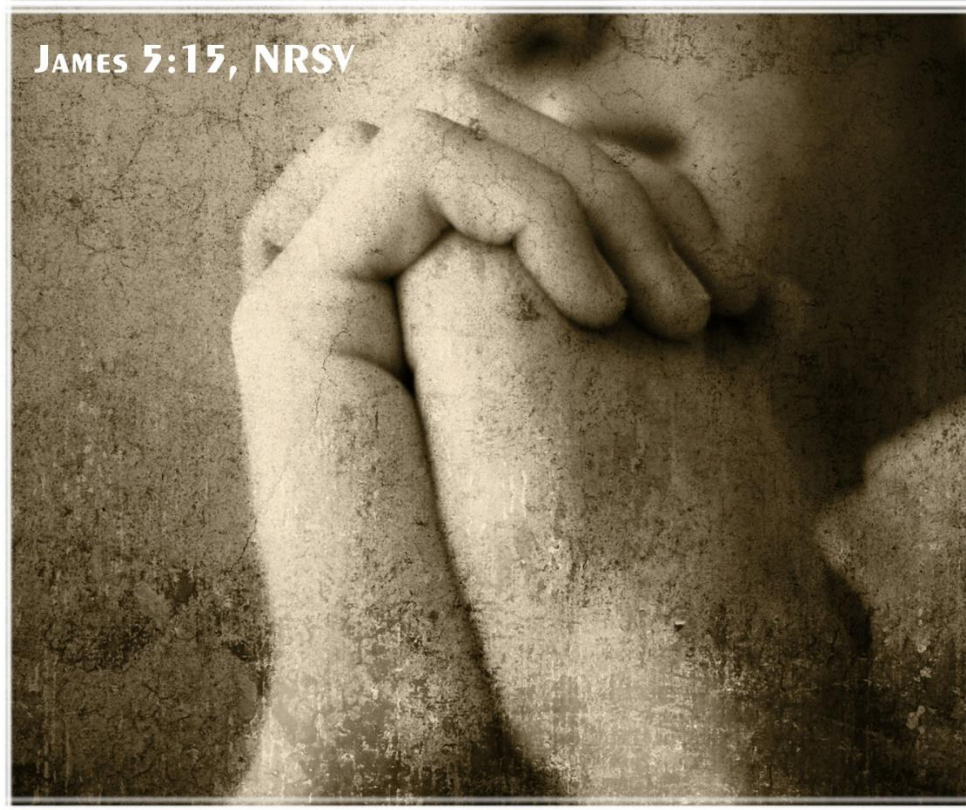


OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602
540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org



THE PRAYER OF FAITH WILL SAVE
THE SICK, AND THE LORD WILL
RAISE THEM UP; AND ANYONE
WHO HAS COMMITTED SINS
WILL BE FORGIVEN.

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 26, 2021

8:30 am & 11:00 am

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *There Is a Balm in Gilead*
Arranged by Robert W. Thygerson

Please use this time to prepare your inward spirit for the worship of God.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY MOMENTS William Heavner

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond

†ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 466 (3X).....*Come and Fill Our Hearts*
CCLI# 1622560

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

†CALL TO WORSHIP (written by Rev. Thom Shuman, Opequon Church Pastor, 1988-1991)

We will walk this day with you, O God, and you will walk with us,

Gathering us into a community to pray for one another in all things.

We will walk this day with you, O Christ, and you will walk with us,

Calling us to follow you, helping us to set aside all which holds us back.

We will walk this day with you, O Spirit, and you will walk with us,

Sending us out, side by side, to serve those cast aside by the world.

†HYMN No. 796..... *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*
CCLI# 1622560

**We come to you for healing, Lord, of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit's touch we may again be whole.**

**As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
we know you come among us still with power to heal again.**

**You touch us through physicians' skills,
through nurses' gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.**

**Through nights of pain and wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience,
Lord, your calming peace to know.**

**We come to you, O loving Lord, in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts
be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. For
you are our rock, and yet we place our faith in sinking sand.
You are our redeemer, and yet we are convinced that we must
save ourselves. You are our source of unity, and yet we isolate
ourselves in every way we can. You are our fount of
forgiveness, and yet we fear that we will be condemned.
Forgive us, O Rock. Forgive us, O Redeemer, and show us what
it means to forgive one another.**

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

My brothers and my sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. Rejoice! You have been brought back by the redemption of God and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior. You can live in peace.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 667 (vv. 1, 2) *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

