



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



November 30, 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

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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

Gathering Music

In the Bleak Midwinter

Holst, arr. Curry

Prelude

Prayer

Engelbert Humperdink

Greetings

Advent Candle Lighting – Hope (Weiss Family)

Reader 1: In a world full of fear, where do you see hope?

Reader 2: I see hope when I look to the next generation. I feel hopeful when we gather together. I know hope, deep in my bones, when we dream of a better world.

Reader 1: You are right. Even in a fearful world, hope is all around us.

Reader 2: Today we light the candle of hope as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that we have reason to hope.

(Light candle.)

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Introit

In the Time of Herod

Strickland/Holst

***Call to Worship**

Leader: On Sundays and Mondays,

People: On good days and bad days,

Leader: Early in the morning and very late at night,

People: Here in this room, and out in the world, God, we long for you to break in.

Leader: Meet us in this space.

People: Surprise us with your presence.

Leader: Fill this room with your good news.

ALL: With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

***Opening Hymn #93**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

***Invitation to Confession**

Leader: Friends, if you long to feel closer to God, then the Prayer of Confession is a step in the right direction. For in the Prayer of Confession, we lay our hearts before God. We pour out the truth of our lives. We do not hide anything from our Creator, and in that simple act, God somehow always feels closer.

So join me in this prayer. Join me as we invite God to draw closer, to break in here.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Ever-present God, we long to feel you close. We long to feel your presence in our lives. We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world. However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you in our midst. Forgive our rushing and distractions. Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space. Remind us that even in the time of Herod, even on the longest nights, you are always there. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:

People: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Amen.

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".)

Anthem

Keep Silence

Arr. John Helgen

Sanctuary Choir and Flute Solo by Mary Brummer

Children's Time

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Lamentations 3:55-57; O.T. pg. 767

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:5-13; N. T. pg. 56

Sermon

God is Breaking In

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

Astorga

Sanctuary Choir

The Offering

Offertory

Advent Cry

Joseph Martin

*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 #82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Benediction

Leader: In a fearful world, may you look for God's spirit. May you reach for each other's hands. May you choose courage whenever you can. And in all things, may you remember that good news is louder than fear.

All: In the name of the one who calls, the one who sends, and the one who journeys with us; we go in peace and we will not be afraid. Amen.

Choral Benediction

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Plainsong/Helmore

Postlude

At Length There Dawns the Glorious Day Arr. James Mansfield

Thank you to Mary Brummer for sharing her gift of music 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, Anne Helfrich, who will be available after worship.

The **LITURGIST** today is Lisa Breth. The **GREETERS/USHERS** today are Amy and Doug Carpenter and Meredith and Jim Wilson.

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 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. **NO Education Classes for kids/youth this week.** Pray & Play and the Nursery are also on pause and will also resume next Sunday, December 7.

The **FLOWERS** on the Communion Table are given by Virginia Sprague in memory of her mother, Virginia Borden Alderdice.

The Christian Education Ministry Team has begun preparations for **A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SOMETHING on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 at the ONE SERVICE at 10:30 am.** Kids of all ages lead the worship service and the sermon portion will be The Nativity Story. This is a wonderful opportunity for OPPC folks to invite their neighbors and friends to attend. Cookie Reception to after worship.

There will be **ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP at 10:30 a.m. on December 21 for A Special Christmas Something** and again on **December 28 for Lessons and Carols.**

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)**.

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 Iona State University of Science and Technology.

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Having the tools to resolve problems is a definite advantage in becoming a better caregiver and a happier, wiser, healthier me... and us! -Class Participant



NYSRCR Lifespan