



# Oakmont Presbyterian Church



## Palm / Passion Sunday March 24, 2024 at 11:00 am

### GATHERING IN FAITH

From beginning to end, the Holy Scriptures testify that the predicament of fallen humanity is so serious, so grave, so irremediable from within, that nothing short of divine intervention can rectify it." Fleming Rutledge: *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*

Trinity Chimes

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

Prelude  
*Te Deum*

Matthew Diehl, Trumpet  
Marc-Antoine Charpentier  
arrs. Sue Mitchell Wallace and John H. Head

Welcome

Steve Crocco

Call to Worship

*Leader: With crowds from ancient times we cry,*

**People: Hosanna! Save us!**

*Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!*

**People: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

*Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*

**People: We bless you in the house of the Lord!**

\*Hymn of Praise

*Processional on "All Glory, Laud and Honor"*

JuBELLation Ringers and Congregation

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

*Processional and Fanfare*

*Introduction of Hymn* – The Trumpet will play the hymn tune through once, we stand to sing when the choir stands:

**Congregation Singing:**

**All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present.**

**Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest, The King and blessed One!  
To Thee, before Thy Passion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
To Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**

**Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!  
All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King.  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! Amen.**

- Theodulph of Orleans c. 820 / Trans by John Mason Neale, 1854

\*Prayer of the Day (please remain standing)

Call to Confession

Ronnie Bailey

Prayer of Confession

**Hosanna, we pray. Save us, Lord.  
Save us from ourselves,  
when we trip over pride, doubt, or fear.  
Save us from the systems that keep us bound,  
when we cannot see the way out.  
Save us from our sins,  
when we feel their weight pressing on our hearts.  
Remind us, O Lord, that crowds shouting “Hosanna”  
will soon be screaming “Crucify him.”  
Save us we pray, O Lord,  
and do not let us be among them.  
....moment of silent personal confession**

Assurance of Pardon

*Leader: Listen, the time has come at last. Look now is the day of salvation!  
Friends hear and believe the good news:  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Leader: The peace of Christ be with you*

**People: And also with you.**

\*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

Sophia Leasure

The Palm Sunday Story

Children’s Choir; Bev Taylor, Director

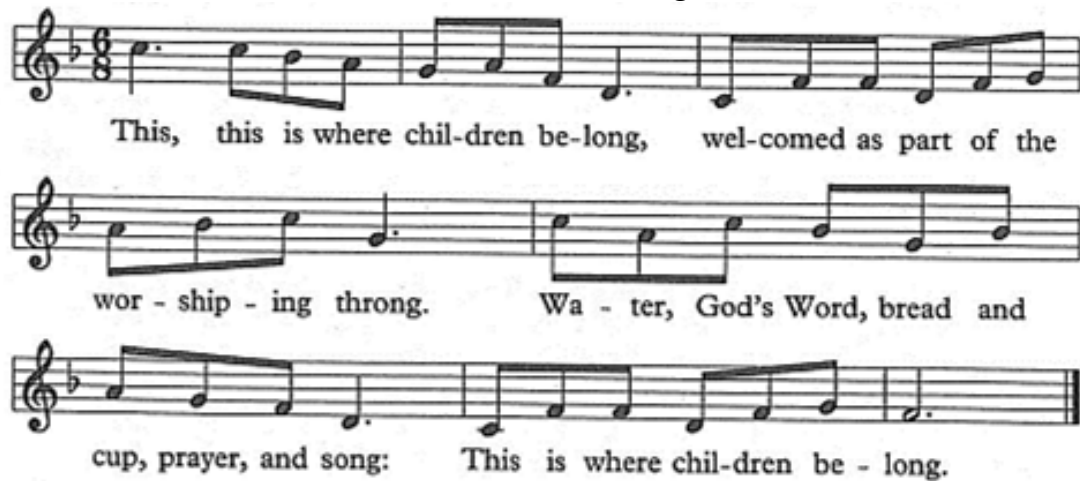
Matthew 21:1-9

written by Brian Hen and Mark Burrows/adapted

Time with the Children  
As the children gather

*Where Children Belong*

Ronnie Bailey  
**Congregation Singing**



WORDS: James Ritchie  
MUSIC: James Ritchie

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RITCHIE  
Irregular

children go to JAM after time with children.

