

# Mount Olive Presbyterian Church

Organized 1874  
Mount Olive, North Carolina



## Welcome

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"*  
Psalm 122:1 NRSV

Mount Olive Presbyterian Church  
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Pastor: Rev. Steven Wicks  
Music Director: Cathy Mason

# Worship on the Lord's Day February 26, 2017 Transfiguration fo the Lord

## CALLED TO GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Strike of the Hour

LOGOS Tone Chime Choir

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Elizabeth Sargent

Prelude

Bringing the Light of God into the Church

### Prayer of the Day

O God Almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Grant us, we pray, to be grounded and settled in your truth by the coming down of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. That which we know not, reveal; that which is wanting in us, fill up; that which we know, confirm; and keep us blameless in your service; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### \*Choral Introit

### Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Hymn 252 (Red)

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;**

**There are sweet expressions on each face,**

**and I know that it's the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us,**

**filling us with Your love;**

**And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise:**

**Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,**

**when we shall leave this place.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 106 (NIV)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

**People: Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord, or declare all his praise?**

Leader: Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

**People: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you save them,**

**All: that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your inheritance.**

**\*Opening Prayer**

**\*Hymn 142 (Blue)**

**All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!**

**CORONATION**

**Prayer of Confession: (*In Unison*)**

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. (*Pause for a moment of silent reflection and personal confession.*) **Amen.****

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**People: Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

**People: The old life has gone; a new life has begun.**

Leader: Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Response of Praise**

**Day by Day**

**Hymn 55 (Red)**

**Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray;**

**To see Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly, Follow Thee more nearly,**

**Day by day.**

**CALLED TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading (page 860)

2 Peter 1:16-21(NIV)

**Anthem**

Sing A Jubilant Song.

D. and J. Perry

Sing a jubilant song, a jubilant song, A joyous song of praise.

Sing a jubilant song, a jubilant song, to celebrate life, a jubilant song.

One voice, one song of joy proclaim; alleluia.

Of hope and peace for every man; Alle, alleluia.

Make a glorious sound, a glorious sound in voices true and strong.

Make a glorious sound to Heaven and Earth, a glorious sound.

Gospel Reading (page 758)

John 9:1-25 (NIV)



## CALLED TO SERVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Hymn 485 (Blue) To God Be the Glory**

DOANE

\*Taking the Light of God into the World

\*Charge and Benediction (invites all who are able to stand)

Wherever you go, God is sending you.

Wherever you are, God has a purpose in you being there.

Christ who indwells you has something he wants to do through you where you are!

Believe it and go in the grace and power and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

(Rev. Richard C. Halverson, D.D., US Senate Chaplain Feb. 1981-Dec. 1994)

\*Congregational Choral Response

Music composed by Dr. Carl Ashley

**May the Lord, mighty God bless and keep you forever.**

**By His grace and His might help you in every endeavor.**

**Long may His grace be kind to you, may it fail you never.**

**May the Lord, mighty God bless you and keep you forever.**

Postlude

(\* Invites all who are able to stand)



**Large Print & Children's Activity Bulletins....** are available every week, in 2 age groups, featuring one of the readings or Gospel relevant to today's service. Please ask an usher if you would like one.

**Altar Flowers this morning are given...** To the glory of God in honor of Lauren's 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday by Eric & Meredith Shivar

**Happy Birthday this week to...** Jennifer Merritt, Gregg Conover, Thomas Ferrell IV, Seth Kornegay, Lauren Shivar, Bill Mele, Barbara Herring, Brittany Schroeder, Grace Webster

**Called Congregational Meeting...** There will be a Called Congregational Meeting held, Sunday, March 5, immediately following 11:00am worship in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect an elder to fill the remaining one year of Clark Dail's seat on Session.

**Thank you...** to the LOGOS Tone Chime Choir for starting our service this morning.

**Special prayers this week for...**

**Southern Wayne HS, Spring Creek HS & Wayne Early College:** Students, teachers, staff, Principal, Social Worker, and all their families. Pray specifically that students may respect their teachers, staff, other students, their families, and themselves.

