

Mount Olive Presbyterian Church

Organized 1874

Mount Olive, North Carolina



Mount Olive Presbyterian Church
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Welcome to Worship on the Lord's Day
5th Sunday after Pentecost
July 2, 2023

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

BRINGING GOD'S LIGHT INTO THE CHURCH

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sherry Smith

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (John 8:31-36; Romans 8:21, 2 Corinthians 3:17)

Leader: Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him, "If you continue to obey my teaching, you are truly my followers. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

People: **They answered, "We are Abraham's children, and we have never been anyone's slaves. So why do you say we will be free?"**

Leader: Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, everyone who lives in sin is a slave to sin. A slave does not stay with a family forever, but a son belongs to the family forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be truly free.

People: **One day the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.**

Leader: Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Let us worship God.

CALL TO CONFESSION (from Psalm 85: 8-9)

“I will listen to what God the Lord says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—
but let them not turn to folly.
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.”
Let us confess our sins before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Almighty God, Creator of the universe,
Ruler of all nations, Judge of all flesh,
you have placed us, your people, in this land made rich
with rivers, forests, mountains, and creatures great and small.
Here, you set before the founders and pioneers of this nation
an opportunity beyond measure
to build a realm of justice, peace, and freedom.
Here you continue to call your people,
freed from the law and baptized into Christ Jesus,
to be a sign of your reign in all the world.
For such a place, such a vision
and such a calling we give you thanks,
praying we may ever join afresh the dreams you set before us.
Forgive, we pray, our squandering of so great a gift. Heal our land, we beg you.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Galatians 5:13) unison

“My brothers and sisters, God called you to be free, but do not use your freedom as an excuse to do what pleases your sinful self. Serve each other with love.” By God’s mercy, our sins are forgiven. We are set free to serve!

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free
While God is marching on
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
While God is marching on.**

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

SHARING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN

Pastor Bob Bardin

(2 cents A Meal Offering)

If I Were a Butterfly

1. If I were a butterfly, I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings. If I were a robin in a tree, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing.
If I were a fish in the sea, I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee, but I just thank you, Father, for making me — Me.

CHORUS

For you gave me a heart and you gave me a smile, you gave me Jesus and you made me your child,
And I just thank you, Father, for making me — Me!

ANTHEM

Patriotic Medley

Katherine Schroeder
and Ralph Schroeder

My country, 'Tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside Let freedom ring.

God bless America, Land that I love. Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies, To the oceans, White with foam.
God bless America, My home sweet home.

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 5: 12-42

(pew Bible p. 774)

SERMON

“The Glorious Freedom of the Children of God” Pastor Bob Bardin

*HYMN

To God Be the Glory

#485 (Blue)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Heidelberg Catechism,” Book of Confessions, PCUSA

Q. 12. According to God's righteous judgment we deserve punishment both now and in eternity; how then can we escape this punishment and return to God's favor?

A. **God requires that his justice be satisfied. Therefore, the claims of this justice must be paid in full either by ourselves or by another.**
Ex. 23:7; Rom. 2:1-11; Isa. 53:11; Rom. 8:3-4

Q. 13. Can we make this payment ourselves?

A. **Certainly not. Actually, we increase our debt every day.**
Matt. 6:12; Rom. 2:4-5

Q. 14. Can another creature—any at all—
pay this debt for us?

A. **No.**
To begin with,
God will not punish any other creature
for what a human is guilty of.
Furthermore, no mere creature can bear the weight
of God's eternal wrath against sin
and deliver others from it.
Ezek. 18:4, 20; Heb. 2:14-18; Ps. 49:7-9; 130:3

Q. 15. What kind of mediator and deliverer
should we look for then?

A. **One who is a true and righteous human,**
yet more powerful than all creatures,
that is, one who is also true God.
Rom. 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:21; Heb. 2:17; Isa. 53:9; 2 Cor. 5:21;
Heb. 7:26; Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Jer. 23:6; John 1:1

SENT TO SERVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace

D. Besig & N. Price

Go now in peace.

Never be afraid

God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

(*Please stand as you are able.)



This Week's Activities

Today	10:00 am	Worship
Wednesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
	11:00 am	<i>Disciplines for the Inner Life</i>
	6:45 am	Men's Group
	5:30 pm	<i>Disciplines for the Inner Life</i>
Thursday	3:45 pm	Chair Yoga
Saturday	8:00 am	Community Farmers Market
Sunday	10:00 am	Worship

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and the Disciplines Group will meet Wednesday, July 5th instead of Tuesday at the regular time.

Special music time - we would like to thank Katherine Schroeder and Ralph Schroeder for sharing their talents with us today.

Upcoming July Music Specials

July 9- Lisa Dismore, Clarinet

July 16 - Anna Kornegay, Piano

Lynn Williams, Solo

July 23- Katherine Wolfe, Solo

July 30 - Hymn Sing

If **you would like to share your talents** during the anthem time while the choir is taking their break this summer, please see Cathy.

Today, we will collect the **2 cents a meal Offering** during the Children's Time.

The **Mt. Olive Community Farmers Market sponsored by MOPC** is held every Saturday in our parking lot. July 8th will be Christmas in July day at the market. Come enjoy specialty items and deals focused on putting you in a festive mood.

Attendance June 25—67

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Recent Surgeries or Illnesses

(names listed for 2 weeks)

- Lorraine Kornegay, cancer
- Virginia Matthews, (Megan Kornegay's mom, hip replacement complications)

Ongoing Concerns

(names listed for 2 months)

- Peggy Barwick, blood pressure issues
- Lynda Roten, tibial plateau fracture
- Wesley Parker, cancer treatments
- Sonny Cain's father, heart issues
- Terry Walton- (Cathy Price's step-daughter, heart issues)
- Brenda Schroeder, knee issues
- Linda Jennings, (Alice Adam's sister, colon cancer treatment)

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

(names listed for 2 months)

Homebound/Nursing Facilities

- Bobbie Coley
- Vennie Jordan
- Barry Giddings
- Robbie McSwain
- Rudy Hooks

Please call or email the church office with your prayer concern. Church members and their family will be included in the worship bulletin and e-newsletter for the durations listed above. Please let us know as prayers are answered, so we can celebrate with you; or as needs change, so we know how best to pray with and for you. If you have a confidential concern, please contact Pastor Bob.