Gospel Reading  
Luke 19:28-44  
*The Word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God!**

Bert Erickson  
Pew Bible, NT, page 83

Sermon

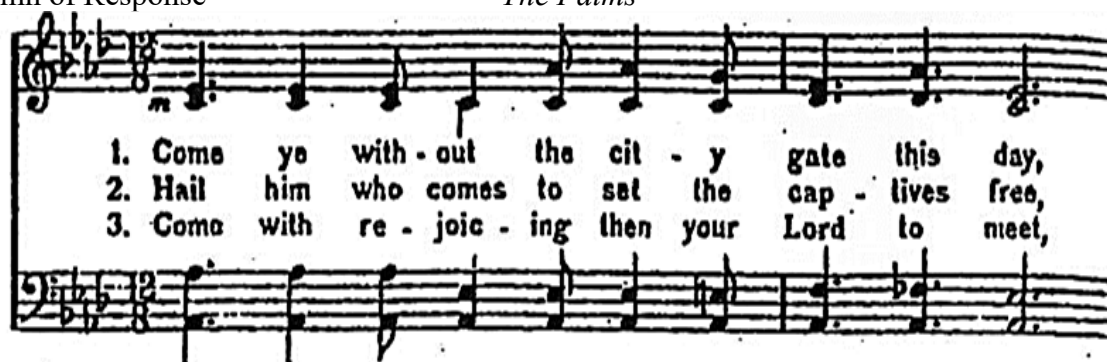
*THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED: The Road to Jerusalem*

Tim Spring

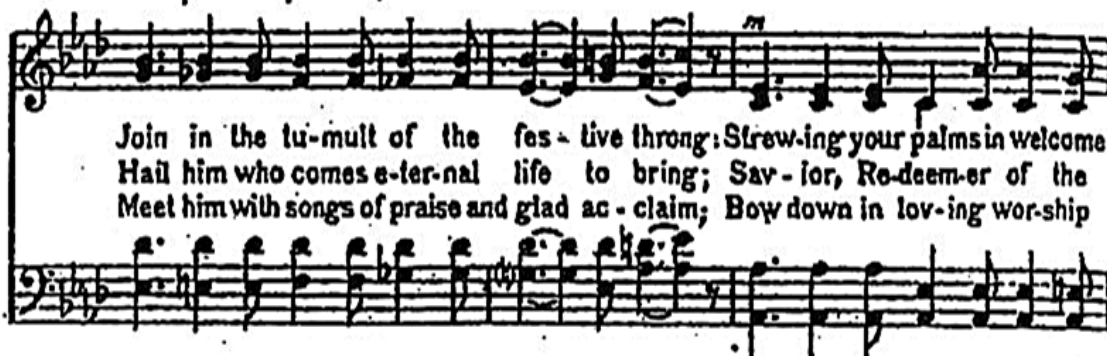
# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*Hymn of Response

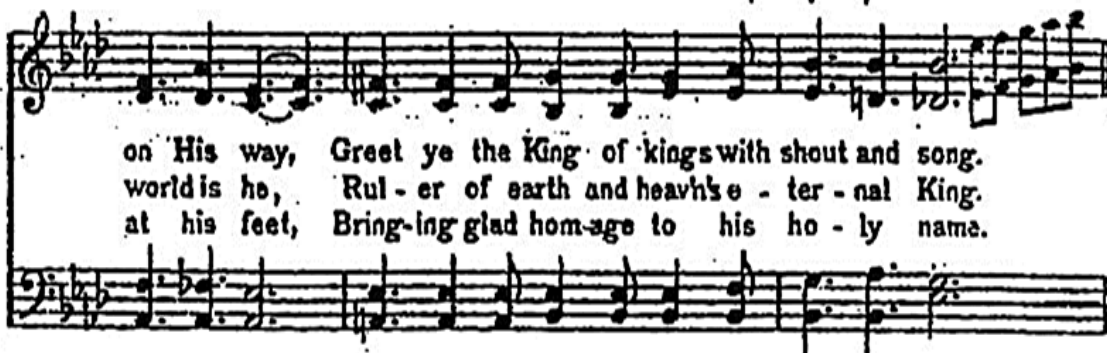
*The Palms*



1. Come ye with - out the cit - y gate this day,  
2. Hail him who comes to set the cap - lives free,  
3. Come with re - joic - ing then your Lord to meet,



Join in the tu-mult of the fes - live throng; Strew-ing your palms in welcome  
Hail him who comes e - ter - nal life to bring; Sav - ior, Re - deem - er of the  
Meet him with songs of praise and glad ac - claim; Bow down in lov - ing wor - ship



on His way, Greet ye the King of kings with shout and song.  
world is he, Rul - er of earth and heav'n's e - ter - nal King.  
at his feet, Bring-ing glad hom-age to his ho - ly name.

