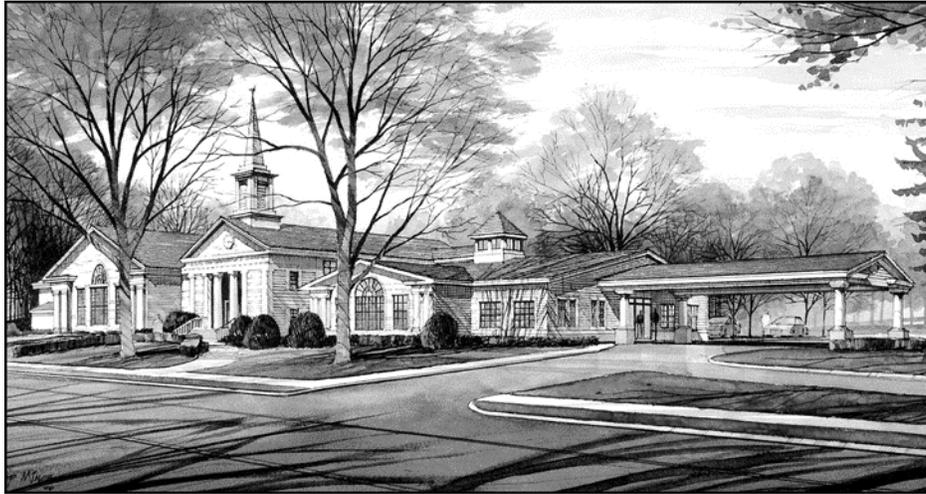




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



March 15, 2026

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

www.facebook.com/orchardparkpresbyterianchurch

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

Make His Praise Glorious

Wolaver/Lojeski

Greetings

Choral Introit

Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Dwelling Place

Thiman

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

All: By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

Leader: Come into God's embrace, you who seek a good shepherd, you who long to be known and protected, you who are far off and you who are near.

All: In Christ, we gather as one flock.

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

All: To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

***Opening Hymn #686**

God of Our Life

***Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God, for God knows how we struggle to discern good leadership, sometimes choosing to follow people because of their charisma or power, rather than their integrity and wisdom. God, our Good Shepherd, we confess we often look to unwise leaders to guide us, whether in work, play, government, faith, or daily living. We overlook poor choices and bad boundaries, and we find ourselves enamored by personalities and power.

All: Forgive us for pursuing folly over wisdom. Forgive us for choosing flashy leaders over leaders you have gifted with experience and discernment. Forgive us for not holding our leaders accountable. Help us keep firm boundaries with leaders, encouraging them to make hard choices. And when you call us into leadership roles, help us rise to the occasion with integrity and faithfulness. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Beloved in Christ, God knows how leaders sometimes fail us, and how we fail our leaders. And in spite of our sins and errors in judgment, the Good Shepherd continues to guide us into depths of care. Receive the grace and pardon of our Good Shepherd and be at peace.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Leader: As we walk through the wild wilderness of Lent, we imagine a world where all creation is at peace. We imagine a world without war, where creation flourishes and children are safe. Let these dreams of peace begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another. May the peace of Christ be with you.

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

Children's Time

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23, O. T. pg. 501

Scripture Reading

John 9:1-41, N. T. pg. 103

Choir Anthem

Borning Cry

Ylvisaker/Kallman

Sermon

*Discerning the Presence of God:
When We Need Healing*

Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty

Hymn #793

O Christ, the Healer

Prayers of the People

Leader: Shepherding God, teach us your voice. Speak to us, so we will know you. Let us hear your wisdom. Let us receive your care.

All: Shepherding God, speak to us.

Leader: Shepherding God, nurture all your beloved. Give us, and all the world, life abundant. May your nearness make us brave. May your faithfulness dispel our fears.

All: Shepherding God, give us life abundant. Amen

Leader: Sometimes Lord it just seems too.....

The Lord's Prayer

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

People: 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

Here Our Prayer

B. Dietsch

The Offering

Offertory

Agnus Dei

Greg Gilpin

***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.*

***Hymn #816**

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

***Benediction**

Leader: Go out into the world remembering the Good Shepherd who cares for your every need, often through the love of this community. Amen.

