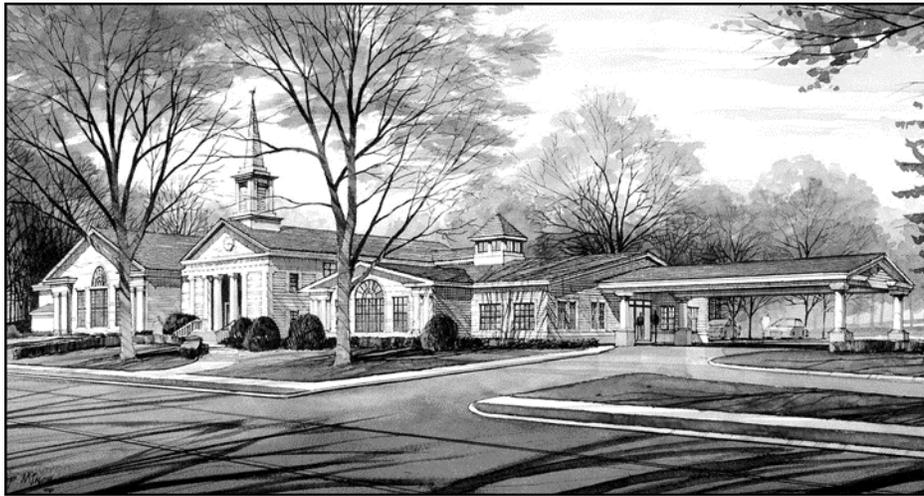




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



March 22, 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

Anthems of Love

Dan Forrest

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 keeping, you who bear the divine image, you who are in this world but not of it, you who feel tested or tried.

All: In Christ, we gather and we belong.

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 #407

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

*Prayer of Confession

Leader: Siblings in Christ, let us confess our sins to God, for God knows the ways we have chosen to serve powers that are unloving and unjust. God, you see the powerful people in this world as they scramble for more, keeping the weak in places of suffering. Even though we are aware of their evil alliances, we contribute to these systems and power structures with our money, our time, and our attention.

All: We confess that our purchases support harmful practices and abusive regimes.

We confess that our entertainment choices, at times, center on people who mock the weak. We confess that our participation in consumerism and disposability causes destruction of creation. Forgive us for aligning our allegiance with systems and corporations that harm life and cause suffering. Help us resist the temptation to devote ourselves to worldly ways that offend your righteousness. We choose to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, so we might have open hands to serve you better. Amen.

(A moment for silent confession)

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Beloved in Christ, God knows how the dazzle of gold and glory charms us, and God is faithful to show us a better way. Be liberated from the entanglements of this world, receive God's pardon, 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

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: God who breathes meaning and inspiration into our sacred scriptures, who crafts stories of redemption, liberation, and love, may these words help us imagine the world you intended. May we receive the challenge to join you in this holy work, bringing heaven to earth as we follow Jesus in love and justice. Amen.

Scripture Reading

John 11:1-6, N. T. pg. 104

Choir Anthem

How Beautiful

Twila Paris, arr. L. Larson

Sermon

*Discerning the Presence of God:
When We Face the Forces of Death*

Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty

Hymn #250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Prayers of the People

Leader: We belong to you, God. We belong to you, and you give us to each other.

We give thanks, Creating God, that you make us and name us and call us your own.

We pray that all might know the claim of your love and the shelter of your care.

Gracious One, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all who feel caught by names that don't come from you, by labels that reduce complexity, by accusations that shrink our breathing space. We pray that all might be granted the dignity of a fuller story, the gift of kind attention. Gracious One, in

your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all who labor toward liberation for themselves, for their neighbors, for all the world. We pray for release from what binds, for healing from what afflicts, for strength to resist traps of power and courage to follow your call. Gracious One, in

your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for this church and for the body of Christ throughout the world. Grant us the humility and clarity to seek your call for our life together, and make us bold and gentle enough to live into it. Gracious One, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer. 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

Amen

Astorga

The Offering

Offertory

Pie Jesu

John Rutter

***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 #286**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

***Benediction**

Leader: Go out into the world with your confidence firmly planted in the faithful heart of our loving God.

All: Amen.

***Choral Benediction**

At the Rising of the Sun

B. Dietsch

Postlude

Redeemed

Kirkpatrick/Curry

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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 Deacon of the Day, Don Schmid, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Carolyn DeLucia with Delcey Pulvino, Nancy Wilson, and Noah and Paul Woodard as **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 YouTube 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 OFFERING is one way of many ways for us to respond to God. Monetary gifts to OPPC are greatly appreciated. **Secure online giving is available.** Scan the QR Code you will be directed to our Online Giving Site.



support the ministry of
with your cell phone and

The **FLOWERS** on the communion table are given in memory of our loved ones by
Jim Murray.

Terrie and

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

Thank you to everyone who brought sandwiches last week for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Thanks to Barb Olandt and Deb Galloway for collecting and delivering them as well as the Bigs Church School Class who contributed 45 sandwiches to the overall total of 115. Thank you also to Kaitlyn and Emma Woodard for the donation of Girl Scout Cookies! **The next SANDWICH SUNDAY is APRIL 19.**

This weekend six of our eighth graders took an action packed journey through **CONFIRMATION CAMP**. Please pray for the following youth as they meet with the Membership Ministry Team tomorrow evening to talk about their experience and join us on **APRIL 19 for CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**. The Confirmands are: Nora Knodel, Jack Kowalik, Devin Mania, Dylan Mania, Ricky Pallante and Adya Prabhaker.

Deadline for articles in the **Grapevine** is **Tuesday, March 24 at 9:00 a.m.** Please email Xanda Weiss at xanda@oppchurch.org.

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**.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Tom and Carol Timmerman Yorty on 46 years of marriage on March 22 and to Dennis and Gretchen Duling on 66 years of marriage on March 26.

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.

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

