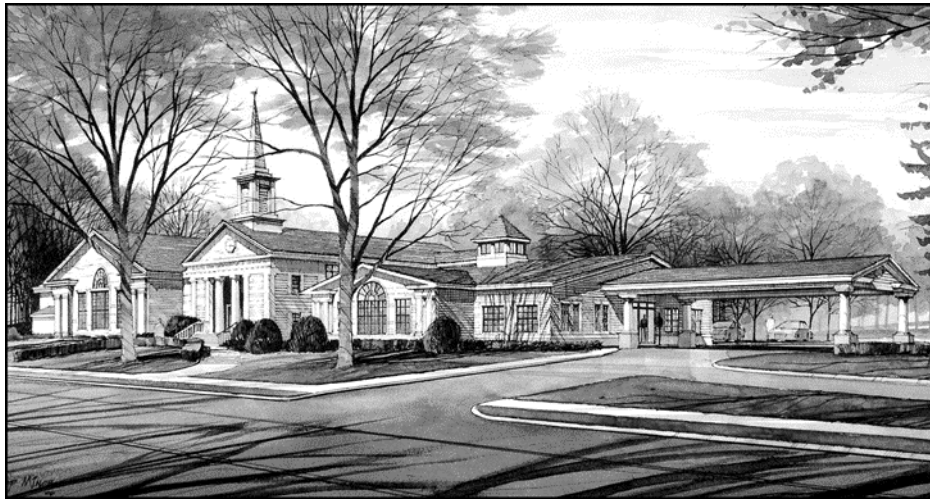




***A thriving faith community
engaged in compassionate service.***



November 23, 2025

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

The Rev. Dr. Wylie V. Hughes, Pastor

The Rev. Allyn Foster, Pastoral Assistant

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

Program/Administrative/Support Staff

Linda Babcock, Director of Education and Mission

Perry Babcock, Audio Visual Technician

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

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Arr. James Curnou

Chime Intonation

Greetings

Introit

For the Fruit of All Creation

F. P. Green

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather before a King who does not rule from a throne of gold,
but from a cross lifted high for all to see.

People: We come to worship the One whose power is mercy and whose reign is grace.

Leader: In a world that prizes vengeance and draws hard lines around who is worthy, Christ breaks open a new kingdom.

People: Today we welcome the King who remembers the forgotten, restores the broken, and calls us beloved.

Leader: Come, let us worship Christ our King

ALL: The King of compassion. The King of Hope. The King who reigns through mercy.

***Opening Hymn #14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

***Invitation to Confession**

Leader: In the presence of a King who welcomes the condemned, we can stop pretending. We can stop defending. We can bring the truth of our lives before the One who meets honesty with mercy and brokenness with healing. Let us confess our sin together.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Merciful Christ, you stretch out your arms in love, yet we cling to judgment. You remember the forgotten, yet we draw boundaries around who deserves grace. You welcome the guilty with compassion, yet we struggle to believe that redemption is real— for others, and sometimes for ourselves. Forgive us for the ways we participate in systems that punish more than they restore. Forgive our reluctance to offer the mercy we have already received from you. Create in us hearts that reflect your kingdom, where grace overturns condemnation and compassion have the final word. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus looked at a guilty man and said, “Today you will be with me in paradise.” This same mercy reaches you. This same grace covers you. This same King claims you as beloved.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and made new. Thanks be to God.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Leader: Having been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, let us now share the signs of that reconciliation with one another. 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

Anthem

Gratitude
Sanctuary Choir

Lake, Bowe, Hastings, Wise

Scripture Reading

Luke 23:33-43; N. T. pg. 89

Sermon

Who Deserves Mercy?

Rev. Dr. Wylie Hughes

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Listen now as we pray in the way Jesus taught us:

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
Sanctuary Choir

Astorga

The Offering Offertory

All Good Gifts

Schwartz

*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.*

*Closing Hymn #69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

We believe in Jesus Christ, the King who reigns from the cross, whose power is revealed in compassion, whose glory is found in forgiveness.

We believe that no life is beyond God's reach and no sin is too great for God's mercy. We trust that the kingdom Christ brings is a kingdom of restoration, justice, and hope.

We believe the Holy Spirit stirs new life in places the world has written off and calls us to practice mercy with the same boldness Christ has shown us.

We believe that today— even today— paradise breaks into our world through the grace of our merciful King. Amen.

Choral Response

God Be with You Till We Meet Again
Sanctuary Choir

Rankin & Tomer

Postlude

Immortal, Invisible

Arr. Gerald Peterson

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, Carolyn DeLucia, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Wil Weiss. The **GREETERS/USHERS** today are the Eugene Family; Mario, Dorcas, Mike, Dave, Molly and Joy.

