

Welcome to Worship on the Lord's Day
3rd Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

BRINGING GOD'S LIGHT INTO THE CHURCH

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keith Wright

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Alma Mooring

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle Keith & Mary Ann Wright

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

41(Blue)

CALL TO CONFESSION (Acts 3:19)

“The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
Slow to anger, and abounding in love.”

Let us confess our sins before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Psalm 103: 11-12) unison

**“For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who revere him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.”
Through Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.”**

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (sung in unison)

**“No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.”**

SHARING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35: 1– 10

(pew Bible page 508)

ANTHEM

‘Twas In the Moon of Wintertime

arr. A Baldwin

*GOSPEL READINGS John 4: 4-14 (pew Bible page 752)

SERMON “Streams in the Desert” Pastor Bob Bardin

*HYMN Prepare the Way #13 (Blue)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostle’s 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.

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

*HYMN Christ is Made the Sure Foundation #417 (Blue)

SENT TO SERVE AS GOD’S PEOPLE

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE Go With Us, Lord #535 (Blue)

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.
Amen.**

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able.*



The altar flowers are given today to the glory of God and in honor of Bob and Sally Bardin.

This Week's Activities

Today	11:00 am	Worship
Tuesday	8:00 am	Walking Club
Wednesday	6:45 am	Men's Group
	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	3:45 pm	Chair Yoga
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship

The Service Circle will meet Dec. 13th at the home of Frances Sykes at 5:30 pm. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to Frances **today**, Dec. 11th.

Ushers: We will begin having an usher near the door to greet people before worship on Sunday mornings. If you would like to sign up to serve as an usher/greeter, there is a sign up sheet on the table near the bulletins. Please indicate if you have a preference of dates to serve or dates that would not be suitable for you. Thank you for your help.

III Century Singers presents *The Glory of Christmas* today, Dec. 11th at 3 pm at the First Baptist Church in Goldsboro and on Dec. 13th at the First Baptist Church, Mount Olive at 7 pm. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

Child of the Promise, a musical story celebrating the birth of Christ, is being performed at the Paramount Theater in Goldsboro. Dates are: Dec. 16th at 7:30 pm, Dec. 17th at 2 pm, Dec. 17th at 7:30 pm and Dec. 18th at 3 pm. General admission is \$20. (Saturday matinee is half price)

Pledge Cards: If you have not had the opportunity to turn in your **pledge card for 2023**, you may do so today by placing it in the offering plate. Extra cards are on the tables with the bulletins. The return of pledge cards greatly assists in budget planning for the new year.

A reminder that Church office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 am to 2 pm and Wednesdays 9 am to 12 pm. The office is closed Mondays and Fridays. Pastor Bob works Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Recent Surgeries or Illnesses

(names listed for 2 weeks)

- Eleanor Ballance, (grandmother of Brittany Schroeder, stroke and fall)
- Gary Newhard, (son in law of Janet Kennedy, back surgery Friday, Dec. 2)

Ongoing Concerns

(names listed for 2 months)

- Brenda Schroeder, knee-related issues and preparation for knee surgery
- Gwyn Price (sister in law of Margaret Anderson and Patsy West, hip replacement surgery)
- Robert Wall, (friend of the Bennetts, health issues and possible surgery)
- Sonny Cain's father, (radiation treatments for prostate cancer and also other health concerns)
- Taylor Dail, (Harvey and Sandra Dail's son, in New Bern with his parents for outpatient physical therapy)
- Linda Jennings, (Alice Adam's sister, colon cancer treatment)
- Bill Cox (brother of Lynda Roten, remission of lymphoma)
- Aubrey Blizzard, continuing health issues
- Brent Crutchfield (best friend of Justin Rectenwald, stage 4 colon cancer)

- Nellie Davis (sister of Betty Lou Kornegay, back injury/paralysis.)
- Mitzi Lesher-Thomas (brain tumor)

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

(names listed for 2 months)

- Mary Kelly, Nov. 29
- J. B. Price, Oct. 20
- Lee Sargent, Oct. 19
- Karl Graves, Oct. 8

Homebound/Nursing Facilities

- 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 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.



Church 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.