***Choral Benediction**

From the Rising of the Sun

B. Dietsch

Postlude

Light of the World

Stephen Schwartz

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 Carol Savage with the Grabau Family, Trevor, Sydney, Julian and Gavin as **GREETERS/USHERS** with Paul Woodard as **HEAD USHER**.

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 at the CE table. The **NURSERY** will be staffed **AFTER** Children's Time for infants through 3 year olds. **PLAY & PRAY** for kids 4 years old through First Grade also begins **AFTER** Children's Time. Volunteers will lead the children out and to their classroom. If you have any questions about either of these two programs; please speak to the volunteer at the CE table in the Reception Room. If you are a visitor and would like to accompany your child to see the classroom and meet the teachers; you are very welcome to do so!

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

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

Please pray for the following six youth who will be enjoying **CONFIRMATION CAMP** next weekend! Nora Knodel, Jack Kowalik, Devin Mania, Dylan Mania, Ricky Pallante and Adya Prabhaker. They will be confirmed on Sunday, April 19.

Thank you for bringing sandwiches today and to the youth who made them during Church School. Mission Ministry Team members, Deb Galloway and Barbara Olandt, will deliver them to St. Luke's after worship. **The next SANDWICH SUNDAY is April 19.**

FAMILY FAITH & FOOD is next SUNDAY, MARCH 22 at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. Families with kids of all ages are invited to breakfast and to plant Easter Grass! Please RSVP via Constant Contact.

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 **WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM** is presenting **A LENTEN SUPPER on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:00 p.m. Today is the last day for sign up** at The Welcome Center. Dear Friends, I look forward to breaking bread with you at the Wednesday, March 18 Lenten Dinner. The program will use poetry to mark the experience of Lent including the high holy days of Good Friday and Easter. The poems are taken from three anthologies: two by James Crews (my one-time poetry mentor), "Healing the Divide: Poems of Kindness and Connection" and "The Wonder of Small Things: Poems of Peace and Renewal"; and Kevin Young's (poetry editor of *The New Yorker*) "The Art of Losing: Poems of Grief and

Healing.” The poems are poignant, accessible and reach into the interior life as we journey through this important season of the church year. A brief time for reflection and discussion will follow. Hope to see you there! Pastor Tom

The **Presbyterian Women's Spring Program** will be held on **March 21, 2026** at 1:00 P.M. in the Reception Room. Orchard Park's Village Mayor and Town Historian, Jo Ann Litwin-Clinton will present "**Orchard Park: Past, Present and Future**". Come and discover some of the history of Orchard Park, learn about current happenings and gain insights into future plans. We will be making our own ice cream sundaes and the cost of the program is \$3.00. Reservations can be made today at the table by the church office or by calling Sue Sager at 716-662-9413. We hope to see you there!

Please help decorate the **SANCTUARY FOR EASTER**. To order foil wrapped plants in honor of, or in memory of, loved ones, please complete an envelope and enclose **\$10** per plant (**White Easter Lilies, Pink Hyacinths, or Yellow Tulips**). Envelopes are located at the Welcome Center. Please make your check payable to Orchard Park Presbyterian Church (OPPC) and put **Easter Flowers** in the memo section. All **orders must be in before Wednesday, March 25**.

We are **hiring a part-time Business Manager** (up to 20 hours/week) to manage bookkeeping and administrative business considerations in cooperation with various Ministry teams (Administration and Finance, Personnel, and Property primarily). Our current Business Manager is relocating, and we are actively searching for someone to fill this role primarily in the office, with the potential to perform some duties remotely if appropriate. View the full job description using the QR code. Applications due 3/16/2026. Email questions to: personnel@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 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.**



**HIPPITY HOP TO OUR FREE ANNUAL
COMMUNITY**

Easter egg hunt

Saturday, April 4th • 10:00 a.m.

— Rain or Shine —

**Orchard Park
Presbyterian Church
4369 South Buffalo Street at Clark**

Refreshments and Treat Bags for the Kids!

**Everyone Welcome! Bring the Whole Family
and Invite Your Friends and Neighbors!**

