



Transfiguration of the Lord February 11, 2024 at 11:00 am

GATHERING IN FAITH

In terms of his discipleship ethic, Jesus called for followers, not just believers. It wasn't good enough to confess that he was "very God of very God"; he called people to an active trust in his rather dangerous promises (Matt 8:18-22).

The Shaping of Things to Come, Michael Frost & Alan Hirsch

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.

Choral Prelude

Chancel Choir; Eric Waggoner, Piano

Of the Father's Love Begotten †

tune: *DIVINIUM MYSTERIUM*/Plainsong, 13th c.

arr. Molly Ijames

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!*

*O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer first revealed His sacred face,
Evermore, evermore, evermore and evermore!*

*O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing,
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore, evermore and evermore,
Evermore and evermore, evermore!*

- Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th c./tr. John M. Neal, 1854

Call to Worship

Steve Crocco

Leader: It is God who gathers us here.

It is not our denomination that gathers us, or our church staff or our family.

People: It is God who gathers us here.

Leader: We find ourselves on the mountain this Transfiguration Day,

People: witnessing a last flash of glory before a forty-day journey.

Leader: It is not about us;

People: it is all about Jesus Christ.

Leader: From the river Jordan to this place,

People: it is all about Jesus Christ.

Leader: From Ash Wednesday toward Easter,

People: it is all about Jesus Christ.

Let us worship God! Alleluia!

*Hymn of Praise

Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show

Hymnal, No. 481

**Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!
Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!
Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!
All that see and share God's love. Alleluia!**

**Earth to heaven and heaven to earth, Alleluia!
Tell the wonders, sing God's worth, Alleluia!
Age to age and shore to shore, Alleluia!
Praise God, praise forevermore! Alleluia!**

**Praise the Lord, great mercies trace, Alleluia!
Praise this providence and grace, Alleluia!
All that God for us has done, Alleluia!
All God sends us through the Son. Alleluia!**

*Prayer of the Day (please remain standing)

Ronnie Bailey

Call to Confession

Ronnie Bailey

Prayer of Confession

**God of transformation,
You make new life where there was old,
dazzling light where there were shadows,
peace where there was violence,
and friends where there were enemies.
Forgive us, O God, when we stand in the way
of Your transformative love.
Forgive us when we do not live
as people who have been changed by Your grace.
Call us to the mountain once more,
and there prepare us to live in the valleys,
where we are sent to be witnesses of Your transformative grace.**

....moment of silent personal confession

Assurance of Pardon (Isaiah 40:31)

Leader: Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength.

*They will rise up to fly like eagles, they will run and not be weary,
they will walk and not grow faint.*

Friends, hear and believe the good news:

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen!

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
 B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, † with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008
 MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
 Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Robbie Connell

*God of shining splendor, Your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder.
 Overshadow us with Your Spirit so that we may hear Your Word and live as faithful disciples
 preparing for the journey ahead. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:2-9

Pew Bible, NT, page 44

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music †

Children's Choir; Bev Taylor, Director
 African-American Spiritual

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

*I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! ...
 I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! ...
 I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! ...
 I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the
wor-ship-ing throng. Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and
cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

WORDS: James Ritchie
MUSIC: James Ritchie
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RITCHIE
Irregular

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory

Hymnal, No.73

**Jesus on the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and angels praising. Alleluia!**

**Trembling at His feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!**

**Swift the cloud of glory came, God proclaiming, in its thunder,
Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder. Alleluia!**

**This is God's beloved Son! Law and prophets sing before Him,
First and last and only One. All creation shall adore Him! Alleluia!**

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

Tim Spring

A Choral Offering

Chancel Choir

This Glimpse of Glory

David Ashley White

*We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace.*

*Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.*

*Light breaks in upon our darkness, splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
Moses and Elijah marvel as the heav'nly voice is heard.*

*Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.*

*Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline,
we, like Peter find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.*

*But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess,
that our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.*

- Carl P. Daw, Jr.

