



**Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024 at 11:00 am**

GATHERING IN FAITH

More than five hundred names appear in the first book of Chronicles. Many of those names are mentioned without saying a word about the person who was given that name. But God created, cared for and loved each one. Joel C. Gregory

Welcome Third Sunday of Easter 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 Introit Chancel Choir
Risen Indeed! (excerpt) Allen Pote
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, He is risen. Lift up your voices, sing alleluia!
Christ is risen, is risen, risen indeed. Christ is risen, Christ is risen. Alleluia!
- Allen Pote

Call to Worship Tim Spring
Leader: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!
People: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!
Leader: Beloved, we are God's children now;
People: when Christ is revealed, we will be like Him.
Leader: Let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise *The Strife Is O'er* *Hymnal, No. 119*
refrain
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!**

**The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed;
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!**

**The three sad days are quickly sped. Christ rises glorious from the dead:
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!**

**Lord, by Your wounds on Calvary from death's dread sting Your servants free,
That we may live eternally. Alleluia!**

*Prayer of the Day (please remain standing) Steve Crocco

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession

Ronnie Bailey

**What love You have given us, O God,
that we should be called Your children.
What love You have given us, O Christ,
that we should share a table with You.
Forgive us, when we act as if we were Your only children:
when we do not recognize Your image
in the faces of strangers, enemies, or friends;
when we do not share our own tables,
forgetting that we need each other. Forgive us, O Christ
and teach us to follow in Your way and live as Your beloved children.
...time for silent confession**

Assurance of Pardon

*O, give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Through the risen Christ, this day and every day
we are forgiven! Friends, hear and believe that good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.*

*Act of Praise
Alleluia

Congregation Singing
Sung twice

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

- Text and music Jerry Sinclair

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination
New Testament Reading
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

1 John 3:1-7

Sue Sanford
Pew Bible, NT, page 240

Time with the Children
As the children gather

Ronnie Bailey
Congregation Singing

Where Children Belong

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

© 1999 Abingdon Press (admin. by The Copyright Co., Nashville, TN)

RITCHIE
Irregular

Children go to JAM after time with children.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response

I Then Shall Live

using tune: FINLANDIA

**I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am His child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;
the law of love I gladly will obey.**

**I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving, too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
then I'll be there to care and follow through.**

- Words: Gloria Gaither

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

*Children of the Heavenly Father*Chancel Choir
arr. Eric Nelson

*Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
God His own doth tend and nourish; in His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them; in His mighty arms He bears them.*

*Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord His children sever;
unto them His grace he showeth. and their sorrows he knoweth
Praise the Lord in joyful numbers, your Protector never slumbers;
At the will of your Defender ev'ry foe then must surrender.
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child, at home.
Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.*

- Carolina Sandell Berg/Tr. Ernst W. Olson

*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

We Know That Christ Is Raised

Hymnal, No. 495

**We know that Chris is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold;
and our despair He turned to blazing joy. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

**We share by water in His saving death.
Reborn we share with Him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

**The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

**A new creation comes to life and grows as
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!**

*Charge and Blessing

Tim Spring

Postlude

Sortie on 'The Strife Is O'er'

Organ

arr. Noel Rawsthorne

WORSHIP NOTES

Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed! During the days of Easter (Easter-tide), we remember Christ's rising from the tomb, His post-resurrection appearances, His ascension, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This is the most festive period of the church year filled with great joy and renewal. White is the official liturgical color for the season, but accents of gold may also be used to celebrate this joyous and festive time during the Easter season.

The Paschal Candle – represents the risen Christ, who passed from darkness to light, to become *the light* shining in the darkness (John 1:5), and it is the corollary of the pillar of fire in the Hebrew exodus. Traditionally, it is the largest candle used in the church and it stands at a central place. The Paschal Candle is lit throughout the Great Fifty Days (from Easter to Pentecost) and at Baptisms, Funerals or Memorial Services.

Sunday, April 21 – 8:30 am and 11:00 am – *Fourth Sunday of Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday*

Rev. Steve Crocco will preach *Sheep Feeding and Ministry* based on Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18; 21: 18-17.

Early 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 JuBELLation Ringers and the Chancel Choir.

Music reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense.net A-726321. All rights reserved.