CCLI#1622560

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC..... *Pray for the People*

Sanctuary Choir

CCLI#1622560

Pray for the person on your left. Pray for the person on your right. They may seem strong, but we don't know all the struggles and the burdens they hold. We pray, Lord, we pray. Give them power to face the day . . . Lord, we lift them up . . . They try to be strong, but only you know all the struggles and the burdens they hold. We pray, Lord, we pray. Give them power to face the day. Now we pray, "Won't you bless them, Lord." . . . All the brothers and sisters, let them feel your presence, let them know your power, O Lord, they try to be strong. Only you know all the struggles and burdens they hold . . . Pray for them, and as you do, people all around are praying for you. We pray, Lord, we pray. Give us power to face the day. Amen, amen.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 124

NEW TESTAMENT READING: James 5:13-20

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES“Pray for One Another”

†HYMN *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

CCLI#1622560

**Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
that calls me from a world of care,
and bids me at my Father's throne
make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief,
my soul has often found relief,
and oft escaped the tempter's snare
by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!**

**Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
thy wings shall my petition bear
to him whose truth and faithfulness
engage the waiting soul to bless.
And since he bids me seek his face,
believe his word, and trust his grace,
I'll cast on him my every care,
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!**

SERMON“People of Prayer”

Pastor David Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus / I Surrender All*

Arranged by Heather Sorenson

†THE DOXOLOGY (HYMN NO. 606) AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

(Hymnal p. 35, we say “debts” and “debtors” in the prayer)

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
CCLI#1622560

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.**

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE NO. 468 (v. 1)..... *In My Life*
CCLI#1622560

**In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

†POSTLUDE

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Carole Witt to honor and celebrate Pastor David's Birthday yesterday. He is great blessing every day to his family and Opequon.

THE ROSE IN THE SANCTUARY

The rose in the Sanctuary this morning announces the birth of Rosalee Ann Norman, daughter of Lauren Burnside and Matthew Norman, born on Saturday, September 18. We rejoice in this gift of new life and pray for God's blessing upon Rosalee and her parents.⁷

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 26 – October 3, 2021

TODAY

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

4 Cents A Meal Offering

8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
9:45 AM	G.I.F.T. Event – 9:45 AM – Fellowship Hall & ZOOM
11:00 AM	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
4:00 PM	Memorial Service for Burneice Witt – Sanctuary -- <i>In-Person (Family Requests All Attendees Wear Masks) & Live Stream</i>

THIS WEEK

Tuesday:	5:30 PM – Highland Food Pantry
	7:00 PM – Session Meeting – Fellowship Hall
Wednesday:	12:00 NOON – Snack-n Chat via ZOOM
	4:30 PM – LOGOS – THEME
	7:15 PM – Choir Practice
Thursday:	10:30 AM – Tai Chi – Picnic Shelter
	7:00 PM – Ageism Book Study

NEXT SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday

Peacemaking Offering

Bread Swap

In-Person Worship – 8:30 AM
Faith Formation – 9:45 AM
In-Person & Live Stream Worship – 11:00 AM
Scripture: Job 1:1, 2:1-10
Sermon: "Face-to-Face"
Newcomers' Social – 4:30 PM – Picnic Shelter
Youth Progressive Dinner – 4:30 PM

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pat Heavner	Afghanistan	Food Banks
Kes Mersha Family	Flooding, Wildfires, Storms	Homeless
Brett Boyd	Haiti Earthquake	Mike Shade
Daniel ("Summit") Judy, Jr.	Dan McCoig	Associate Pastor Nominating
Family	Mitch Orndorff	Committee (APNC)
Jessie Mathias Family	Paula Marquis	Brad Treece
Brittany Grim	Don Larsen	Women & Children of
Terry Caldwell	Casey Carr	Domestic Violence
Louise Rosian	Angela Madagan	Families of Children, Youth &
Jay Beach	Michael Weller	Young Adults with Special
Kathleen & Clark Wheeler	James, Avery & Lainey Friend	Needs
Lee Dittmer	EECMY/Addis Flooding	Jane Lewis
Suellen Knowles	Ethiopia	Doug Koch
Nancy Budny	Nancy Kerns	Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Tracie Martin	David Trickel	Church Mekane Yesus
Wanda Royston	Racial Injustice	
Dorothy Walker	Reconciliation	

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane, Edison Gomez, Jacob Heavner, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Greg Sousa, Katherine Tufts, Michael White, and their families.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul." This morning's prelude is an African American spiritual that offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). Typical of a spiritual the first verse is a witness--"Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit Revives my soul again."