CHORUS in Unison



Join all and sing; his name de - clare! Let ev - ry voice re-sound in



Ho-san - na! Praise ye the Lord!  
joy - ous ac - cla - ma - tion! Join all and sing, Ho-san - na!

All Parts



Bless him who cometh to bring us sal - va - tion!

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

Steve Crocco

A Choral Offering  
*Hosanna to the King*

Chancel Choir  
Dan Forrest

*Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna! Hosanna to the King!  
Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna! Hosanna to the King!*

—Mark 11:9; John 12:13

\*Doxology

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 Crocco

## SENDING INTO THE WORLD

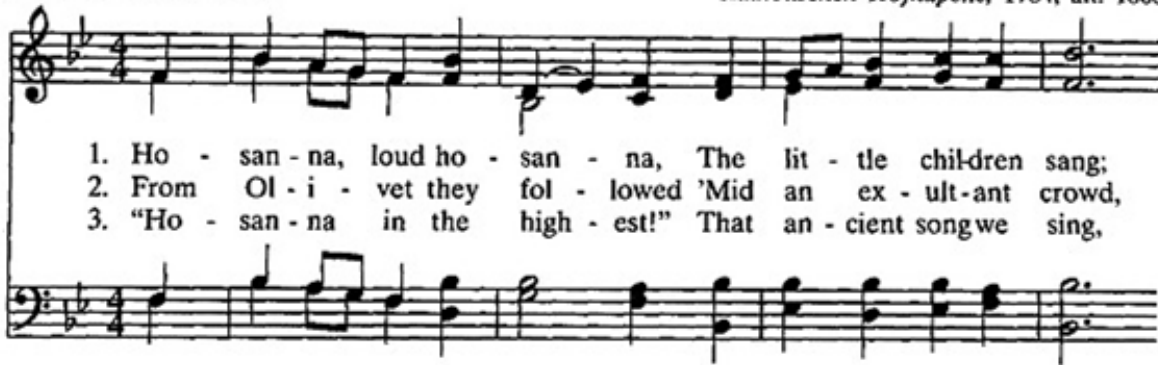
\*Hymn of Dedication

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

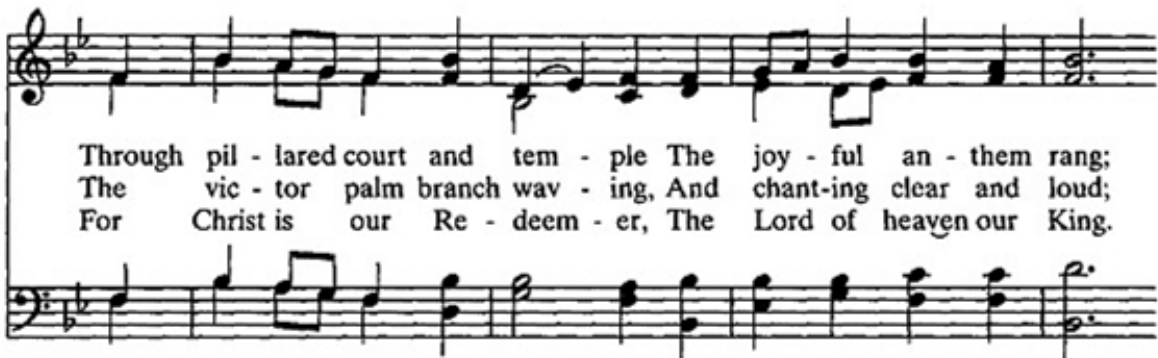
*Hymnal, No. 89*

Jennette Threlfall, 1873

*Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen  
Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt. 1868*