Please sign the **FRIENDSHIP 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 three years old. **PLAY & PRAY** for kids 4 years old through first grade also begins **AFTER Children's Time**. Volunteers will lead the children out to their respective classrooms and remain with the kids until after worship is over. Please pick up your child from the classroom so the teachers can also be a part of Coffee Hour.

Communion Table are given by Frank Dickey in honor of Kay celebrating another
will be **CLOSED** on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 in observance



The **FLOWERS** on the birthday!
The **CHURCH OFFICE** of Thanksgiving.

Thank you to everyone who brought sandwiches last Sunday for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Liz and John Angelbeck delivered 96 sandwiches to be distributed to the hungry during the week.
The next **SANDWICH SUNDAY** is **DECEMBER 21**.

There will be **no Children/Youth CE Classes on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30. Pray & Play and the Nursery will also be taking a holiday break next week.** See you on December 7.

POINSETTIAS will decorate the Sanctuary for **Christmas EVE**. If you wish to order a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out an envelope, available at the Welcome Center **TODAY** and specify the number, color of red, white or pink, and how you would like your dedication to read. The deadline for orders is **Friday, December 5**. The cost is \$10.00 per plant.

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.**



Music In December AT OPPC

ADVENT CHORALE
Handel's Messiah
FRI. DEC 5, 7PM

**BUFFALO GAY MEN'S CHORUS
NICKEL CITY TREBLE MAKERS**
Joyful and Triumphant
SAT. DEC 6, 2PM

BUFFALO BELLS
Ring We Now of
Christmas
WED. DEC 10, 7PM

OP CHORALE
Sing, Joyfully
SUN. DEC 14, 4PM

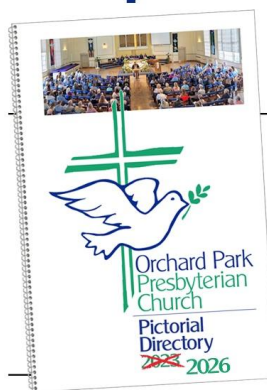
OPPC SANCTUARY CHOIR
Ceremony of Candles
Cantata
FRI. DEC 19, 7PM

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE SEE THE PERFORMER'S WEBSITE

Our Church Just Isn't Complete Without u.



And Our Updated 2026 OPPC Pictorial Directory Won't Be Either Unless **Your Photo** Is in It!



New members join. Families and kids get bigger. And the rest of us get better looking every day. (Just go with us on this, OK?) So obviously it's time we updated OPPC's Pictorial Directory. That's why we're **setting up appointments** to take fresh shots of all the members of our faith community to be included in a 2026 edition to be distributed right after the first of the year. All you have to do is **1: Contact OPPC's office (716-662-9348)** to make sure your currently-listed information is correct, and **2: Sign up in our Welcome Center** for a photo appointment. If you have questions, call **Doug Carpenter (716-206-4753)**.

Join the OPPC Sanctuary choir and guests for a night filled with music

Ceremony of Candles

A Cantata for Advent and Christmas
By Joseph M. Martin

December 19, 7pm

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

Free Admission
Free Will Donation
to benefit Family Promise

Cookie Reception to Follow

Powerful Tools FOR Caregivers

An evidence-based program to support caregiver wellbeing

Classes to help you enhance your self-care while supporting a loved one, whether at home or afar. This course is designed specifically for family caregivers like you!

This six-week class series gives you the confidence and support to better care for your loved one – and yourself. The classes give caregivers tools to help:

- Reduce stress
- Improve self confidence
- Manage time, set goals, solve problems, communicate your feelings
- Make tough decisions
- Locate helpful resources

Participants will receive *The Caregiver Helpbook*, which follows the curriculum and provides additional tools to address specific caregiver issues. The New York State Caregiving & Respite Coalition provides this class at no charge to New York State residents.

Date(s): Every Wednesday, Jan. 14 - Feb. 18, 2026

Time: 1 - 2:30 PM

Location: Virtual

Contact: Rebecca at 585-645-4572

Register: [NYSRCR.ORG/EVENTS](https://nyscrc.org/events)

Please register by January 2

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is owned and managed by Iowa State University of Science and Technology.



NYSRCR Lifespan



HELP WANTED: Hall Deckers

It's time again to "don" our holiday "jolly" and "deck" OPPC's halls, walls and anywhere else that looks in need of a festive touch.

Congregation members of all ages are invited to lend their hands and hearts to decorating of our church home for Advent and the up-coming Christmas season!

We'll gather **Saturday, November 29th at 9:00 a.m.** to decorate the tall, beautiful Christmas tree that we proudly share with the community in our front Sanctuary window each year – as well as to spruce up the rest of our building with bows, bells, wreaths and garland swags.

Sign up in the Welcome Center to participate in this opportunity for holiday socializing or call Hospitality-Fellowship Ministry Team Chair **Doug Carpenter** at **716-206-4753** if you have any questions. **See you on the 29th!**