- *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.
- *Worship & Rejoice* © 2001 Hope Publishing Company. *I Then Shall Live, Hymnal* No. 372.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekday Bible Study – Bible study **on Wednesdays in Small Group Room at 11am**. 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 19 – *Golda* (2023)

MAY 3 – *Critical Thinking* (2020)

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 21, 28; MAY 5**

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 Chris Wilson at 412-779-7024. **For the month of APRIL**, Deacons will be **collecting men's spring and summer clothing**. The bin will be in the 5th Street vestibule. If you need something picked up contact Bobbie Lio 412-310-8807.

Soups On – available soups are: 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**.

SENIOR CELEBRATION luncheon for all seniors 75 years of age and older. On, **Saturday, June 8**, we will celebrate of our wonderful Seniors who have given so much of their time and talents to OPC over the years. We wouldn't be where we are today without you! Invitations will be sent out mid-April.

The Presbytery has requested OPC to reassemble the **Interim Pastor Nominating Committee** (IPNC) endorsed by Session to conduct a Bridge Pastor search. The committee is challenged with maintaining the high quality of pastoral compassion, leadership and care displayed by Pastor Tim during his tenure at OPC. The IPNC has begun the work of sourcing a Bridge Pastor to begin upon Pastor Tim's departure on September 30, 2024. The PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) is also working diligently to source a permanent "Installed Pastor" to begin approximately 04/01/25. Hopefully a quality pastor can be found prior to 6 months going by. However, to ensure no further transitions prior to our Installed Pastor beginning his/her leadership at OPC in April of 2025, we look to have the new Bridge Pastor in place from 10/01/24 - 03/31/25.

IPNC Team - Nick Kokales and Sally Huber-Lewis Co-Chairs, David Geis, Christine Little, Christopher Hudak, Jim Kinter - moderated by Dr. Rev. Edwin Van Driel

Saturday, May 4th, 10am - 2pm Car Wash at OPC! All donations will support the Youth Group's mission trip to Detroit in June.

SAVE THE DATES "Revamped" Vacation Bible School will take place June 10-13. We will meet in the evenings June 10-12, and on June 13 we will spend the day at Camp Crestfield. We are looking forward to having so much fun! Clear the dates as we will need volunteers to pull off yet another successful VBS for the kids! Contact Ronnie with any questions.

TODAY!

**39th Annual Sponsorship Concert at 4:00pm,
Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church
384 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh.**

This year's concert will feature George Frideric Handel's most beloved oratorio Messiah (Parts 2 and 3). Messiah was chosen as perhaps the most meaningful music for this year's Sponsorship Concert, as it will be the last such event before the retirement of both David Billings and Guy Russo from FCPC's staff this summer. The concert will feature the FCPC Chancel Choir and guest singers (including 20 OPC Chancel Choir singers) forming the Fox Chapel Festival Chorus as well as the Academy Chamber Orchestra.

*The concert is free!
A reception in the Atrium follows the concert.*



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...*
Sacred and Patriotic music selections
exploring various expressions of *PEACE*

The concert will feature:
The 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

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	April 14 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
8:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
9:30 am	New Member Gathering (Marie Berg Chapel)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
11:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary) & Via Livestream & children’s JAM (K-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)
12:05 pm	Mission Committee (Library)
4:00 pm	Sponsorship Concert: Handel’s <i>Messiah</i> (Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church)
MONDAY	April 15
12:00 pm	AA’s (Small Group Room)
7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #854/Cub Pack #137 (Multi-Purpose Room/Dining Room)
TUESDAY	April 16
7:00 pm	Deacons (Dining Room)
WEDNESDAY	April 17
10:00 am	Women’s AA (Dining Room)
11:00 am	Bible Study (Small Group Room)
12:15 pm	Staff (Small Group Room)
2:30 pm	Christian Ed Meeting (Small Group Room)
4:30 pm	JuBELLation Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
THURSDAY	April 18
10:00 am	Soups On (Kitchen)
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Choir Room)
8:00 pm	NA’s (Dining Room)
FRIDAY	April 19
7:00 pm	OPC Film Series (Multi-Purpose Room)
SATURDAY	April 20
8:00 pm	AA’s (Dining Room)
SUNDAY	April 21 – 4th Sunday of Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday
8:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
9:30 am	Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room)
9:30 am	New Member Gathering (Marie Berg Chapel)
9:30 am	JuBELLation Ringers rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
11:00 am	Worship/Ordination/Installation of Officers (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)!!