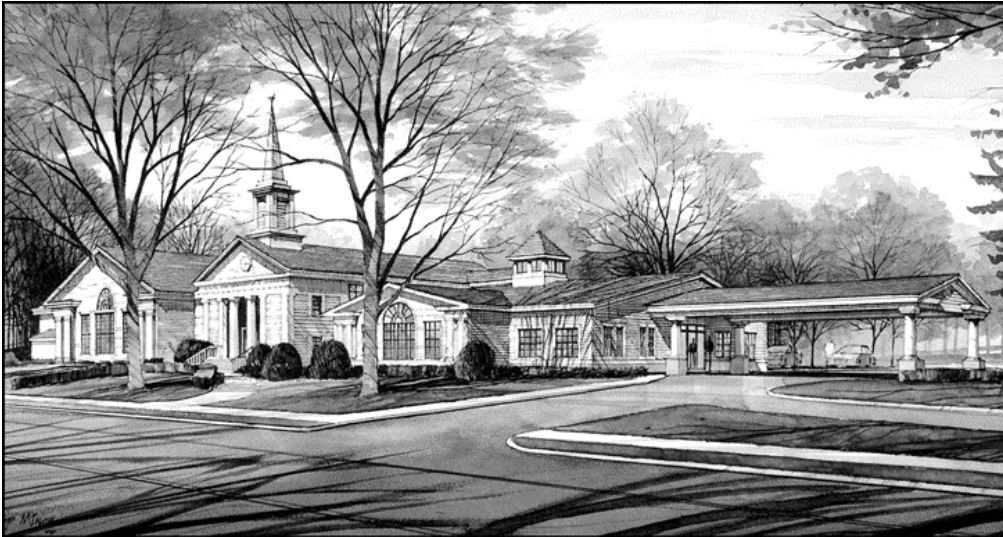




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



July 26, 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

Order of Service

*Please rise in body or spirit

Prelude

Brethren We Have Met to Worship

arr. Curnow

Greetings

***Call to Worship**

The decrees of the Lord are wonderful,

The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.

Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.

Make your face shine upon your servants.

We come together to worship the living God.

***Opening Hymn #634**

To God Be the Glory

***Invitation to Confession**

If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us. We admit that we need to begin again for we have fallen short of the glory of God. So we come to the baptismal font seeking a fresh start. With confidence that God hears our prayers, let us confess our sins:

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like, but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace.

(A moment for silent confession)

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news; the empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, 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

Inspire us by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become living words in our hearts and lives as we encounter the grace, love and peace of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:26-39, N. T. pg. 158

Special Music

Angel Rhodes

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52, N. T. pg. 14

Sermon

A Treasure Worth It All

Elder Paul Woodard

Affirmation of Faith (from The Barmen Declaration, 8.14-8.16)

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer:

Holy God, it is with humble hearts and audacious hope that we come before you in prayer. We pray for beginnings, so often as small as a mustard seed, planted where life has grown dry and weary. It is hard to wait for what we cannot see to sprout and to grow.

We rush ahead with our own visions of what the kingdom must be. And yet, in time, new life begins and will one day give shelter to many who flock to it. Give us patience, O Lord.

We pray for spirit and breath like leaven that creates space and rises toward something new. We need that new life in your church. Where things feel flat and tasteless, may we be leaven. Enable us to see the transformation your Spirit brings, even when others question its worth. Give us courage, O Lord.

We pray for unsettled economies and those who wonder where their next meal will come from. We hear that the kingdom is like a hidden treasure and we quickly start adding up the cost so that we might hoard it all for ourselves. Inspire us to share the abundance that you have provided for us. Help us to treasure each and every one of your children as beloved. Give us faith, O Lord.

We pray for those who feel they have no value. We pray for the sick and those who grieve. Like a merchant who searches and searches for a pearl, may we open our lives and our churches to those who need your grace and love. Let us not be too impressed with ourselves and yet not dismissive of all you have created us to be. Give us humility and care, O Lord.

We pray for the amazing diversity of the world, for the net that gathers all into a web of care and concern. May we speak the truth to those who try to diminish or divide. May we work for peace in places of violence and despair. Open our minds to learn from those most different from us. Give us wisdom, O Lord.

God of grace, continue to puzzle and confound us by your word, for in our questions you lead us to grow and change. Draw us ever closer to you, that we might be a glimpse of your kingdom here and now, even as we join our voices to pray that your kingdom might come with the words Jesus taught his disciples 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.

The Offering

Out of gratitude for all that God has provided for us and with hope that as we invest ourselves and the gifts we have received, we will see the kingdom of heaven grow and flourish in this world, we bring our tithes and offerings for God's work among us in this time and place.

Offertory

Angel Rhodes

***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**

We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. As from even the smallest of seeds, your kingdom grows, bless our tithes, gifts and offerings, and bless us that we might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #435**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

***Charge and Benediction**

As we go forth from this place; as our service of worship comes to an end, may our lives of worship and service begin anew. May the kingdoms of the world be perplexed, and even threatened, by the glimpses of God's reign that they see in you and may the good news of the gospel you share ensure that life will never be the same.

Alleluia.

Amen.

Postlude

When the Roll is Called Up Yonder

J.M. Black/C. Curry

Thank you to Angel Rhodes for sharing her gift of music with us today!

In the event of a fire or other emergency requiring prompt exit from the Sanctuary, please leave your seat and proceed immediately to the nearest door to exit the building. The exit doors are in the front, side and rear of the Sanctuary.

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, Don Schmid, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Glenn Begert with Dolores Battle, Carolyn DeLucia and Mike and Claudia Rodems as **GREETERS and USHERS**.

The **FLOWERS** on the communion table are given by the Kirk and Gayle Barton in loving memory of Kirk's parents, George and Helen Barton.

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.

Today we **WELCOME** Elder Paul Woodard, an active member of Session, and the leader of OPPC's Worship Team. Paul and his family — his wife, Kaitlyn, and their children, Noah and Emma — live in Orchard Park and have attended OPPC since the fall of 2023. Paul has worked in the litigation and risk management fields in Western New York since 2011.

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.

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.

Thank you to everyone who brought sandwiches for St. Luke's last week. Thanks to Deb Galloway from the Mission Ministry Team for staffing the table and delivering **59** sandwiches. **The next SANDWICH SUNDAY is AUGUST 15.**

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.

Christine will be **OUT OF THE OFFICE** tomorrow, Monday, July 27.

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.**