**Our high school students:** (both MOPC & LOGOS): Kristin Alphin, Benjamin Bayles, Nikki Brinkley, Rudolph Enescar, David Allen Fulghum, Kyle Harris, Cathryn Jones, Matthew Kornegay, Mary Cole Lambert, John Norton, Sara Beth Sargent, Grayson Strickland, Grace Webster, Justin West

**This Week's Activities**

Today 8:45am **Morning Glory Worship Service**  
 9:40am Morning Manna  
 9:50am Sunday School  
 11:00am **Worship Service**

Mon 9-12noon Footprints Preschool

Tues 10:00am Bible Study

Wed 6:45am Iron Men Gathering at Piggly-Wiggly  
 9-12noon Footprints Preschool  
 4:30pm LOGOS - Ash Wednesday  
**7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service**  
 8:00pm Choir Practice

Fri *Pastor's Sabbath*  
 9-12noon Footprints Preschool  
 6:15pm Lenten Leaven Potluck Supper in the fellowship hall  
 7:00pm Lenten Leaven Study in New Parlor

Sat 9-12noon Girl Scouts  
 10:00am Zone 4:12 Trip to Marbles Museum

**Volunteers for Worship Services Today**

**Building Superintendent:** Tommy Brown

**Prelude Speaker:** Elizabeth Sargent

**Children's Time:** Judith Graves

**Nursery:** Robin & Grace Webster

**Counters:** John Sykes, Michael Williams

**Ushers 8:45am:** Charles Loftin & Doug Neimond

**Ushers 11am:** Rodolph Enescar, Paulenski Francis, Jim Roten, Bob Boyd

<b>Record of Stewardship:</b>	February 19	YTD	YTD Budgeted	YTD
	Income	Income	Expenditures	Difference
2017 General Fund	\$3,630.42	\$26,237.75	\$32,334.01	(\$6,096.26)
2017 Building Fund	\$ 282.00	\$ 2,440.00	\$ 4,375.00	(\$1,935.00)
2014 Blding Campaign	\$ 272.50	\$ 4,622.50	\$35,000.00 (loan pymt +int.)	

Mount Olive Presbyterian Church is very grateful for your financial support so that we may be faithful stewards of the mission to which God has called us. Your ardent prayers are invited as we trust in God to see us through our financial challenges.

**Lenten Leaven Study** ... It is hard to believe that Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 1. I will again offer a study on Friday evenings (or another evening if it works better) during the six weeks of Lent open to everyone. I call our study "Lenten Leaven" because leaven means "an element, influence or agent that works subtly to lighten, enliven, or modify a whole" (American Heritage Dictionary). It is my hope that this study will be used by the Holy Spirit to (en)lighten, enliven, and modify our walk of faith with the Lord for the good purposes that Jesus intends for our lives.

**We begin at 6:15pm with pot luck dinner and then our study at 7:00pm. If you can't make it at 6:00pm, come for the study at 7:00pm. We will study together *The Sign and the Sacrifice - The Meaning of the Cross and Resurrection* by Rowan Williams.** Rowan Williams presents the Gospel accounts of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection as viewed through the eyes of those who witnessed them. *The Sign and the Sacrifice* explores the meaning of the cross and the significance of Christ's resurrection, discussing what these events meant to Jesus' followers in the early years and what they can say to us today. Rowan Williams is Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge and former Archbishop of Canterbury.

**Ash Wednesday is March 1 and starts The Season of Lent...** Join us for worship at 7:30pm in the sanctuary. The Lenten journey from the ashes of death to resurrected life begins on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, which signifies a time to turn around, to change directions, to repent. At the beginning of Lent, we are reminded that our possessions, our rulers, our empires, our projects, our families, and even our lives do not last forever. "You are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen.3:19). Trusting in the "accomplished fact" of Christ's resurrection, however, we listen for the Word of God in the time-honored stories of the Church's Lenten journey. We follow Jesus into the wilderness, resist temptation, fast, and proceed "on the way" to Jerusalem, and the cross.

