

# 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  
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
July 24, 2022**

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

Leader: God invites us to come into his holy presence.

**People: We want to come to God, but we do not feel worthy.**

Leader: God invites us to come in spite of what we have done or not done.

**People: We want to believe that God loves us, but we are afraid.**

Leader: Look to the cross before you. Jesus has shown you the love of God and has reconciled you to your Creator.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, and by his grace, we come to worship and praise our God!**

\*HYMN

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

#285 (Blue)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The God who knows us better than we know ourselves invites us to come and confess the state of our lives so that we might receive forgiveness and newness of life. Please join me in our prayer of confession printed in the bulletin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

**We confess before one another and to you, O God, that we are a sinful people. We have not loved others as ourselves. We have not even loved ourselves well. We have taken your love for granted and failed to reform our lives. We have looked down on others in an attempt to feel better about ourselves. Forgive us and renew us in your image so that we may freely share your love with others. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God’s compassion is sufficient for all our needs. God’s mercy is greater than all of our sins. In the name of Christ, and through his redeeming love, we are forgiven!

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE                      Gloria Patri                      #579 (Blue)

### WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON              Psalm 32:1-7                      (pew Bible page 395,396)

\*HYMN                      When I Survey the Wondrous Cross                      #101 (Blue)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON              Luke 17:1-5                      (pew Bible page 741)

SERMON                      “Forgiveness of Sins”                      Rev. Diane Knauf

TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

## PASTORAL PRAYER 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 *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.**

### \*HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

#438 (Blue)

## SENT TO SERVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*\*DEPARTING IN GRATITUDE: there are offering plates on either side of the sanctuary to receive your tithes and offerings.*

### \*BLESSING OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD (unison)

**We come before you, O God, not because we are worthy but because you have forgiven us and claimed us in spite of our sins. In gratitude for all you have done for us, receive these gifts even as you have received us as your children. Then use what we bring, we pray, to build up your Kingdom in this world. In Jesus' name, Amen**

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*SUNG 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.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

††††

### **This Week's Activities**

|                  |          |                 |
|------------------|----------|-----------------|
| <b>Today</b>     | 10:00 am | Worship         |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 8:00am   | Walking Club    |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 6:45am   | Men's Group     |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 3:45pm   | Chair Yoga      |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 8:00am   | Farmer's Market |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 10:00am  | Worship         |

**Altar flowers** are given today to the Glory of God and in honor of all couples celebrating July anniversaries by Richard and Annette Hansen.

**Red Cross Blood Drive** In memory of Clark Dail at the Town Depot, 110 West Main Street, Mt. Olive on Tuesday, July 26 from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

**The Tuesday Morning Bible Study** concluded their study of Acts, and will be on a break starting this week. They will meet again on Tuesday, August 23 for a fellowship brunch at 10 am. All are welcome.

Contemplating Transition: My announcement that I am leaving to take a new call in South Carolina means change, and change is often unwelcome and anxiety producing. Though everyone has been very gracious in wishing me well, inside you may be feeling shocked, discouraged, or even angry. These feelings are to be expected and you have every right to feel them. You may be wondering, what's next? And do I have the energy to go through another season of change? Recalling these biblical promises may be helpful:

1. **God will be with this church at all times.** God is with MOPC, as he has always been. "I will never leave you or forsake you," (Heb 13:5). Pastors will come and go. Only God will never leave us.
2. **God is in control.** God "works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Eph. 1:11), even pastoral transitions, even when they are unexpected and unwelcome. So the question is not, "Who is in control?" God is in control. The question is, "Will you rest in him by trusting him?"
3. **God plans good out of this transition.** It might not feel good right now, but God has promised that he works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith. Trust that the work we've done together over the past year and a half will bear fruit. Trust that we have excellent leaders on our Session and in our Presbytery who will help our congregation discern the way forward that God is making.
4. **Prayer is powerful.** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:6-7) Be honest with God about your fears, and your feelings, while thanking God for your blessings. Keeping a continuous connection with God will diminish your anxiety and bring you peace like nothing else can.

As you consider these things, please know my door is open if you would like to talk (or call, or email). Please know that I am praying for our congregation. If you have questions or concerns, I encourage you to ask me directly or speak with our clerk of Session, Lynn Williams.

My last day in the office will be Thursday, August 25. Until then, I'm looking forward to continuing to minister with you for the good of this congregation and our community.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Diane

**Would you like to help at our Farmers Market?** The Outreach committee is responsible for lining up “Church Hosts” to be on site every Saturday during the Farmers Market, held in our parking lot from 8-11 am. Duties are simple but important:

1. Get the building key from Mary Ann Wright near the end of the week. This can be worked out for your convenience.
2. Put up vertical sign in grassy area at front of parking lot (bring a hammer) and put up small sign on Breazeale at Medical Park intersection. These are very lightweight (can be done by one person).
3. Be at church parking lot around 7:30 am to greet vendors and get above done.
4. Mary Ann will be glad to meet anyone at the lot at 7:30 on your dates if you want to help.
5. At 11 am when market concludes, remove both signs, make sure building is locked and return key to Mary Ann.

We need to fill some dates in July and August. Hosts can be singles, partners or families. Remember holding the Farmers Market is providing a much needed service to our community. Contact Mary Ann Wright for further details.

**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. Rev. Diane works Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays.

Announcements for the bulletin should be submitted no later than 11 am on Tuesday to be included in that Sunday’s bulletin.

Announcements for the newsletter should be submitted no later than the 25th to go in the following month’s newsletter.

A Communications request form should be completed in writing. Forms are available in the closet with the mailboxes near the office.

## **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 through worship, service, education, and fellowship.

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

### Recent Surgeries or Illnesses

*(names listed for 2 weeks)*

- Sonny Cain's father, beginning treatments for prostate cancer.

### Ongoing Concerns

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- J. B. Price (brother of Margaret Anderson and Patsy West, continuing medical issues.)
- Bill Cox (brother of Lynda Roten, lymphoma and chemotherapy)
- Aubrey Blizzard, continuing health issues
- Brent Crutchfield (best friend of Justin Rectenwald, stage 4 colon cancer)
- Rex and Phyllis Whitfield Lewis, major health concerns
- Hunter Smith (great nephew of Julie Graham, follow up treatment for lymph node removal.)
- Nellie Davis (sister of Betty Lou Kornegay, back injury/paralysis.)
- Mitzi Leshner-Thomas (brain tumor)
- Lee Sargent (chemotherapy)
- Kirk Nethercutt (son-in-law of Alice Adams, metastatic lung cancer)

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

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- Pat Blann, July 11 (Janet Kennedy's sister)
- Jim Holland, July 8
- David Stentz, June 19
- Charles Ivey, May 31

### Homebound/Nursing Facilities

- Vennie Jordan
- Barry Giddings
- Mary Kelly
- 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 Rev. Diane.