fun facts: Betsey plays regularly in our Handbell Choir and has helped with VBS!). The nursery is located on this level in the Education Wing. Ask Ushers for directions.

**Flowers are given** with thanks to God for Steve Wilson's faithful service to OPC and with love, gratitude, and congratulations to Steve on his well-deserved retirement.

**Worship next Sunday, August 20 – 8:30 and 10:00 am** in the Sanctuary. *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*. We will welcome guest preacher The Rev. Dr. Edwin van Driel, our Presbytery Liaison.

**Early Worship at 8:30 am** – 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 10:00 am**. 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. August 20<sup>th</sup> Ministry of Music will feature a Men's Quartet.

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Hymns taken from:

- *The Presbyterian Hymnal – Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs*, 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.
- *Sing the Faith* © 2003 by Geneva Press; adapted and compiled by permission from *The Faith We Sing* © 2000 Abingdon Press
- *Glory to God* – The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

*\*\*Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*, Composer: Philip WJ Stopford (March 2023)  
Text: *The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi* © [www.philipstopford.com](http://www.philipstopford.com) International copyright secured. The inscription in each copy of music ever printed will read "...& YES the spelling of *Honour* is on purpose!"

Commissioned by the Chancel Choir of Oakmont Presbyterian Church, to honour the Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson's 35 years of faithful service to our OPC family, to the greater community and the wider world, and to our Lord Jesus Christ, on the occasion of his retirement as Senior Pastor, August 2023. May his example of humble service and loving leadership inspire us all!

Liturgy for Dissolution taken and adapted from the *Book of Common Worship* ©2018 by Westminster/John Knox Press.

## 2023 GRADUATES

**Amberson Bauer** graduated from Riverview High School and will be attending The College of William and Mary to study Business and run cross country and track.

**Jack Betler** graduated from Riverview High School and will be attending Penn State New Kensington.

**Taylor Billet** graduated from Riverview High School and will be attending Ohio University to study Business Administration and Marketing.

**Enzo Lio** graduated from Riverview High School and will be attending The Ohio State University to study Sports Management and Business.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Chancel Flowers** – Are you interested in placing flowers in the sanctuary some Sunday to provide 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. **Available dates: September 10, 17 and 24**

**Your OPC Family Cares About You!** 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 so we can 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.

**Deacons - Food Donations** - Thank you for your donations to the food banks at RCAC and Verona Methodist Church supporting families in our community. Please continue to place donations in the shopping carts or drop off financial donations to the office/collection plate. Questions – contact Judy Murray at 724-816-7561.

**The Interim Pastor Search Committee** - We plan to have a commitment in August with a start date in September/October. The Committee - Nick Kokales and Sally Huber-Lewis (co-chairs), Christine Little, Jim Kinter, Chris Hudack and Dave Geis. Feel free to ask questions. Keep them in your prayers.

**Chrismon Project** - The Worship Arts Team is planning a project to replace the aging Chrismons that are used on the tree in Friendship Hall. Unfortunately, our current Chrismons, which are made of styrofoam and are at least 30 years old, have become brittle and many are no longer usable. The new Chrismons will be made using counted cross stitch. We are looking for "stitchers" to help with this project. If you are interested in helping with this project or know someone who is willing to help, more information will be available in the next newsletter. Kits will be available in September so the Chrismons can be completed in time for use this coming Advent. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Scripture Readers – Sign Up Time** - September through December signup sheet is available in the church office. Any questions, please call the church office at 412-828-5770.

Oakmont Presbyterian Church  
**HOMECOMING PICNIC**

Sunday, September 10

**Join your OPC family for food and fellowship  
immediately following worship.**

**Bring a dish to share, labeled with the dish name and your name,  
to the church dining kitchen before worship.**

**Last names A-O bring a dessert.**

**Last names P-Z bring a side dish.**

**Main course and beverages will be provided.**

**RSVP to the church office (412) 828-5770**

**with the number in your group;**

**or sign up at worship on August 20 & 27th and September 3.**



**September 10**

worship times will be

**8:30 and 11:00 am** in the Sanctuary

Christian Education (Adults & Children)

begins **September 17**

## CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>August 13 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship (Sanctuary) &amp; Via Livestream</b>
11:00 am	Reception (Dining Room)
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>August 14</b>
12:00 pm	AA's (Multi-Purpose Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854 & Cub Pack #137 (Dining & Multi-Purpose Rms)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>August 15</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>August 16</b>
10:00 am	Women's AA (Dining Room)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>August 17</b>
8:00 pm	NA's (Dining Room)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>August 18</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>August 19</b>
8:00 pm	AA's (Dining Room)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>August 20 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Worship (Sanctuary)</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Worship (Sanctuary) &amp; Via Livestream</b> and Children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)

**Summer Office Hours: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Monday through Thursday (closed Fridays)**

### **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](http://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org)