It is the power of the resurrection on the horizon ahead that draws us in repentance toward the cross and tomb. Through the intervention of God's gracious resurrection, lifelong changes in our values and behavior become possible. By turning from the end of the "old self" in us, Lenten repentance makes it possible for us to affirm joyfully, "Death is no more!" and to aim toward the "new self" located in Christ. Faithfully adhering to the Lenten journey of "prayer, fasting, and almsgiving" leads to the destination of Easter. (Liturgical Year: The Worship of God, prepared by the Ministry Unit on Theology and Worship for the PC (USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville, 1992, pp. 30-32.)

**Camp Albemarle Scholarships...** Summer will be here before you know it and registration is now open. MOPC provides a \$100 scholarship per child attending Camp Albemarle for week-long camps and \$50 for mini-camps. For more information on Camp Albemarle go to [www.campalbemarle.org](http://www.campalbemarle.org). Contact the church office for scholarship info.

**The Gospel According to John...** Between now and Palm Sunday, we will be reading through The Gospel According to John. For Sunday, March 5, please read chapter 10 of John. See you in Church, Steven.

**Celebrating the Gifts of Women ...** Next Sunday, March 5, we will honor women who contribute their gifts to the church and community, lift up issues of women's rights and who focus on the role of women in our world today. Both our worship services will be led by women in our church. Guest Preacher is Lynn Williams. Thanks to Robin McSwain and the Worship Committee for coordinating these services that highlight the gifts of women. The theme this year is *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*. When we are filled with gratitude, we acknowledge the goodness and the blessings in our lives. The source of that goodness is God. We give thanks to God, for God is good, for God's steadfast love endures forever.

### **In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

**Our prayer concerns this week 2/19/17** (*Names put on weekly prayer list will remain for 1 month*)... Virginia Williams (home - recovery from UTI), David Stentz (recovery from renal issues), Victoria Nilssen (recovery from flu), Emiko Okamoto (recovery from infection), Mr. Kinsey (health declining, Veterans Home in Kinston), Billie Culbertson (tumor on kidney; enlarged gall bladder), Sebastian Morris (infant, surgery to correct heart defect as 12 days old), Adelaide Grace Teller (Praise! Born Feb. 14, named after "Stig" Crumpler), International day of Prayer for Students (Feb. 19) **2/19** Ashley Thigpen (cancer in colon, ovaries, & liver, 32 yr old with 2 yr old child). Julie's grandpa in Germany (8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> knee surgery 2/13-recovery), family of David Williams (Joyce Sloan's sister's husband passed away), family of Ernestine Smith, Alaiszha Watson (Lot of pain from amputation surgery), Maria Price (shingles), Sherwood Stanley (Bryan Center, poor appetite, neighbor of Lynne Fulghum), Virginia Williams (meds issues, now at home), Scott (cancer 2 surgeries, brother-in-law of Karl Graves), MOPC families, Philip Cousins **2/12** Genesis Home (flu epidemic), Connie Graham (eyesight), James Summerlin (ICU-pulmonary fibrosis advanced), James Scott (cancer level 4-high school friend of Annette Hansen), Devin Ryan James (teenage driver), Brianne Colonna (recovery & rehab in CT from spinal surgery, friend of Anna's family) **2/5** Craig Jackson (multiple seizures), family of David Welch, family of Matthew Brickhouse, Shelton Blanton (recovery from eye surgery 1/31), Martin Bayles (endoscopy 1/31), Jonathan Anderson (brother-in-law died unexpectedly-student teacher with Joy Bayles), family of Evelyn Leight Churn (Ted Churn's mother)

**Cancer treatment patients:** Carole Bahm, Steve & Diedra Barber, Sarah Boyd, Bryce Dixon, Bob Ford, Bobby Kelly, Kay Grady, Greg Miller, Amy Mitchell, Tracy Smith Moore, Lilly Rose Price, Matt Rodgers, James Scott, Bruce Ann Smith, Lily Tan, Ashley Thigpen, Cleta Thomas

**Special Prayers:** Healing of our land, All newly elected officials.