Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, amen.

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

The CHORAL ANTHEM: “Walk Worthy” ................................................................. Joseph Martin

The Sanctuary Choir

The SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 21: 1-7......................................................... The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, “God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.” And she said, “Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord. PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The SERMON: “A Good Laugh” ................................................................. The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~ We Respond to the Word ~

The AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Spoken in Unison) .......................... From A Brief Statement of Faith (Ch. 10.3)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all the families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

The PRAYER OF DEDICATION ................................................................. Kathryn Lamb, Greeting Elder

~ We Go Forth in Jesus’ Name ~

The HYMN NO. 49: “The God of Abraham Praise” ................................................................. LEON

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary this morning by Judy Dempsey in loving memory of her sister, Pauletta Brown.
Welcome to the Outer Banks Presbyterian Church. Our Church exists to worship God in Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament; to join others to know the joy of God’s forgiveness in Jesus Christ; to grow under the Lordship of Christ and to serve Christ’s world in His name. We invite you to share with us our trust in Jesus Christ and to join us as we strive to:

- Grow and strengthen our FAITH,
- Love and support our FAMILY,
- Reach out to our FRIENDS in need.

We encourage you to read “Sue’s Story,” the inspiration behind these goals in its entirety, on our website, on a brochure in the Gathering Space or on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will be inspired as we have been.

At OBPC, we recognize all our visitors as God’s children, united as brothers and sisters in Christ. We hope our service inspires you and strengthens your faith. We hope you will join us again in celebration and worship to God. If you are interested in becoming a member or would like to know more about our church and our programs, please contact us!

The Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Joseph “Jody” G. Moore ………… Pastor
Donna L. Frye …………………….………………… Church Secretary
Jason K. Evans ……………………..………………… Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Hollie Writtenberry-Lewis ………………. Director of Youth, Children & Young Family Ministries
Heather Day …………………………………… Nursery Caregiver
Brenda Feury………………………………… Sexton

The Session

Beverly Jones, Clerk of Session

The Sanctuary Choir
Melanie Cahoon 441-7400
Judy Whittle 255-0705
Jim Perry 202-3031

Jubilate Ringers
Nonie Booth 261-6058
Melinda Mogowski 441-7195
Kathryn Lamb 443-6400

The Call to Worship

The Call to Worship (Spoken Responsively from Psalm 63) ………………….. Margaret Brown
One: Oh God, you are my God, and I will ever praise your name!
ALL: My soul thirsts for you, so I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
One: Because of your steadfast love, my lips will praise your name.
ALL: When I meditate on you in the darkness of the night, I recall how you have protected me in the shadow of your wings.
One: My soul clings to you because your right hand upholds me.
ALL: Let us worship almighty God!

The Call to Confession

The Corporate Prayer of Confession (spoken in unison)
Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge in our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

The Silent Prayer of Confession (Concluding with Kyrie)

The Assurance of God’s Forgiveness