

*Welcome to
Otterbein United Methodist Church*

January 1, 2023

10:30 am

Epiphany Sunday

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

We Gather to Worship the Lord

Welcome

Prelude

This Endris Night
Judith Ofcarcik, organ

Willan

*Greeting (from Psalm 90:1, 2c)

L: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

P: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

*Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn

No. 606, UMH

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

Litany of Thanksgiving

We praise your holy name, O God.

We Proclaim the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture

2 Kings 23:1-3

(OT, page 356)

*Hymn	<i>God of the Ages</i>	No. 698, UMH
Scripture	Jeremiah 31:31-34	(OT, page 735)
*Hymn	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>	No. 117, UMH
Scripture	1 Peter 1	(NT, page 232)
*Hymn	<i>Jesus, United by Thy Grace</i>	No. 561, UMH
Gospel Lesson	John 15:1-8	(NT. Page 109)
*Hymn	<i>Father, We Thank You</i>	No. 565, UMH

Wesley's Covenant Service

Announcements

We Give Our Thanks

Invitation, Confession, Pardon, & Peace		No. 12, UMH
Offertory	<i>Of The Father's Love Begotten</i>	arr. Rorick
*Doxology		No. 95, UMH
Prayer of Dedication		
Celebration of Holy Communion		No. 13, UMH
Pastoral Prayer		

We Go Forth Renewed

*Closing Hymn	<i>Love Came Down at Christmas</i>	No. 242, UMH
*Benediction		
*Postlude	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	Willcocks

This Week's Opportunities

Sunday, January 1

Happy New Year!

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Monday, January 2

Office Closed

4:30 pm Soup Kitchen

5:00 pm Clothes Closet

Tuesday, January 3

Wednesday, January 4

6:00 pm Chancel Ringers

7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, January 5

Friday, January 6

Saturday, January 7

Sunday, January 8

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers:

Diane Ritchie & Lena Blagg

Otterbein UMC Staff

Rev. Adam Blagg	Senior Pastor
Sandra Schaefer	Music Director & Minister of Visitation
Melissa Miller	Office Manager
Dawn Warren	Treasurer
Judy Falls	Custodian

Otterbein in Prayer

Susie Ayala

Wanda Baker

Gary Billingsley

Millie Bruce

Rev. Louis Carson

Fern Cline

Eleanor Davis

Cliff & Jean Davis

Ann Dellinger

Jo Ellen Dickenson

Amber Earman

Mike Earman

Nancy East

Dennis Gaines

Ray & Audrey Griffith

Doris Hanger

Laura Headlee

Norma Heath

Hunter Hensley

Gloria Hildebrand

Alice Ely Howell

John Liskey

Allen Litten

Marion Malabad

Allene McCoy

John Miller

Mary Jo Mitchell

Wesley Monger

George & Betty Painter

BJ Payne

Judy Pruett

Mary Ellen Rohrbaugh

Becky Smith

Linda Stephens

Juanita Taylor

Anthony VanPelt

Daisy VanPelt

John Welch, Jr.

Mary Wenger

Family of Janalee Tutwiler



Announcements

- **Winter Clothing Needed** in the Clothes Closet for everyone: women, men, and older children.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** and **large print bulletins and hymnals** are **available**. Please see an usher for assistance.

What is Wesley's Covenant Renewal Service?

In 1663 Richard Alleine, a Puritan, published *Vindiciae Pietatis: or, "A Vindication of Godliness in the Greater Strictness and Spirituality of It"*. In 1753, it was again published in John Wesley's *A Christian Library*. Wesley used one chapter, "The Application of the Whole," on Monday, August 11, 1755, in what probably was the first real celebration of the Covenant Service in the Methodist movement.

Wesley found the service rich and meaningful, as expressed in his Journal: "Many mourned before God, and many were comforted" (April 1756); "It was, as usual, a time of remarkable blessing" (October 1765). "It was an occasion for a variety of spiritual experiences ... I do not know that ever we had a greater blessing. Afterwards many desired to return thanks, either for a sense of pardon, for full salvation, or for a fresh manifestation of His graces, healing all their backslidings" (January 1, 1775). In London these services were usually held on New Year's Day. Around the country the Covenant Service was conducted whenever John Wesley visited the Methodist Societies.

After the time of Wesley several versions of the Covenant Service were developed, gradually giving Wesley's material less place in the total service. The present service follows our Basic Pattern of worship, enables the congregation to participate more fully, and updates language. Most significant, the liturgy beginning with the Invitation is taken directly from Wesley's service of 1780.

From *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

**TLC Person
of the Week:**

Carolyn Stroop
Bellaire at Stone Port
1684 Port Hills Drive
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

*Remember Carolyn this week
with a note or a card.
Let's show her Otterbein's
"tender, loving care"!*

OTTERBEIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

176 West Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

oumcadm@hotmail.com
oumcharrisonburg.org

Office: (540) 434-7747
Prayer Line Ministry:
(540) 434-7745

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 3 pm
Friday: Closed

COVENANT PRAYER

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
see me as I fall down before you.**

**Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will,
for you have promised mercy to me
if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all,
covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.
Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world.**

In your power

**I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you.
For my own righteousness is riddled with sin,
unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again
if you would let him.

Before all heaven and earth,

I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God.

**I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion,
and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant,
to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ
as the only way and means of coming to God.

**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ
as the only new and living Way,
and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him.**

**O blessed Jesus, I come to you,
hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked,
unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants.**

I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head.

**I renounce my own worthiness,
and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness.**

I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide.

I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ,
to take my lot with you as it may fall.**

**Through your grace I promise
that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden.
All your laws are holy, just, and good.**

**I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions,
promising that I will strive
to order my whole life according to your direction,
and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today
without guile or reservation.**

If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright.

**And now, glory be to you, O God the Father,
whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Son,
who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood,
and now is my Savior and Redeemer.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit,
who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you have now become my Covenant Friend.**

**And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant.
So be it.**

**And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.
Amen.**

*You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word;
not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the
service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this,
sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and
you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.*

Signature

Date