Today's offertory is a medley. Heather Sorenson did an amazing job of weaving the melodies of these two distinctly different, vintage, late nineteenth century hymns into one seamless musical piece. If you are familiar with their respective texts you'll see they also compliment each other--"Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, and to take him at his word; all to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give; I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live."

THOSE GORGEOUS MUMS ARE HERE!

The annual "Mum Sale" Fundraiser for our Baja Mission Trip will feature 35 chrysanthemums, all extra-large, of various colors. The mums are available for purchase today by cash or check (made payable to Opequon Presbyterian Church, please) for \$18.00 per plant. The mums come from Mennonite farmers in Dayton, VA.

GIFT EVENT TODAY – 9:45AM – FELLOWSHIP HALL

GIFT means "Generations in Faith Together" as all classes & all ages combine one Sunday a month for a themed intergenerational experience. TODAY'S fun is based on the book RAINBOW FISH. This story has a universal message about a beautiful fish who learns to make friends by sharing his most prized possessions! Come hear the touching story, make your own edible RAINBOW FISH, and explore and wonder together. Give yourself the gift of time AT GIFT. It just may be a most wonderful part of your day.

BREAD BUFFET SWAP MORNING- OCTOBER 3

In celebration of World Communion Sunday on October 3, the Christian Education team is sponsoring a BREAD SWAP Day. You are invited to make your favorite kind of bread, bring it by the church to the Bread Swap that will be in the Gathering Area, and choose any type of bread there to take home for enjoyment. It is the same concept as a 'cookie swap'. Maybe you like to make muffins, rolls, sweet bread, or specialty bread. Any kind is great. Please be sure to wrap or package your bread tightly, label it to identify its' type and bring it by swap for another tasty treat. The BREAD SWAP will run 8:00am to NOON. You may find a delicious treat for a meal later that day! Everyone is invited to participate and share your labor of love while you benefit from someone else's labor of love. There will be plenty to choose from. BREAD Buffet SWAP day is Sunday, October 3.

OLDER ADULT OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

We held off on our 2021 Older Adult of the Year recognition from last Spring until now. Nominations are now open and welcome. Who would you like to nominate for this distinct honor at OPC and why? Pick up a form from the Gathering Area table and share your nomination. Please note on the form those who have already been crowned as one of Opequon's Older Adults. Nominations will be received until November 1.

THESE DAYS DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The October-December issue of These Days Devotionals is available in the Gathering Area. Some of the featured topics of these daily readings are "Hope Makes a Way", "Getting Comfortable", and "God and Us". Pick up a copy for yourself while supplies last.

ROOTS & SHOOTS

This past week, 44.75 pounds were donated to the Sherando Food Pantry and 70 pounds were donated to the Highland Food Pantry! If you would like to help keep the garden growing, there are slots open to water this week and now into October. The SignUpGenius can be found on the homepage of the church's website. If you cannot commit to a full slot or if you have any questions, email graysonmoyer7@gmail.com.

HUNGER ACTION DRIVE

The September Food Drive is in progress! Donations support The OPC Blessing Box, Sherando and Highland Food Pantries, local School Backpack Program, our Senior Outreach Ministry. Let's show our generosity to those in need.

LIST OF SUGGESTED ITEMS:

Food Pantry items needed

Canned chicken,
any canned vegetable,
canned entrees (ravioli, stews, etc.).

Back Pack Items

100% juice boxes/ individual bottles
Cracker packs
Fruit cups (peaches, pears, and
applesauce)
Mac and cheese (individual servings)
Cup of soups
Pop-Tarts
Cereal boxes (individual)

Senior Outreach Ministry

Paper towels
Toilet Paper
2-in-1 shampoo/conditioner
Soap
Cracker Packs
Granola bars
Pudding Cups
Fruit Cups (In Juice)
Tuna/Chicken (In Water)
Oatmeal packs
Ramen packs
Low-sodium vegetables
Canned soup

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How did today's music speak to our prayer life?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

Who am I praying for today?

Notes on Today's Prayers

Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

- What is prayer?
- When are we driven to pray?
- How do we pray with faith?
- When do we come together to pray?
- How do we pray with and for one another?
- What is the cry of my heart today as I pray?