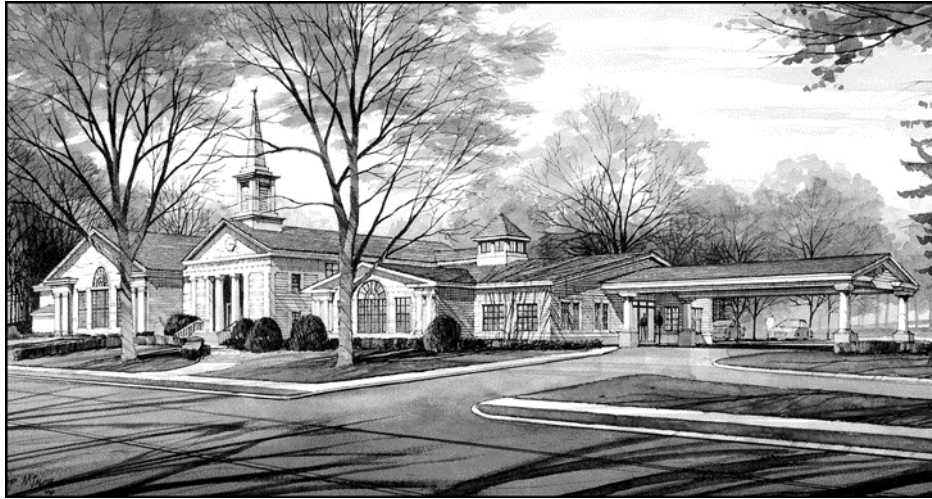




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



April 5, 2026

Easter Sunday

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Live Streaming on Facebook plus On Demand on YouTube

4369 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park, NY 14127-2611

Office: (716) 662-9348

Email: info@oppchurch.org Website: www.oppchurch.org

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The Staff of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Temporary Pastor

Rev. Mario Eugene, Pastoral Assistant for Youth and Young Adults

Program/Administrative/Support Staff

Linda Babcock, Director of Education and Mission

Christine Cotton, Office Manager

Barry & Heather Dietsch, Music Directors

Dan Hay, Building and Grounds Coordinator

Jessica Merry, Business Manager

Amanda Putnam, Sunday Morning Christian Education Assistant

Xanda Weiss, Audio Visual Technician and Grapevine Coordinator

Order of Service

*Please rise in body or spirit

Prelude

Lux Aeterna (Light Eternal)

John Rutter

*The Proclamation and Witness

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Processional Hymn #232

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

*Call to Worship

Come into God's day of resurrection, you who have known grief, you who long for new life, you who carry "Alleluias" in your hearts.

In Christ, we gather at the empty tomb.

Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

*Prayer of Confession

Let us confess our sins to God, for sin and death have been defeated. They have no power over us any longer!

God of resurrection power, we confess we have sinned against you. We have lived in the sad melancholy of sinfulness despite the transformative power you showed us in Jesus. Forgive our unbelief and inspire us to imagine life in the glow of resurrection today. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Beloved in Christ, today we rejoice in the resurrection, in Easter hope. No matter what pitiful stories we have believed in the past, we turn now to the story of full redemption through Jesus. We turn from despair to expectation, knowing that God will be faithful to renew all things. We have been set free! Receive God's gift of grace and be at peace. Receive God's pardon for your sins, and be at peace.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

As we greet this Easter day, we celebrate a world bursting into new life. We celebrate hope rising from despair, love conquering fear, and a world where death does not have the final word. Let this resurrection joy begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another.

And also with you. (Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you saying "Peace be with you".)

Children's Time

Greetings and Announcements

Prayer for Illumination

God who breathes meaning and inspiration into our sacred scriptures, who crafts stories of redemption, liberation, and love, may these words help us celebrate the world you are making new. May we be emboldened to join you in this resurrection work, bringing heaven to earth as we follow the risen Christ in love and justice. Amen.

Psalter

Psalm 118:1-2, 13-24

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now proclaim, "The mercy of the Lord endures forever."

I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, but the Lord came to my help.

The Lord is my strength and my song and has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord has Triumphed! The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

I shall not die, but live, and declare the words of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me sorely but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

"This is the gate of the Lord; those who are righteous may enter."

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Reading

John 20:1-18, N. T. pg. 114

Choir Anthem

Alleluia; Christ Is Alive!

Joel Raney

Sermon

The Stone Was Rolled Away

Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Hymn #236

The Strife Is O'er

Prayers of the People

Living, Loving God, there is no power that can keep your presence from your people. The worst violence tries its best and fails. Your love keeps rising, keeps finding us, keeps calling us to new life, too. We celebrate and give thanks. Living, Loving God,

Hear our prayer.

