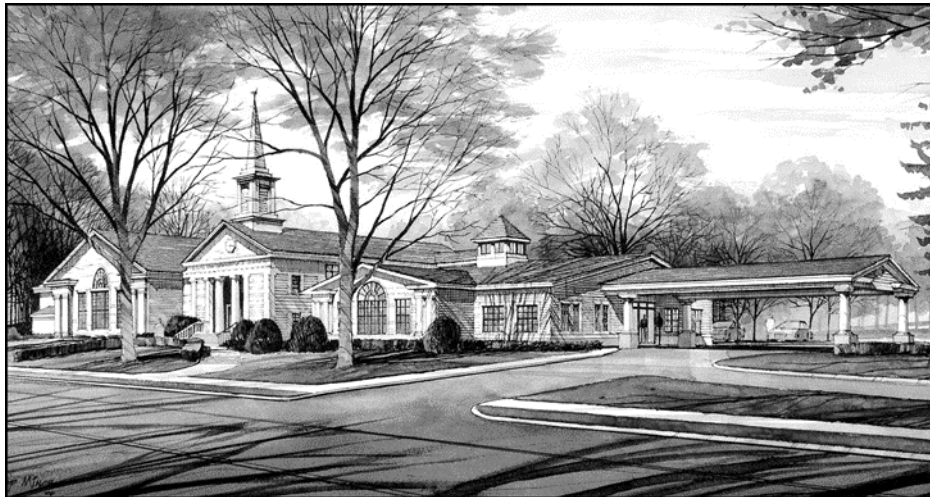




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



August 9, 2026

9:30 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

www.facebook.com/orchardparkpresbyterianchurch

The Staff of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

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

Program/Administrative/Support Staff

Perry Babcock, Audio Visual Technician

Christine Cotton, Office Manager

Barry & Heather Dietsch, Music Directors

Dan Hay, Building and Grounds Coordinator

Maria Tulowitzki, Business Manager

Amanda Putnam, Sunday Morning Christian Education Assistant

Xanda Weiss, Communication Media Coord.

Order of Service

*Please rise in body or spirit

Prelude

Speak, O Lord

Getty & Townen, arr. McDonald

Greetings

***Call to Worship (based on 1 Kings 11-13)**

Upon Mount Horeb, Elijah heard the voice of God, not in the wind, or the earthquake, or the fire, but in the sound of sheer silence.

Holy God, quiet our minds and our hearts, rid us of distraction, so we can hear you and know you among us.

***Opening Hymn #525**

Let Us Break Bread Together

***Invitation to Confession**

We return to God through confession. Let us honestly acknowledge how we have gone astray and confess our sins to God.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You know our exhaustion, our cynicism, our sense of defeat. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we are quick to lose perspective and exaggerate critique. We confess the ways we are tempted to give up on the path of righteousness. We pray for your forgiveness. Amen.

(A moment of silent confession)

***Assurance of Pardon (Isaiah 43:1)**

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The Peace of Christ be with you.

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

Children's Time

Announcements

Prayer for Illumination

O Holy Creator, you spoke all of creation into being, we ask that you keep speaking to us now. Speak to us as we read Scripture, that we might hear your voice ringing clear and concise through the many voices around us. Speak to us, that we might hear and understand. Amen.

Introduction

Our passage today is one of the most well known encounters with the Divine in the Bible. Moses receives a divine visit from a burning bush, then God issues a call and promises deliverance for the enslaved Israelites. The passage forms a crucial bridge from the birth and younger years of Moses to his role as divine mediator. The details directly connect Moses as a successor to the patriarchs and hint at the coming acts of God, who promises to deliver his people "out of Egypt".

Reading

Exodus 3:1-15, O. T. pg. 50

Special Music

Locus Iste
Southtowns A Capella

Anton Bruckner

Reading

Matthew 16:21-28, N. T. pg. 18

Sermon

*You are Setting your Mind not on Divine Things
but on Human Things*

Pastor Lisa Elkington

**The Offering
Offertory**

If Ye Love Me
Southtowns A Capella

T. Tallis (1505-1585)

***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.*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Lord, we hear our call but some of us carry heavy burdens that pull us in other directions, away from you. Lord we feel the Holy Spirit is leading us home in this sacrament. Here at this Table all people are invited—no matter what you have done or left undone. Rich, poor, sinner or saint – all of us come as we are. Here at this table we are free to tell God the truths of our lives—where it hurts, what we need, where we're from, and where we hope to go. And here at this Table we are not alone. We are surrounded by community, surrounded by connection. So come to this Table—as we seek the light of God together. God is here. There is a seat saved for you.

The Prayer of Celebration

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

For what do we offer thanks to God at this table?

You formed us in your image and set us in this world to love and serve you.

When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom, and made a covenant to be our sovereign God. When we were stubborn, you spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over the earth.

When we were in the wilderness, terrified, timid, you were there, your word was there, with manna just enough for today, with water even from the driest rock, with the abundant grace upon which our story always rests. And when we fell short, slaves to power and greed, you were there, your word was there, on the lips of prophets, and in the hearts of servants, in stories of revolution and revelation and liberation, calling us even now to acts of courage and witness and peace. What do we remember at this table?

We remember that Jesus, knowing the suffering he would endure, still gave his life to break walls that divide us from God and from each other.

And because, O God, you gave us the gift of your only Son:

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we claim his strength.

