A Service of Hope

Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 21, 2016
4:00 pm
~ The Order of Service ~

† = Congregation Standing as able

~ We Gather Together as God’s People ~


 hymn by Jason Evans & Steve Blackstock

THE WELCOME.................................................................Mrs. Katie Blanchard

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Spoken Responsively) .........................................................The Rev. Fran Peel

ONE: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble.

ALL: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

ONE: Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

ALL: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

ONE: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

ALL: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be overthrown; God shall help it at the break of day.

ONE: The nations make much ado, and the realms are shaken; God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

ALL: The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

† THE OPENING PRAYER ..................................................................................................George Lurie

† THE HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 687: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” ......................ST. ANNE

THE PRAYER FOR THE CONQUEST OF CANCER..................................................The Rev. Keith Dey

Almighty and Loving God, we remember that Your will for each of us is health and peace, fullness of each life and wholeness of each life. We know that illness of every sort challenges Your plan and, therefore, must challenge us.

We thank You for those in sickness who rise to the challenge by bravely fighting on, and who continue to live and grow and love and serve in spite of the pain and suffering.

We thank You for all who minister to cancer patients; for those who are instruments of Your healing grace - the doctors, nurses, technicians, those involved in research and experimentation, and rabbis, priests, pastors, family and friends who are with those who suffer - all channels of Your healing love.

Finally, we thank You for institutions and organizations that provide care - whose purpose is to challenge all that "corrupts and destroys the creatures of God."

We thank You for the great work of the American Cancer Society, and we ask your special blessings, dear God, on its healing work. Guide and empower our leaders, strengthen and give good success to its workers and volunteers, and grant that all may know that it is Your healing work that they do; and that one day You "will wipe away every tear from our eyes and that there will be no more pain, for the former things will have passed away."

This prayer, O God, we ask in Your powerful name of Love.
THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 4: 30-34..............................Chaplain Cherri Wheeler

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade. With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM: “Refuge" .............................................................. Keith Christopher

This choral anthem is presented by a combined community choir
lead by Nonie Booth and accompanied by Steve Blackstock and Jason Evans. It is based on Psalm 46, "God is our Refuge and Strength..."

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 5: 3-5 and 15: 12-13 .......... The Rev. Craig Peel

And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

And again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

THE SPEAKER ............................................................... Nancy Clemmons

THE INTERCESSORY PRAYER .............................................. The Rev. Tom Wilson

THE SPECIAL MUSIC: “How Great Thou Art” ..................................... Stuart Hine

Angelo Sonnesso, Soloist

THE CANDELIGHTING CEREMONY .................................. The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~ WE GO FORTH IN GOD’S NAME ~

♦ THE HYMN OF SENDING NO. 35: “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” .................LOBE DEN HERREN

♦ THE BENEDICTION ...................................................... The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

THE PIANO/ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" ......................arr. Joel Raney

Jason Evans & Steve Blackstock

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~Worship Service Participants~

- Mrs. Katie Blanchard, Welcome
- The Rev. Fran Peel, Liturgist
- Mr. George Lurie, Opening Prayer
- The Rev. Keith Dey, Liturgist
- Chaplain Cherri Wheeler, Lector
- The Rev. Craig Peel, Lector
- The Rev. Tom Wilson, Intercessory Prayer
- Mrs. Nancy Clemmons, Speaker
- Angelo Sonnesso, Soloist
- The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore, Candelighting Ceremony/Benediction
- Nonie Booth, Choir Director
- Steve Blackstock, Organist
- Jason Evans, Pianist

~Dare County Relay For Life~

May 7, 2016

In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt walked and ran for 24 hours around a track in Tacoma, WA, ultimately raising $27,000 to help the American Cancer Society fight the nation's biggest health concern - cancer. A year later, 340 supporters joined the overnight event. Since those first steps, the Relay For Life movement has grown into a worldwide phenomenon, raising nearly 5 million dollars to fight cancer. 30 years later, Relay For Life events are held all over the country!

Throughout the day and into the evening, special laps and ceremonies are held, one of which is the Luminaria Ceremony. As the sun sets, luminaria lining the track light up the night. A hush falls over the crowd that had been overflowing with celebration. Relay For Life participants, survivors, and caregivers gather to remember loved ones lost to cancer and to honor those whose fight continues by dedicating luminaria bags. Each luminaria is personalized with a name, photo, message or drawing in memory or honor of a friend or loved one who has been affected by cancer. Each luminaria represents a person. They are our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends, coworkers, and so many others.

This year, Dare County's Relay For Life will be held at Festival Park on May 7 from 11:00 am-10:00 pm. Because it is a team event, individual participants are not required to be there the entire time. But, it's so much fun, you'll find it hard to leave! We hope to see you there!