We celebrate the big and little resurrections all around us in our gardens, in our hearts, in our congregation, in our community. We are revived as these mysteries and miracles make themselves known. We rejoice as trembling voices bring good news. In this silence, we lift prayers of gratitude and hope. *(time for silence)*

Living, Loving God,

All: Hear our prayer.

We remember, too, all those people and places still yearning for resurrection, those for whom peace, justice, and wholeness still feel far off. We lament that the violence of empire is not vanquished. We pray that the persistence of your love would be cause for hope. In this silence, we lift prayers for all who struggle. *(time for silence)*

Living, Loving God,

Hear our prayer.

Help us to live fully into the promises of resurrection, for ourselves and for all the world. Keep turning us, again and again, toward life.

Living, Loving God,

Hear our prayer. Amen.

For his kingdom....

The Lord's Prayer

We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

Hear Our Prayer

Whelpton

The Offering

Offertory

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Beethoven/Curnow

***Doxology #606**

(Melody)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ,
all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune
God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #268**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

7-Fold Amen

Lutkin

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Holden/Seal

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WELCOME! We are glad you have joined us to worship God. If you are a visitor, we invite you to introduce yourself to our Elder of the Day, Paul Woodard, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Paul Woodard with the Saintz Family; David, Nora, Belle, Violet, Will and Celia as the **GREETERS/USHERS**.

Please sign the **WELCOME PAD** as it makes its way down your row. If you are a visitor or have recently changed your address, please include this and any other information you wish to share.

The **PRAYER BOARD** is located in the Reception Room at the name tag table. You are invited to use a slip of paper to write or draw your prayer and clip it to the board. The Prayer Board will be brought into worship; however, the prayers will not be read aloud or shared. This is a unique and special opportunity for children and adults to be able to express their joys and/or concerns.

THREE WAYS TO WORSHIP! In Person, live streamed at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and then the service (which is being recorded as we worship in person) will be available beginning Sunday afternoons on the OPPC You Tube channel which can be accessed directly from YouTube or our webpage: www.oppchurch.org. **Please be aware that the worship service is being recorded as well as live streamed and will be broadcast via the internet.**

WE WELCOME KIDS IN WORSHIP as together we are the whole people of God. **WORSHIP BAGS** are available in the Reception Room. There is **NO PRAY & PLAY or NURSERY today** as we are celebrating worship together! Next Sunday, April 12, Church School for Littles and Bigs returns at 9:30 as well as Pray & Play during the 10:30 service with a staffed Nursery. If you have any questions about the classes; please check at the CE table where the worship bags are located in the Reception Room.

The **SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP/ADULT EDUCATION** will meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in The Meeting Place.

PLEASE NOTE that Pastor Tom will be out of the office April 6 through April 10. If a pastoral concern arises, please contact Rev. Ken Hughes at 716-361-1342. Please note that the **office hours** on April 9 and April 10 will be 9-11am and 1-3pm.

The **OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW** in observance of Easter.

Linda Babcock will be on **VACATION** this week and will return on Sunday, April 12.

RUMMAGE SALE (Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25) – WANTED: your gently used “stuff” for the sale and volunteers to sort, price and sell the “stuff.” Donated items may be dropped off in the hallway behind the Fellowship Hall stage

BEGINNING SATURDAY, APRIL 11 UNTIL SUNDAY,

APRIL 19. The Clark Street entrance will be open Sunday (11a.m – 6 p.m.), Monday- Friday (1 p.m. - 6 p.m.) and Saturday (9 a.m. - 6 p.m.) .Also, please check the volunteer opportunities at the table near the church office. Questions? Call Sue Sager at 716 - 662-9413.

If you have a prayer request you would like shared during the Prayers of the People in worship; please send an email to Pastor Tom at pastor@oppchurch.org. Please remember we live stream our service and so discretion and confidentiality should be respected if requesting for other people. The Prayer Board is a great option for those types of prayers that are not read aloud.

If you would like to get in touch with Pastor Tom, please feel free to reach him on his cell phone at 716-830-8596 or his email pastor@oppchurch.org.

The “German Organ Mass”: A recital Mini-Series

At 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays March 31 and April 7, Alex Hamilton will present an organ recital mini-series with vocalist Dr. Holly Bewlay, professor of voice at Buffalo State University. This mini-series will feature Johann Sebastian Bach's 1739 *Clavierübung III*, also known as the "German Organ Mass." The March 31 recital (45 minutes) will consist of the more introspective one-manual settings, appropriate for the penitential atmosphere of the Tuesday during Holy Week. The April 7 recital (80 minutes) will feature the more extroverted full-organ settings suited to the brighter Easter season. Together, these two recitals take the form of musical worship services, with vocal statements of the hymns given before the corresponding organ arrangements.

THE OFFERING is one way of many ways for us to respond to God. Monetary gifts to support the ministry of OPPC are greatly appreciated. **Secure online giving is available.** Scan the QR Code with your cell phone and you will be directed to our Online Giving Site.

