

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
The Lord's Supper
August 7, 2022

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

BRINGING GOD'S LIGHT INTO THE CHURCH

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joy Bayles

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Be still and know that God is.

People: **God was, also, in the beginning.**

Leader: And when all human striving has ceased, God will still be.

People: **From everlasting to everlasting, God is God, and alone is worthy to be
worshiped.**

*HYMN

We Gather Together

#559 (Blue)

CALL TO CONFESSION

In trust, let us call upon God's holy name, confess our sin, and receive forgiveness. Please join me in our unison prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more into your likeness and image; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Lay down your burdens. Give up your sinful ways, and accept the warmth of God's love, for we have been forgiven, and in Christ are made new again. Look up with hope and live.

People: Amen. We will live grateful lives. Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

#579 (Blue)

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

FIRST TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 2:8-9, 15

(pew Bible page 2)

*HYMN

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

#521 (Blue)

SECOND TESTAMENT LESSON

John 12:20-26

(pew Bible page 762)

COMMUNION MEDITATION "Summertime Thanksgiving"

Rev. Diane Knauf

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy God, we praise you for bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust, leading captives into freedom, consuming false idols with holy fire, calling wandering children home, giving bread to the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, raising the dead to life. Always and everywhere you know our needs and respond with what is best for us. We lift to you this day all those in need; and those ill in body, mind or spirit. Bring healing and peace upon each one, and upon your world.

People: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ: Word made flesh, light of the world, living water, shepherd and gate, way and truth and life. Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pastor: Gracious God, now pour out your Holy Spirit among us: upon this bread and cup, upon your people. Make us one in the body, one in the blood, one with Christ, one in mission, one in ministry; in this place, in every place, in this world, in the world to come. Receive our thanks and praise for this holy meal and for your unending love, for we ask it in Jesus' name, as we join our voices together in the prayer he taught us to pray

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

CONSECRATING THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you. Give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

#281 (Blue)

*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 bring our gifts to you, Gracious God, and offer them as symbol of sacrifice and service. We seek to share the story of your suffering love that fulfills and conquers death. Bless these gifts and all who give; use our wealth, our time, our abilities, our prayers for the good of all your people, for we ask it 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

Today	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Session Meeting
Tuesday	8:00am	Walking Club
Wednesday	6:45am	Men's Group
Thursday	3:45pm	Chair Yoga
Saturday	8:00am	Farmer's Market
Sunday	10:00am	Worship
		Congregation Meeting

Congregational Meetings:

The Session calls two congregational meetings for the month of August:

1. Sunday, August 14 after 10 am worship: to elect elders for the class of 2025. The candidates are: Margaret Anderson, Robin McSwain and Keith Wright. We will also elect the nominating committee for 2023.
2. Sunday, August 21 after 10 am worship: to vote to dissolve the call between MOPC and Rev. Diane as she prepares to take a call to a church in South Carolina.

Tuesday Bible Study: Mark Your Calendars!

If you've ever attended this class, or are interested in joining, you're invited!

Rev. Diane is hosting a special farewell party, August 23 at Southern Grounds Coffee House starting at 10 am. Southern Grounds will provide samples of their special coffees and also their famous muffins. Ham biscuits are also available.

Please let Rev. Diane know to expect you so she can plan accordingly.

Thanks!

Fellowship Luncheon in honor of Rev. Diane following worship on August 21. Chicken will be provided by the church, please bring sides and desserts. Join us as we say goodbye to Rev. Diane.

“To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1

I’ve been thinking lately about seasons and purposes and the mysteries of God. The bad news/good news is: All things change--except God! He promises us that all seasons have a beginning and an end. In Genesis 8:22, God spoke to Noah and said that, “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night, shall not cease.” God designed and framed the world so that we would live our lives constantly moving out of one season and into the next. Today we are experiencing blazing heat, lush flowers, and fruitful crops; soon we will welcome chilly nights and turning leaves as fall arrives. While some seasons bring weeping, others bring joy; some seasons bring war, while others bring peace, but each season is temporary, and brings with it an element of change and hidden purpose, according to God’s design.

When we look through the lens of scripture and faith at this season (the pandemic, the fears of recession, war and strife in the world and even in our communities; and more transition here at MOPC as I prepare to take another call), we are assured that what feels like a crisis is not a crisis at all, nor is it the way life will be forever. Believing this may not make the present any easier to accept or navigate, but our strength lies in trusting that all of life is under the hand of God, who sees the bigger picture, and is guiding us toward goodness and “shalom” (peace and wellbeing for all). This is not to say that God causes bad things to happen, but rather that in his loving power is capable of working through them to bring about some good.

I want to share this affirmation from author Marques Farmer: “I choose to embrace God’s perspective in every season. God gives me hope and expectation that with Him difficult conditions are always subject to change and transformation.” May these words guide us in the coming days, weeks and years. I am certain that God has good things planned for each of us and for Mount Olive Presbyterian church.

--Rev. Diane

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Recent Surgeries or Illnesses

(names listed for 2 weeks)

- Corporal Logan Cox and Deputy Ramon Torres, (Wayne County Deputies wounded in the line of duty.)
- Karen Maxwell (granddaughter of William and Linda Kelly, a collapsed lung)
- Linda (Alice Adam's sister, treatment for colon cancer)
- Ralph Schroeder's aunt, uncle and cousin, various health concerns and upcoming surgeries

Ongoing Concerns

(names listed for 2 months)

- Sonny Cain's father, beginning treatments for prostate cancer.
- 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.)
- Mitzi Leshner-Thomas (brain tumor)
- Lee Sargent (Ablation treatment)

- Kirk Nethercutt (son-in-law of Alice Adams, metastatic lung cancer)
- Nellie Davis (sister of Betty Lou Kornegay, back injury/paralysis.)

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the families of:

(names listed for 2 months)

- Sgt. Matthew Fishman, Aug. 2 (Wayne County Deputy killed in the line of duty)
- Pat Blann, July 11 (Janet Kennedy's sister)
- Jim Holland, July 8
- David Stentz, June 19

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.