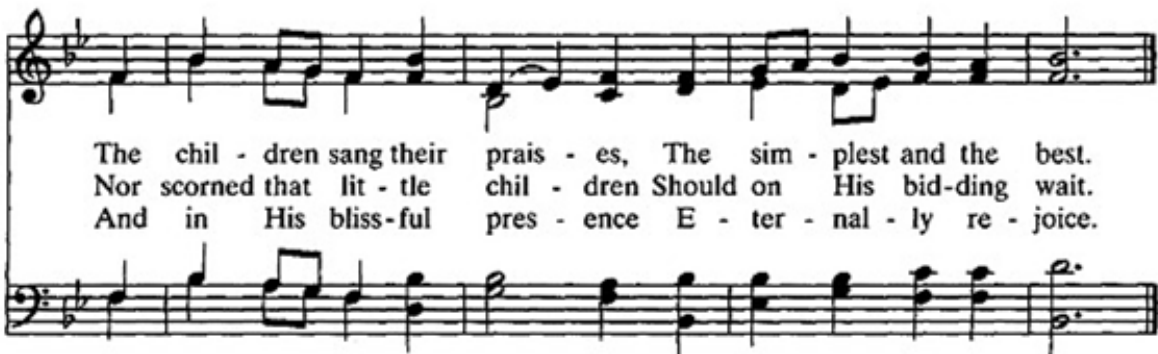
1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle children sang;  
2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'Mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The joy - ful an - them rang;  
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, And chant - ing clear and loud;  
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav'n our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them Close fold - ed to His breast,  
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state,  
O may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice,



The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.  
Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.  
And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

### **WORSHIP NOTES**

**Palm/Passion Sunday** - Worship celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem amidst the joyful welcome of His followers and surprise of many residents. This day is the beginning of Holy Week. Purple is the main liturgical color for the season signifying penitence and preparation. Today we use the word "*Hosanna!*" many times. "*Hosanna,*" is a cry for salvation, while, at the same time it is a declaration of praise. The older interpretations, "*please save*" or "*save now,*" are also a popular understanding based on *Psalm 118:25*.

**Worship next Sunday, March 31 – 8:30 am and 11:00 am**, *Festival of The Resurrection/Easter*, Rev. Tim Spring will preach *THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED: The Road to the Empty Tomb* based on Matthew 28:1-10.

**Early Easter Worship at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary** – a more intimate service in celebration of Christ's Resurrection, 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 Festival Celebration of Christ's Resurrection includes a fuller liturgy, with sermon and congregational hymns. Sharing in the Ministry of Music will be the Chancel Choir, Trombone Quartet, percussion, Organ and Piano.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** - For over 70 years, One Great Hour has provided Presbyterians with a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. In a world of disaster, wars, hunger and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are:

- *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)*, receives 32% of funds raised - OPC supports PDA directly. PDA works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after devastation due to natural or human-caused disasters. PDA also supports refugees.
- *Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP)*, receives 36% of amount raised. PHP takes action to alleviate hunger and works to reduce poverty that leads to hunger.
- *Self-Development of People (SDOP)* invests in communities responding to their experience of oppression, poverty and injustice, and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues. SDOP receives 32% of funds raised.

**One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes are available in your weekly giving envelopes box and are also available in the pews through Easter.**

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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. Music/text: James Ritchie.
- *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* – The Hymnbook © MCMLV by John Ribble; published by Presbyterian Church in the United States/The United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A./Reformed Church in America

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Weekday Bible Study** – Bible study **on Wednesdays in Small Group Room**. Our study will consider the book of Hosea, one of the minor prophets, beginning with Hosea 1:1-2:13.

**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.

**APR 5** – *The Hill* (2023)

**APR 19** – *Golda* (2023)

**Men's Breakfast Fellowship** - join us on Tuesday **APR 2 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.

**APR 2** –Chuck Erdeljac, “Oakmont’s Poet” and former Riverview school superintendent, will present on the topic: *How Martin Luther changed the Church and the World: Implications for Us Today*.

**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: APR 14, 21, 28; MAY 5, 12, 19**

**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. **For the month of March, Deacons will be collecting ladies spring and summer clothing.** The bin will be in the 5<sup>th</sup> Street vestibule. If you need something picked up contact Bobbie Lio 412-310-8807.

**Soups On** met MAR 21 and made Taco Soup, Three Sisters Stew and Irish Stew. 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 **APR 18**.

Youth Italian Sub Sale on Palm Sunday, MAR 24 following 11:00 worship service, sale is for pre-orders, but limited extras will be available. Payment is by donation for youth mission.

**Becoming a Part of the OPC Family of Faith New Member Gathering** – We at OPC are a diverse group of people who find meaning in gathering together for worship, study and service. Gatherings for those interested in becoming a part of the OPC family of faith will be ***Sundays, April 7, 14 and 21 from 9:30 am – 10:30 am in the Marie Berg Chapel***. **New members will be received during worship on Sunday, May 12 during the 11:00 am worship service.** If you are interested or have questions, please contact Tim Spring at [tspring@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:tspring@oakmontpresby.org) or through the church office at 412.828.5770.

