



Peterson, Kathleen. Mary, Martha and Jesus, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. [retrieved July 14, 2025]. Original source: Kathleen Peterson, <https://www.kathleenpetersonart.com>.

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Service for the Worship of God

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025 | 11:00 AM

Prelude

Andante from Sonata in G, Op. 49, No. 1
Ludwig van Beethoven

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Katherine Stanford

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Introit

Imagine the People of God
Words and Music: Mark A. Miller

Imagine, imagine the people of God, believing, receiving, becoming God's love.
Imagine, imagine the people of God, caring, sharing God's love in the world.
Seeking the way of Jesus Christ, trusting the courage to change,
Being God's love with our neighbors and friends.

▲ Call to Worship *(Please rise in body or in spirit)*

Elder Jamie Jones

Come, people of faith, trust in God's steadfast love.

We will sit at the feet of our Lord, eager to learn and grow.

Come, people of faith, for the demands of discipleship are great,
and the needs of the world are overwhelming.

We will worship and celebrate God's love,
finding ourselves renewed to do Christ's work together.

▲ Hymn 360

Christ Is Coming!

UNSER HERRSCHER

▲ Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Rev. Dr. Shelly Wood

Loving God, we offer ourselves to you aware that our sins are many. Sometimes we go too fast. Sometimes we sit too still. We worry about the wrong things and neglect what is important. We struggle to find the right balance. Forgive us. Restore us. Help us to find the right measures of worship and service, of self-care and self-giving, of faith and hope and love, as we seek to follow the example of Jesus.

Please join in silent prayer.

▲ Congregational Response 544 *(sung)* O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

O ____ Lord, have ____ mer - cy; O Lord, have ____ mer - cy;
O ____ Christ, have ____ mer - cy; O Christ, have ____ mer - cy;

O ____ Lord, have ____ mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. ____
O ____ Christ, have ____ mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. ____

▲ Assurance of Pardon

▲ Act of Praise 591 (sung) Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)



Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has

par - doned me, and to the Spi - rit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile
Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-731520

▲ Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Anthem

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing
Words: George Herbert, 17th c. | Music: Greta Tomlins, 20th c.

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The heavens are not too high, God's praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low, God's praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout: no door can keep them out.
But, more than all, the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

Time With Children

Bridges to Worship will return in the fall.

Quentin Lisecki

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 10:38-47

Mrs. Noelle Castin

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Christ in the House

Rev. Dr. Katherine Stanford

Responding to the Word

▲ Hymn 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Invitation to Discipleship

Moment for Mission

Montreat Youth Conference

Quentin Lisecki

▲ Affirmation of Faith *(unison)*

Confession of Belhar, 1986

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities for society and the world.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

The Holy City

Words: Frederick Edward Weatherly | Music: Michael Maybrick

Last night I lay a sleeping,
There came a dream so fair.
I stood in old Jerusalem,
Beside the temple there;
I heard the children singing
And ever as they sang,
Methought the voice of angels,
From Heav'n in answer rang:
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Lift up your gates and sing,
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King!

And then methought my dream was changed,
the streets no longer rang.
Hushed were the glad Hosannas
The little children sang;
The sun grew dark with mystery,
The morn was cold and chill
As the shadow of a cross arose
Upon a lonely hill.
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
Hark how the angels sing,
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna to your King!

And once again the scene was changed,
New earth there seemed to be,
I saw the Holy City
Beside the tideless sea;
The light of God was on its streets,
The gates were open wide,
And all who would might enter,
And no one was denied.
No need of moon or stars by night,
Or sun to shine by day,
It was the new Jerusalem
That would not pass away.
Jerusalem, Jerusalem!
Sing for the night is o'er!
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for evermore!
Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna for evermore!

▲ **Doxology 607** (*sung*)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

▲ **Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

We give these gifts freely. We receive these gifts gratefully. We dedicate these gifts to the work of our congregation: serving human wholeness, welcoming the stranger, and loving God by caring for one another. Amen.

Bearing the Word Into the World

▲ **Hymn 295**

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

▲ **Benediction**

▲ **Choral Response**

Ukrainian Blessing

Words: Orthodox Benediction Music: Traditional Ukrainian

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord show mercy, through divine grace and love for all people; always, now and forevermore, and from all ages, to all ages. Amen.

▲ **Postlude**

Rondo: Allegro from Sonata in G, Op. 49, No. 1
Ludwig van Beethoven

▲ Please stand as you are able

Today

Worship Elders are Jamie Jones and Quentin Lisecki and the **Worship Deacon** is Dave Heiby.

