

# 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  
16th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2024**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

BRINGING GOD'S LIGHT INTO THE CHURCH

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cathryn Jones

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Our merciful God, maker of us all,

People: **pleads the cause of the poor and afflicted.**

Leader: Open our hearts to demonstrate God's grace

People: **through Jesus Christ our Lord**

\*HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#383 (Blue)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to the Lord who surrounds us with favor forevermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of favor, we have not been true to you. You have chosen the poor in the world, but we have dishonored them. You plead the cause of the afflicted, but we crush them. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have favored the rich and despised the poor. We have dismissed the needy with empty words. Soften our hearts and make straight our ways. Heal our unbelief and turn us back to you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: The mercy of our God triumphs over judgment through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, who has pleaded our cause, forgiven our sin, healed our sickness, and delivered us from evil. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS      The Gloria Patri      #579 (Blue)

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SHARING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN      Rev. Savannah Demuynck

**WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING      James 2:1-17      pew Bible p. 854, 855

ANTHEM      Surely, It is God Who Saves Me      J. White

REFRAIN: Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation  
And on that day you shall say, "Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name." REFRAIN  
Make God's deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that the Lord is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for God has done great things and this is known in all the  
world. REFRAIN  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion; ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy  
One of Israel REFRAIN

SERMON "Who Do We Favor?" Rev. Savannah Demuynck

\*HYMN We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight #399 (Blue)

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY #592 (Blue)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

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	11:00 am	Worship
Monday	3:45 pm	Senior Fitness
	5:30 pm	Service Circle
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Cub Scout Pack 34
Wednesday	6:45 am	Men's Group
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	10:00 am	Children's and Adult Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** on Sept. 15 to elect the following individuals to serve on the Elder Nominating Committee: Margaret Anderson, Tena Boyd, Don Hargrove and D.J. Jarman.

**Adult Sunday School** started back today! Savannah is leading a discussion using the history of the PCUSA. As we look back on the past 150 years here at MOPC, we'll look back together at the history of our denomination. Join us on Sundays at 10 am in the Serendipity room.

**Children's Sunday School started today as well.** This past school year (2023-2024) we had 2 very committed Sunday School teachers for our children. Sherry Smith and Dee Stentz are continuing this year, but we need more volunteers! You can volunteer to join this Sunday morning team weekly, monthly, as a substitute, or even just one time each semester (Fall and Spring). Please consider volunteering with your time, and we definitely ask ALL to pray for this Sunday School Ministry. Contact Sherry Smith, Lisa Dismore, or any of the CE committee members to let them know how you are able to serve.

**The Service Circle** will meet Monday, Sept. 9th at 5:30 pm at the home of Frances Sykes. Please bring a dish. All women are invited.

**MOPC's 150th Anniversary is quickly approaching!** We will have a Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 29th, immediately following worship. BBQ, fried chicken, coleslaw, hushpuppies and beverages will be provided. Members of the congregation are asked to bring side dishes and desserts. As we anticipate a larger crowd at this luncheon and want to ensure we have enough food for all, you are asked to please bring more than you would for a normal fellowship luncheon. Please see Margaret Anderson or Kitsie Jones of the Spiritual Growth, Nurture & Care Committee with any questions.

**Mount Olive Presbyterian Church  
Committee Rosters 2024**

**Administration, Personnel & Planning (APP)**

Lynn Williams, Chairman  
Robin McSwain, Elder  
Selena Bennett  
Alma Mooring  
*Meets as needed*

**Buildings & Grounds (B&G)**

Ralph Schroeder, Chairman  
Gordon Bennett, Elder  
Graham Bennett  
Michael Williams  
Jordan Williams  
*Meets as needed*

**Christian Education (CE)**

Sherry Smith, Chairman  
Lisa Dismore, Reporting Elder  
Charlotte Price, Elder  
Tena Boyd  
Maureen Keathley  
Sara Beth Sargent  
Dee Stentz  
*Meets as needed*

**Finance**

Patsy West, Chairman & Elder  
Melba Keathley  
*Meets as needed*

**Outreach, Mission & Stewardship (OWS)**

Mary Ann Wright, Chairman  
Keith Wright, Elder  
Alice Adams  
Wendy Ford  
Sue Godwin  
Frances Sykes  
*Meets as needed*

**Spiritual Growth, Nurture & Care  
Committee (SGNC)**

Margaret Anderson, Chairman Elder  
Bob Boyd  
Tena Boyd  
Lynn Dail  
Julie Graham  
Don Hargrove  
DJ Jarman  
Kitsie Jones  
Jeff Smith  
Bobby James (inactive)  
Susan James (inactive)  
*Meets as needed, after Sunday worship*

**Worship**

Joy Bayles, Co-Chairman & Elder  
Lynda Roten, Co-Chairman  
Tena Boyd  
Cindy Jarman  
Cathy Mason  
Robin McSwain  
Cathy Price  
Ralph Schroeder  
*Meets as needed, after Sunday worship*

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

### Concerns

- Brenda Schroeder—Wayne UNC, low potassium
- Charlotte Price—heart attack, stent placement
- Jorge West-foot issues
- Eddie Best– health concerns

### Ongoing Concerns

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- Ann Blanton– mouth & eye issues

### Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- Rudy Hooks
- Donna Williams, (Jimmy Bayles' sister)

### Homebound/Nursing Facilities

- Edna Colson
- Bobbie Coley
- Vennie Jordan
- Robbie McSwain

## A Brief History of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church

Two thousand, twenty-four, marks the 150th anniversary of Mount Olive Presbyterian Church. Organized in 1874, by the Reverend Alexander Kirkland, sixteen members gathered to begin what would become Mount Olive Presbyterian Church of the Wilmington Presbytery. In 1875 a lot was given to build a wooden building on the site of our current sanctuary. By 1914, the membership had outgrown the old wooden building and the church was moved to the back of an adjacent lot to make room for a new sanctuary. The new brick building was completed in 1916. Additions and improvements to our Church have continued through the years. The Mount Olive Church joined with Baker Presbyterian in 1988 and has been blessed by the guidance and love of the various ministers who have served as our leaders. We are proud of the work our congregation continues to accomplish as shared in our mission statement, "called together by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Mount Olive Presbyterian Church is committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all people, to nurturing Christian discipleship, and to serving the world in the name of Christ." As we celebrate our past, we look to a future defined by renewed commitment and spiritual growth.