*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

-The Congregation is seated-

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

The Charge to the Congregation

Tim Spring

Sung Benediction

Children's Choir; Bev Taylor, Director

Go Now in Peace

Natalie Sleeth

*Go now in peace, go now in peace,
may the love of God surround you everywhere,
everywhere you may go.*

Annual Congregational Meeting

Rev. Lee Nichols, Moderator

OPC STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Tim E. Spring	Interim 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
Tracy Messenger	Financial Secretary of Accounting
Marge Kuhn	Financial Secretary of Contributions
Roberta Erickson	Handbell Choir Director
Ron Burkert	AV Team Coordinator
The Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson	Honorably Retired Pastor Emeritus

415 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oakmont, PA 15139

412-828-5770 (Office)

www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org

Transfiguration of the Lord – on this last Sunday after Epiphany (or in Ordinary Time), before Lent begins, we recall Jesus’ transfiguration on the mountaintop with the prophetic figures of Elijah and Moses. The Sunday immediately prior to Ash Wednesday is the appropriate time to celebrate the Transfiguration of the Lord because this event marked the transition in Jesus’ ministry in which He “set His face to go to Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51). In Jesus’ transfiguration, we are assured that Jesus is the hope of the ages. Jesus is the One who fulfilled the Law given through Moses, the One dreamed of by the prophets of whom Elijah is the greatest. It is given to us for our journey through Lent, as we are transformed into the new being in Christ joining in His death and resurrection. We celebrate this mystery in order that our faith may be renewed. The liturgical color is white, and the visual environment may reflect the blaze and brilliance of Christ’s glory. Today is also the final day that we will sing or say *Alleluia* in our worship, as we refrain from its use during the penitential mood of Lent. *Alleluia* will return to our liturgy on Easter Sunday as a glorious proclamation of the Easter Joy.

Taken from *The Companion to the Book of Common Worship*, Peter C. Bower, editor

Today’s flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Worship Arts Team.

†***Of the Father’s Love Begotten*** – This anthem is given to the Chancel Choir library by Deb and Lee Nichols, *with blessings to any and all who hear it.* (Feb. 11, 2024)

†**Ministry of Music – The Children’s Choir** Bev Taylor, Director, dedicate their music today in loving memory of Amy Teele (Bev’s niece who died on Jan. 31, 2024). Amy directed funding from The Donald H. Jones Trust for the purchase of the ukuleles the children are playing today.

Worship on Ash Wednesday –THIS coming Wednesday, February 14th
12:15pm and 7:15pm – please see ad on page 7 for additional info.

Worship next Sunday, February 18 – 8:30 and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.

First Sunday in Lent. Rev. Steve Crocco will preach *Best Practices for Sinners* based on Samuel. 11:1-5 and Psalm 51:1-12.

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 11:00am. 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. Sharing in the Ministry of Music Sunday February 18th will be the Chancel Choir.

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- *The Presbyterian Hymnal – Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs*, 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press.
- *Where Children Belong - 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. *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*, Hymnal No. 582, Text: Trad. Liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile/Music: Paul M. Vasile/Text Adapt and Music @ 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, following the 11:00am worship service, there will be a **Congregational Meeting** to first review the PNC nomination process. Secondly, the recommended Session list of nominees selected from 27 members suggested by the congregation reflecting a diverse group of OPC congregants will be shared. A motion with discussion and any additional nominees from the floor will then take place followed by a vote to elect a final complete list of congregants to serve on this critical committee. The current 7 selected nominees are: Elders Deb Nichols and David Barr, at large members Shane Michael, Robin Gourley, Mary Graham, Jack Meyers and Pam Billet.

Nominating Committee: Elders Christine Little, Sally Huber Lewis and Nick Kokales

2024 Per Capita - Each member is asked to **contribute \$36.35 for the Per Capita Fund**. Your contribution enables the local Presbytery, regional Synod and national General Assembly to provide resources to do what is necessary to operate the church. ***If you have not already given, please give now using the appropriate envelope (included in your box of envelopes)***. If you do not pay your Per Capita amount, the money will be taken from the Church Operating Expenses.

Weekday Bible Study – Steve will be teaching a brief Bible study on selected Psalms; **FEB 14 – Psalms 121 & 123**. The study meets on **Wednesdays at 11:00 am, Small Group Room**. Elevator and Fifth Street doors open at 10:20 am.

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.

FEB 16 – *The Most Reluctant Convert* (2021)

MAR 1 – *Sound of Freedom* (2023)

Men's Breakfast Fellowship - Come join us on Tuesday **MAR 5 at 8:30 am in the Dining Room**. Breakfast is served family style at 8:30 so come a few minutes early. Our goal is to provide a good breakfast, an interesting program after the breakfast and an opportunity to make new friends and see old friends.

MAR 5 - Gary Tabas, MD and Pitt Med School Professor will discuss: "How to get the most out of your doctor visit" - Why it matters how you prepare, and what you can do to ensure a meaningful and productive visit with your doctor.

