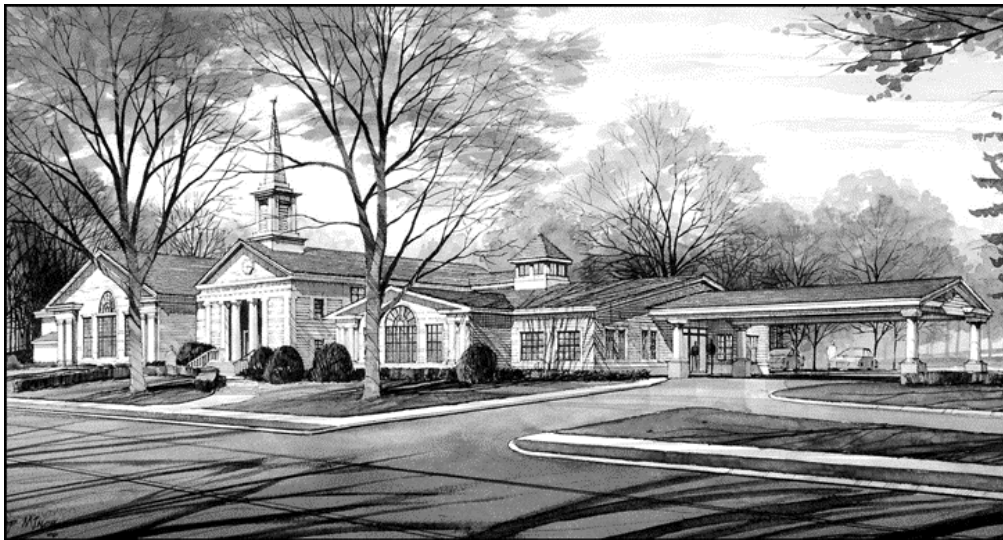




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



July 19, 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
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The Staff of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

The 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, Audio Visual Technician and Grapevine Coordinator

Order of Service

*Please rise in body or spirit

Prelude

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing with
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Carl Glaser

Greetings

***Call to Worship**

Surely the Lord is in this place, and we did not know it.

We do not know when and where God's glorious presence will show up.

Surely we are the Body of Christ.

We cannot say to one another, "I have no need of you."

Surely our God is a mystery that cannot be contained.

Let us worship our unpredictable and uncontrollable God!

***Opening Hymn #714**

God of the Fertile Fields

***Invitation to Confession**

Before a word is on our tongue, God knows it completely. Before we ask for forgiveness, God is at work to set things right. Let us therefore confess our sin and the sin of the world together:

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Lord, you have searched us and found us wanting. You have known our inmost thoughts and called us to better things. You have set us in this world to love and serve you by loving and serving one another, to worship you by tending to those most vulnerable among us. When we fail, do not abandon us. When we go astray, call us back home.

(A moment for silent confession)

***Assurance of Pardon**

Where can we go from God's spirit, or where can we flee from God's presence? Even if we take the wings of the morning or settle at the farthest limits of the sea, God's hand will find us and hold us fast. Proclaim the good news with me:

Our God does not abandon us to sin or brokenness. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and called back home.

Thanks be to God.

***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

Spirit who claims us and makes us your own, join us as we come to the Scriptures today. Reveal to us the Word within the words, that we might see Jesus and learn his way. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 17: 5-10; O. T. pg. 719

Special Music

Homeward Bound
Heather and Steve Dunlap

Marta Keen, arr. J. Althouse

Scripture Reading

Matthew 12:24-30, N. T. pg. 14

Sermon

Leave the Weeds Alone!

Rev. Dr. Ken Hughes

Affirmation of Faith (from the Second Helvetic Confession)

The Church is an assembly of the faithful, Called or gathered out of the world. They are all citizens of the one city, living under the same Lord, under the same laws, and in the same fellowship with all good things.

Those who are in the Church have one faith and one spirit; they worship but one God, and in God alone they worship in spirit and truth. Hence, we must be very careful not to judge before the time, Nor undertake to exclude, reject, or cut off Those whom the Lord does not want to have excluded or rejected, And those whom we cannot eliminate without loss to the Church.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Gracious and Glorious God, we give you thanks for the goodness of the world

in which we live. We praise you for the lush beauty of summer and the joy of time spent with friends and family. We rejoice in those places where justice and kindness flourish — churches being faithful to your mission, and the places in public life where people are embracing the better angels of our nature.

Even so, O Lord, hear the cries of your people. Soothe and provoke us as we tend an earth straining under the weight of a changing climate. Send your Spirit into those places where fear, hatred and violence reign. Call your church to greater faithfulness and perseverance when we are discouraged. Be near to the downtrodden and lift up the lowly.

Teach us to reach out to the strangers among us, and to people whom we might otherwise write off. Help us to see the face of Christ in every person we meet. Encourage us and support us as we await your coming, praying the prayer that Jesus taught us: **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.**

The Offering

The creation groans with labor pains, waiting and longing for the children of God to be revealed. As God's people, called to be those children, let us give back a portion of what has been given to us as we receive the morning offering.

Offertory

Here I Am, Lord
Heather Dunlap

Daniel L. Schutte

***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**

Gracious God, you have sown good seed among us. Receive now the harvest of what you have planted, the good gifts of our lives, time and resources, to further your kin-dom of heaven. Amen.

***Hymn #318**

In Christ There Is No East or West

***Charge and Benediction**

As we go from this place, let us look for God in unexpected places and unexpected people. Let us love and serve our Lord by loving and serving those around us. Let us honor the most vulnerable and lift up the weak, rejoicing in God's presence among us.

And may the grace of Christ Jesus, the love of the Creator God, and the connecting power of the Holy Spirit accompany us all on our journeys. Amen.

Postlude

Trumpets in Dialogue

Louis N. Clerambault

Thank you to April Dunlap for sharing her gift of music with us today!
Thank you to Heather and Steve Dunlap for sharing their gifts of voice with us today!

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

The **LITURGIST** today is Nancy Meister with the Kilpatrick Family; Ryan, Amy, Simon and Clara as **GREETERS and USHERS** with Paul Woodard as **HEAD USHER**.

The **FLOWERS** on the communion table are given by the Saintz Family.

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.**

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.

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.

Today is **SANDWICH SUNDAY**. Thank you for bringing your individually wrapped sandwiches to worship with you and dropping them at the table by The Welcome Center. They will be delivered to St. Luke's after worship.

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.

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.

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.

Please note that the **OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 24** as Christine will be on vacation that day. Dan will also be on vacation that day.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT – PJ'S AND PIZZA MOVIE PARTY

Your kids are invited to come in their pjs with their blankets, pillows and slippers for a fun evening watching movies and eating pizza on **Saturday, July 25th at 6pm!!** Mom and Dad can enjoy a few hours of well deserved GROWN UP FUN! Please contact Christine in the office if you are planning on having your kids attend.

TASTE OF ORCHARD PARK

Stop by OPPC's table at the Taste of Orchard Park on **Wednesday, July 22** from 5pm-9pm! We will be in the village offering free water and some OPPC swag, so be sure to say hello. If you're attending the event, our parking lot will also be open for free event parking.

The Christian Education Ministry Team needs your input as we evaluate and plan our offerings for the next program year! There is a separate survey for Adults (each adult can complete) and Youth (one per family with kids age 3 - middle school). See QR codes below or look for links in the weekly emails. Responses requested by July 12th!

Youth



Adult



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.**

