



**Welcome to Worship on the Lord's Day  
3rd Sunday of Advent  
December 15, 2024**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

BRINGING GOD'S LIGHT INTO THE CHURCH

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lynn Williams

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Wolfe Family

B: So today we light the candle of joy, because the welcome God has for us in nothing short of joyful. Rest in that good news. Let it wash over you.

**People: We are close to home. Amen.**

\*HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

#106 (Purple)

CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Expansive God, we know that the church is your house, and your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that your home is a home for all, that truth requires hard work, that truth requires uncomfortable justice. Help us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear and trust this good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS      The Gloria Patri      #581 (Purple)

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SHARING FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN      Rev. Savannah Demuyneck

## WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING      Isaiah 12:2-6      p. 492 (pew Bible)

NEW TESTAMENT READING      Luke 3:7-18      p. 726 (pew Bible)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

SERMON "What, Then, Should We Do?" Rev. Savannah Demuyneck

HYMN Hark! The Herald Angels Sing # 119 (Purple)

\*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 (Purple)

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

Love Has Come

#110 (Purple)

\*POSTLUDE

*(\*Please stand as you are able.)*

*Liturgy adapted from Close to Home Series by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*



**This Week's Activities**

Today	11:00 am	Worship
Monday	3:45 pm	Senior Fitness
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
	1:00 pm	Session Meeting

The **Christmas Eve Service** with communion will be Tuesday, Dec. 24th at 7 pm.

The **Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Hubert & Clara Price by Margaret Anderson & Patsy West.

The **Joy Offering** is divided equally between two needs. Our financial support joins other congregations to help Presbyterian related schools and colleges to support communities of color and to help church workers and their families during times of financial crisis. We will present our Joy Offering next Sunday, Dec. 22nd.

The **Church Office** will be closed Dec. 24th, 25th, 26th and Jan. 1.

**Financial Report**

As of Oct. 31, 2024	<b>General Fund</b>	Month to Date	Year to Date
	Total Revenues	\$14,088.46	\$138,334.46
	Total Expenses	\$15,414.17	\$134,358.62
	Net Total	(\$1,325.71)	\$3,975.84
	<b>Building Fund</b>	Month to Date	Year to Date
	Total Revenues	\$1,637.50	\$26,208.25
	Total Expenses	\$1,379.22	\$27,693.39
	Net Total	\$258.28	(\$1,485.14)

**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

- Jordan Williams-leg surgery recovery
- Ray Price- hospitalization, heart issues
- Ann Blanton- eye surgery recovery
- Brenda Schroeder-UNC Chapel Hill Hospital, heart valve issues, fall

### Ongoing Concerns

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- Eddie Best—health concerns

### Homebound/Nursing Facilities

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

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

*(names listed for 2 months)*

- Ann Williamson -mother of Cheryl Kornegay
- Pam Wood
- B. J. Lee - father of Julie Graham

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 Savannah at [savannah.mopcc@gmail.com](mailto:savannah.mopcc@gmail.com)

## 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.