Chancel Flowers –**In keeping with our Lenten tradition, flowers will not be used during Lent.** Please consider providing flowers in the chancel again beginning on **April 7** and onward.

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 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. **Special request for items that can be heated by kids in the microwave, i.e., canned beef stew, spaghetti, soup, microwavable mac & cheese.**

Soups On will meet **FEB 15** and will be making *Cheesy Corn Chowder, Chicken Noodle Soup, Tuscan Vegetable Soup*. Stop down at the kitchen freezer and take a container to a friend, neighbor, or relative who needs a cup of cheer and to see your smiling face! Next Soups On will meet **MAR 21** at 10am in the Kitchen.



FEBRUARY 14
12:15 pm, Sanctuary
7:15 pm, Sanctuary

Imposition of Ashes

Meditation: Rev. Tim Spring
Ministry of Music: OPC Quartet

There is no Lenten supper on Ash Wednesday.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Lenten Suppers in the Dining Room ~ 6:30 pm

Lenten suppers begin **WEDS, FEB 21** at 6:30 pm in the Dining Room. You are invited to join us for a simple supper of salad and soup. The soup will be provided by Dan and Linda McCurdy from the Oakmont Deli. The meal gathering is a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know others in the church. **Suppers are scheduled for FEB 21, 28 and MAR 6, 13 & 20.**

Wednesday Lenten Worship in Friendship Hall ~ 7:15 pm

In our mid-week Lenten worship, our focus will be on Spiritual Disciplines. *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster will serve as the basis for our mid-week Lenten worship series this year. The book has sold more than 2,000,000 copies and has been named one of the top ten books of the twentieth century by *Christianity Today*. For our Lenten studies this year, we will be discussing some of those disciplines.

- February 21** *Meditation* worship in the Taizé style
with members of the Chancel Choir, cantors, and instruments
- February 28** *Simplicity* worship from Celtic Tradition
- March 6** *Solitude* using Evening Prayer Worship order.
- March 13** *Guidance* worship with Folk influenced music
With Diane McNally and Ken Crawford – vocals and fretted instruments
- March 20** *Confession* worship with Jazz influenced music with Mark Jackovic and
friends along with our JuBELLation Ringers

When Christians Become the Minority: Challenges and Opportunities



*“Coffee and Conversation”
Oakmont Presbyterian Church*

Sundays, February 4-25, 2024

9:30 – 10:30 am

Many sociologists of religion believe that the United States is becoming a “post-Christian” society. This series explores how Christians can be a creative, hopeful people even if they someday become the minority. We will look at current trends and future possibilities.

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| February 4 | “What It’s Like to Become the Minority When You Were Once the Majority” |
| February 11 | “What’s Been Lost and What Remains of Christian Culture” |
| February 18 | “Finding a Language for the Gospel in a Post-Christian Land” |
| February 25 | “The Special Hope that Christians Have” |

The Rev. Dr. John Burgess is professor of theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He has written and spoken about the future of the church in Europe and the United States.

Come early for coffee and a donut hole (or two)!!

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	February 11 – Transfiguration of the Lord
8:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:15 am	Children’s Choir Rehearsal (Upper Level/Sanctuary)
11:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary) & Via Livestream & children’s JAM (K-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)
12:00 pm	Annual Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
12:15 pm	Youth Sub Sale (Friendship Hall)
MONDAY	February 12
12:00 pm	AA’s (Small Group Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854/Cub Pack #137 (MPR/DR)
TUESDAY	February 13
7:00 pm	Session (Dining Room)
7:00 pm	Our Journey Without Them (Marie Berg Chapel)
WEDNESDAY	February 14 – Ash Wednesday
10:00 am	Women’s AA (Multi-Purpose Room)
11:00 am	Bible Study (Small Group Room)
12:15 pm	Worship with Imposition of Ashes (Sanctuary)
4:30 pm	JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:15 pm	Worship with Imposition of Ashes (Sanctuary)
THURSDAY	February 15
10:00 am	Soups On (Kitchen)
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
8:00 pm	NA’s (Dining Room)
FRIDAY	February 16
7:00 pm	OPC Film Series (Multi-Purpose Room)
SATURDAY	February 17
8:00 pm	AA’s (Dining Room)
SUNDAY	February 18 – 1st Sunday in Lent
8:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:15 am	Children’s Choir Rehearsal (Upper Level)
11:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary) & Via Livestream & children’s JAM (K-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)
12:00 pm	Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
12:00 pm	Youth Bible Study (Harmar Starbucks)