Today's flowers are arranged by Ellen Beans.

Please join us following worship for Fellowship Time outside on the sidewalk hosted by the Deacons.

Upcoming Events

ALIVE! Food Drive: 40,000 lbs



Community food drives are an important part of ALIVE!'s ability to keep costs down during the year and serve more people in need. The goal is to collect 40,000 pounds of food by the end of July, enough to provide 1.7

million meals! You can help by donating non-perishable food in cans or plastic or ready-to-eat non-perishable kids meals. You can bring your items to church or the office during the month of July. Let's fill our box!!

Music and Movement - Birth to 5 Years



Take Flat Jesus With You!



This summer, let's send Flat Jesus on vacation wherever you go! Let Flat Jesus be a reminder of Jesus' real presence in every place we go and a fun reminder to help others encounter God.

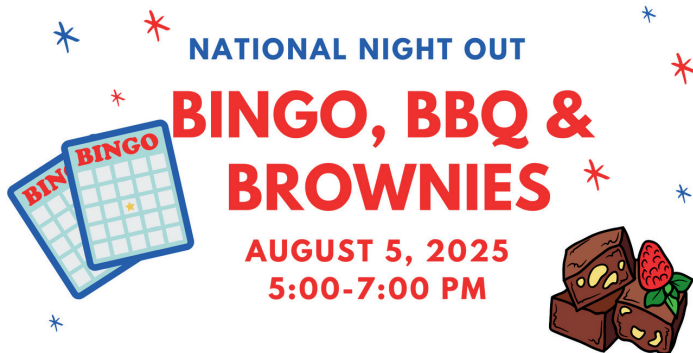
Help us follow the adventures of Flat Jesus!

- Download and print a copy at opmh.org/flatjesus or pick up one in the Narthex at church
- Decorate your Flat Jesus
- Take Flat Jesus everywhere and take pictures showing us what you are doing- be sure you are in the pic!

Share your adventures on social media and tag the Meeting House. @opmh_church, @opmhalexandria, #oldpresbyterianmeetinghouse



Flat Jesus has been seen around our campus!



Come out to meet our neighbors! We are looking for volunteers to help with this event: hosts, donate food, play bingo, and more. Scan the code or go to opmh.org/NNO to sign up to help. More info: vstones@opmh.org

Blessing of the New School Year



**Sunday, August 17
11:00 AM**

Bring your backpack, notebooks and calendar to church!

Massanetta Retreat Weekend



Save the Date!

November 7-9, 2025

Massanetta Springs
Camp & Conference Center
massanettasprings.org

For more info about events, opmh.org/events

Welcome

Welcome to Old Presbyterian Meeting House. We are glad you are worshipping with us today and hope you will explore the many opportunities of learning, serving and community building at the Meeting House. We are a caring community committed to living the greatest commandment of loving God and loving our neighbors. If you are new in town and/or looking for a church home, please accept this welcome as an open invitation to come with us as we worship and serve Jesus Christ!

Children are Welcome in Worship!

Worship is for the whole family of God, and we welcome children with their wiggles and giggles. Children's worship bags, as well as a basket of books, are available in the church entrance.

Nursery care for infants and children ages 3 and under is also available in the Education Building (past the burial ground behind the sanctuary, in the building on the left). The 11:00 AM service includes a children's message.

Guests

- Please fill out a Guest card from the pew and place it in the offering plate so we can keep you informed.
- Assistive listening devices and large print hymnals are available at the church entrance. Ask an usher for assistance.
- Restrooms and a changing station are available downstairs. See an Usher for directions.
- Please join us for fellowship in front of the Sanctuary following worship.

Pastoral Care

- If you would like to talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please call the Church Office, 703.549.6670.
- If you have a prayer request, please place the Prayer Request card in the offering plate, or contact Rev. Ann Herlin, aherlin@opmh.org.

Ways to Give

1. Place your offering in the offering plates.
2. Give online at opmh.org/give or snap the QR code at right.
3. Text *opmh* to 73256
4. Mail a check to 323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314.



Ongoing

Worship at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM in person and online at 11:00 AM.

Childcare for infants and toddlers

8:15 AM-12:15 PM, Room 14 – Education Building

Education for all resumes in the fall.

