

Announcements

Small Groups Help Us Grow

We are looking to start our small groups. The meetings will be in person and/or via Zoom. We are asking former group leaders if they will lead a group this spring and we are seeking new leaders for additional groups. If you would be willing to lead a group, you can sign up through the website or by calling Pam White in the church office. Once we have the new leaders and meeting times set, we will begin participant sign-ups.

Greeters

Remember the 'Before' times, when we had a couple of Greeters in the Narthex each Sunday? Well, as we reopen in-person worship, we would like to rebuild a team of Greeters, even though that will look different than before. You don't have to be a Deacon, or even an OPC member. It is easy and you only have to come a few minutes early. Call Hedy Martin if you are interested 602-789-9624.

Liturgist

If you would like to help out in our services, there is a need for a liturgist each week. This is a very important part of our service that is easy to do. We send you the liturgy ahead of time so that you can read through it. If this is something you think you could do, call Chuck Sedgwick 602-541-4079.

Grace Lutheran

People are needed to help at Grace Lutheran to make pancakes. We need 10-15 people on April 25 at 6:15 am. Masks must be worn. The meals will be prepackaged and served outside. Grace Lutheran is at 1124 N 3rd St. Call Christina 602-448-5599 if you want to sign up or if you want a ride. or sign up on google forms on the announcement page of our website, Orangewood.church.

Meeting of the Congregation

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation of Orangewood Presbyterian Church for April 25, at 11:40 am for the purpose of electing officers and members of the nominating committee, amending the bylaws of OPC, and acting on a report from the Personnel Committee concerning the terms of call for the pastor. The meeting will be held in person and on Zoom.

Page Turners

Readers are invited to join to discuss a different book each month. The April selection is "Peace Like a River." The first meeting will be on Wednesday, April 28. For additional information call Lois Pearch 602-973-0580 or Jeanne Matt 602-216-9844.

Sunday April 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: O God, be not far from us,

People: For we are your children.

Leader: O God, help us to believe,

People: For in Christ we would live abundantly.

Leader: O God, we search for you and would worship you,

All: For in you we live and move and have our being.

Opening Hymn #236

The Strife Is O'er

Confession

God,

Loving Father, Son and Spirit,

we come.

Yet we know we come with doubts and fears.

We know we come in ignorance.

**We know we have failed you, your creation and your people,
in many ways.**

Trusting in your love, we turn again to you.

**As we open our hearts to your mercy and forgiveness,
grant us your peace.**

Accept these prayers,

accept our worship,

accept us,

through your love,

Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Minute for Stewardship

Jikhara

First Lesson

Psalm 4:1-8 (NRSV)

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer. How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? *Selah* But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah* Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD. There are many who say, "O that we might

see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Sermon Song

He Knows My Name

Second Lesson

Acts 3:1-10 (NRSV)

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴ Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,^[a] stand up and walk." ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Sermon:

At the Beautiful Gate

Affirmation of Faith

As Easter people, we believe God is Lord of both life and death.

We believe that in an astounding act of grace, Jesus suffered and died on the cross to save us from our sins.

We believe, three days later, Jesus was raised from the dead, promising us salvation, not because we deserve it, but out of love, through grace.

We believe we are called to respond to that gift of grace, not out of duty, but in gratitude, to seek peace, care for the ill, clothe the naked, feed the hungry, empower the oppressed and welcome the outcast; to carry on Christ's work until he comes again.

Because, as Easter people, we are confident Christ will come again.

Alleluia! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Offering Song –

Healer

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #238

Thine Is The Glory

Dismissal/Benediction

Postlude - Chuck