**Name Tags** - The Lord knows you by name, but sometimes our ministers need a little help. To aid them, we are providing name tags to the congregation and encourage you to please wear them to church. These name tags are yours, so find a place that’s easy to find when you come to church. The name tags can be found in the 5th Street vestibule. Stop by and pick yours up!  
***Please note: these magnetic name tags are NOT recommended for those with a pacemaker.***





## HOLY WEEK / EASTER AT OPC 2024

### **PALM SUNDAY – March 24 at 8:30 and 11:00 am**

Distribution of Palm Crosses

Rev. Dr. Tim Spring preaching: *THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED: The Road to Jerusalem*

Palm Sunday Processional

Ministry of Music: JuBELLation Ringers, Children's Choir and Chancel Choir

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY – March 28 at 7:00 pm**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

Rev. Dr. Tim Spring preaching

Ministry of Music: Chancel Choir

### **GOOD FRIDAY – March 29 at 8:00 pm**

Noon - Community Good Friday Service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church (378 Delaware Ave.)

8:00 pm - *Service of Tenebrae* at OPC

preceded by *Prelude for Good Friday* at 7:40 pm (organ)

A dramatic service of shadows, darkness, scripture, and music that enables participants to reflect deeply on the events of Christ's last week leading to the crucifixion.

Led by the Chancel Choir and Lay Readers.

### **EASTER SUNDAY – March 31 at 8:30 and 11:00 am**

Festival of the Resurrection of The Lord

Rev. Dr. Tim Spring preaching: *THE ROADS LESS TRAVELLED: The Road to the Empty Tomb*

Ministry of Music at 11:00 am:

Chancel Choir, Trombone Quartet, Piano, Organ, Percussion

*Invite a friend or neighbor to join you at our services!*

## **CHURCH CALENDAR**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>March 24 – Palm Sunday</b>
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
9:55 am	JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:15 am	Children’s Choir Rehearsal (Upper Level)
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary) & Via Livestream & children’s JAM (K-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>March 25</b>
12:00 pm	AA’s (Small Group Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854/Cub Pack #137 (MPR/DR)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>March 26</b>
7:00 pm	Our Journey Without Them (Marie Berg Chapel)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>March 27</b>
10:00 am	Women’s AA (Multi-Purpose Room)
12:15 pm	Staff (Small Group Room)
4:30 pm	JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Friendship Hall)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>March 28 – Maundy Thursday</b>
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Communion</b> (Sanctuary)
8:00 pm	NA’s (Dining Room)
8:05 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>March 29 – Good Friday</b>
	<b>Church Office Closes at Noon</b>
12:00 pm	Community Good Friday Service (St. Thomas Episcopal Church)
7:40 pm	Prelude for Good Friday (organ)
<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Service of Tenebrae</b> (Sanctuary)
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>March 30</b>
11:30 am	Easter Celebration & Community Egg Hunt (OPC)
8:00 pm	AA’s (Dining Room)
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>March 31 – Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Sunday</b>
7:00 am	Community Easter Sunrise Service at Oakmont Country Club
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary) & Via Livestream & children’s JAM (K-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)



# ***What is Freedom?***

## ***Wisdom from Our Reformed Confessions***



***"Coffee and Conversation"***  
***Oakmont Presbyterian Church***

***Sundays, April 7-28, 2024***

***9:30 – 10:30 am***

Through the Barmen Declaration (1934, in prewar Germany) and the Belhar Confession (1982, in South Africa), Reformed theology sought both to confess the gospel faithfully and to critique unjust totalitarian and racist political powers. In this four-week series we will explore the significance of these confessions and their relevance for contemporary discipleship and citizenship.

**April 7**      ***"Confession as Verb and Noun"***

**April 14**    ***"The Church Against Nazism"***

**April 21**    ***"The Church Against Apartheid"***

**April 28**    ***"Confessing Freedom Today"***

**Derek Woodard-Lehman** is Lecturer in Theology and Ethics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. His research and teaching ask how the theological question, "How shall we live as Christians?" informs and transforms the political question "How shall we live with other citizens?" in increasingly pluralistic and polarized communities.

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



**Oakmont Presbyterian Church**

**Save the Date!**

**The 24th Annual Jubilant Praise Concert**  
**Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 4:00 pm**

Theme: *Let There be Peace...*  
with Carnegie Brass, JuBELLation Ringers and the Chancel Choir

**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
David Brennan	Custodian
Roberta Erickson	Handbell Choir Director
Ron Burkert	AV Team Coordinator
The Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson	Honorably Retired Pastor Emeritus

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