Leadership

Rev. Dr. Shelly Wood, Pastor,
swood@opmh.org

Rev. Dr. Katherine Stanford, Associate Pastor,
kstanford@opmh.org

Rev. Ann Herlin, Associate Pastor,
aherlin@opmh.org

Dr. Bryan Holten, Dir. of Music and Organist,
bholten@opmh.org

Mrs. Noelle Castin, Dir. of Christian Education,
ncastin@opmh.org

Mrs. Mary Pratt Perry, Dir. of Youth Ministry,
mpratt@opmh.org

Mr. Aaron Siirila, Business Administrator,
asiirila@opmh.org

Mrs. Ellen Haas, Administrative Specialist,
ehaas@opmh.org

Mrs. Vicki Stones, Communications/Office Mgr.,
vstones@opmh.org

Mr. David Heiby, Presbyterian Cemetery,
cemetery@opmh.org

Mrs. Tania Ryan, Meeting House Cooperative Preschool Dir

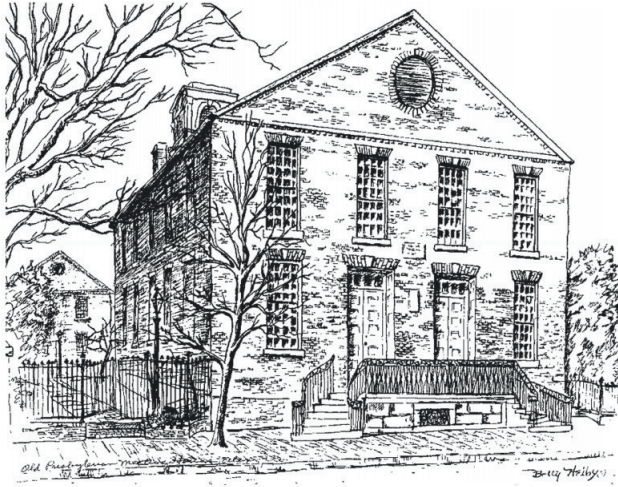
Mr. Paul Browne, Clerk of Session,
clerk@opmh.org

Contact the Church Office: 703.549.6670, admin@opmh.org

opmh.org for more info

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

JULY AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITAIN



This year we celebrated the 249th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia in 1776 on July 4, 2025. It is time to begin preparing for the nation's 250th celebration of that event, which will occur on July 4, 2026, and other revolutionary events that led up to it, many of which our ancestral congregation members participated in.

By July 1776, the Second Continental Congress concluded that it was time to sever the political bonds with the mother country. On July 2, 1776, it passed the Resolution for Independence, which declared that “these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and

independent states.” The resolution was introduced by Richard Henry Lee, on behalf of the Fifth Virginia Convention. The congress incorporated Lee’s words into the Declaration of Independence. One of the members of the Second Continental Congress was president of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University), the Presbyterian minister, the Rev. John Witherspoon, D.D. – he was the sole clergyman to sign the declaration. Brigadier General Daniel Roberdeau then residing in Philadelphia, served in the Third Continental Congress – after the war, he relocated to Alexandria (the family residence at 418 South Lee Street survives) and served our congregation as an elder.

Knowledge of the Declaration of Independence’s issuance arrived at Alexandria within about a week – the document appeared in the Annapolis newspaper on 11 July and in the Williamsburg newspaper on 20 July. Its reading in Williamsburg “was proclaimed ... and received with universal applause, under a discharge of cannon, firing of small arms, illuminations in the evening, &c., &c.” (The Virginia Gazette [Williamsburg] 27 July 1776).

When political independence from Britain was formally declared on July 4, 1776, our congregational ancestors had been explicitly involved in rebellious actions for several years. During spring 1770, seven congregation members signed the Virginia Non-Importation Agreement stating that they would not sell or purchase certain goods manufactured in Britain. Member John Dalton sat on the local five-member enforcement committee, which included George Washington and George Mason. By July 1774, in preparation for the First Virginia Convention, freeholders and inhabitants of Fairfax County signed the Fairfax Resolves, which laid out a series of complaints about contemporary relations with Britain. Seven of the twenty-five people who agreed to form the local Committee of Safety, which would serve as the local quasi-governmental body here, were members of our congregation. The graves of two of the congregation members who signed this document, John Carlyle, in our churchyard burial ground, and Robert Adam, in our Presbyterian Cemetery, were recently marked with memorial plaques by the Sons of the American Revolution in preparation for the nation’s upcoming 250th celebration. During the next two years, we will learn much more about the actions of our congregational ancestors, many of whom were “rebellious scoundrels,” as eighteenth-century loyalist, Nicholas Cresswell, referred to us.

If you would like to take a tour and hear more about our history, please contact the church office, 703.549.6670 or our Historian, Dr. Don Dahmann, ddahmann@yahoo.com

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

323 S. Fairfax Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.549.6670 | opmh.org