Now, by your presence, O God, make sacred this feast in memory of Jesus Christ. As this broken bread was scattered like grain on the hillsides, and then, when gathered together from the ends of the earth into your eternal realm, like Christ, who was offered up to you that we might live, and like this wine, which was poured out that all might share in the signs of new life, so may the lives of your people be poured out in compassion, and in solidarity with the poor, the oppressed, and the hungry of this world. We ask that you would be among us in this meal. Allow this bread and cup to remind us of your home for us. Allow this meal to fill us to the brim so that when we leave this space we carry bits of you with us. Allow this meal to nourish us in the way only you can. We are inviting you in. Amen.

Hymn #552 – Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of the Institution

Remembering the grace of your son Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine, and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming, proclaiming the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

Communion Hymn

Anima Christi (Blood of Christ)
Southtowns A Capella

Marco Frisi

The Prayer After Communion

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.

Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

So, Lord, May we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven with whom we join in these sacraments.

Prayers of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

You are the first, the last, the everything in between, we lift our praise and our prayers up to you, because we know that you have been listening since the first voice in the garden, and we trust that you listen still.

Hallowed be thy name,

Yours is the name that is above every name, yours is the name spoken in all languages, yours is the name that echoes across all time and space.

Thy kingdom come,

May all of creation look more and more like your heavenly kingdom, a place of peace, a place of love, a place everyone feels at home.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Here in this place may love be genuine, may hospitality be given to strangers, may we overcome evil with good, and may we live peaceably with each other.

Give us this day our daily bread

Allow us to taste and see, drink and remember, the goodness you have given us. Allow us to trust rather than hoard so that no one goes hungry, and no one thirsts.

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Give us as many chances as it takes to get it right, and may we give others just as many chances as you have given us.

And lead us not into temptation,

Guide us to stay on your good path, even when it seems easier to curse than to bless, more satisfying to seek vengeance than to build peace.

but deliver us from evil.

Because we know evil has many forms. It shows up in test results as cancer; it startles us in harsh words and policies; it arrives at our door as violence; and it bubbles up inside us as self-destruction. However and whenever evil shows up, rescue us from it time and time again.

For thine is the kingdom,

Where we hope to live with You, and the power, that You showed us by taking on weakness,

and the glory,

That we hope to reflect with our lives out into the world,

forever And ever.

Amen

Affirmation of faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith) - **Unison**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Benediction and Charge

Postlude

Rejoice, The Lord is King

Darwall/Curry

**Thank you to the Southtowns A Capella for sharing their gifts of voice with us today!
Founder, Dan Hay; Director, Barry Dietsch**

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, Wil Weiss, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Nancy Lesakowski with Mike Cid, Robert Mustard and Jim and Meredith Wilson as **GREETERS and USHERS and COMMUNION SERVERS**.

The **FLOWERS** on the communion table are given by Deb Galloway in memory of Sandy Wallace.

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.

WE WELCOME KIDS IN WORSHIP as together we are the whole people of God and today all the children are staying in worship as our regular CE programming is done until September. Worship Bags are always available in the Reception Room at the CE table. The Nursery will be open, and the service will be live streamed, so if a Little One gets restless, a parent may take them there to play and still see the service.

THREE WAYS TO WORSHIP! In Person, live streamed at 9:30 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.

Today we welcome Lisa Elkington. Lisa is a commissioned ruling elder. She served at Bacon Memorial Presbyterian Church in Niagara Falls for the last seven years. She is excited to be back providing Pulpit supply throughout the Presbytery. Lisa works at ECMC as a residency coordinator where she has been for 20 years. She lives in Newfane with her two daughters, son in law, two grandchildren and lots of fur babies.

On **Saturday, August 29th**, the **Presbyterian Women of WNY Coordinating Team** will be presenting an introduction to the bible study for 2026-2027. The topic of the study is **"United in Christ: Bound to Each Other"**. The gathering will be held in **The Meeting Place** from 10 AM to 12 PM. Refreshments will be served. Reservations are appreciated and can be made by calling Sue Sager at 716-662-9413. All women are welcome.

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

HELP STOCK THE BLESSING BOX THIS SUMMER!

When doing your weekly shopping throughout the summer, please consider **adding peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, boxed cereal, pasta sauce, canned tuna and canned chicken** to your list for our Blessing Box! Children are off for the summer and our nonperishable foods are quickly disappearing! Place your donations in the bins marked "Blessing Box" so that our volunteers can stock the cabinet with the appropriate amount each day. Thanks for helping us with this valuable mission project that benefits our community all summer long.

LOST - RED LANDS END RAIN JACKET. If you were here last Sunday and had a red rain jacket from Pacific Trail, please check to make sure it was not a Lands End jacket. Please contact Meredith Wilson at 716-662-9157.

If you are in need of **PASTORAL CARE**, please contact Rev. Rachel Brown, Pastor at Hamburg Presbyterian Church. You can reach her directly at (716) 444-7333. **PRAYER REQUESTS** can be submitted to the office. Please remember that our worship service is livestreamed, so discretion should be used when sharing requests involving others.

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 now available. Scan the QR Code with your cell phone and you will be directed to our Online Giving Site. You can also give by Text as well: 844-980-1625, enter your dollar amount and hit enter.**



Our Congregation's

FUTURE

Is in Our Hands.

If You Think You'd Be Interested
in Helping to *Shape* That Future,
Now Is the Time to Raise *YOURS.*

A Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is now being formed to seek out and consider candidates to serve as our Congregation's next installed spiritual leader. OPPC's Nominating Committee **invites any enrolled Church member** faithfully willing to volunteer their time and talents for this critically-important search to contact **Christine Cotton (716-662-9348 x301 or christine@oppchurch.org)** to express their interest. And should you have questions, please feel free to call.