Third Sunday of Advent

A Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
And the Presbytery of New Hope

This is God’s House! All are Welcome!

907 South Croatan Highway
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
252.441.5897

www.outerbankspresbyterian.org
The Order of Service for the Lord’s Day

As people enter the Sanctuary they are encouraged to greet one another and share the gifts of friendship and love. When the prelude begins, all are invited to begin personal preparation for worship. As a kindness to fellow worshippers, please silence all electronic devices.

♦ = Congregation Standing as Able
† = Appropriate times to be Seated when Arriving After Service Begins

~ We Gather Together as God’s People ~

THE PRELUDE ..................................................................................................................... Cheryl Needham

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please pass the guest pads)

~ The Liturgy of the Advent Candle ~

THE CHORAL INTROIT: “Lift Up Your Eyes” ................................................................. arr. Joel Raney
   The Sanctuary Choir

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) ................................................................. Ron Herron & Ronnie Sunkler

   LEADER: During Advent, we remember the light that shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.

   PEOPLE: Though sorrow may last for the night, joy comes in the morning.

   LEADER: For all who face the sting of loss, God’s word speaks:

   PEOPLE: Though sorrow may last for the night, joy comes in the morning.

   LEADER: For all who wrestle with the unknown of tomorrow, God’s word speaks:

   PEOPLE: Though sorrow may last for the night, joy comes in the morning.

   LEADER: For all who battle the questions that arise in the silence, God’s word speaks:

   PEOPLE: Though sorrow may last for the night, joy comes in the morning.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF JOY............................................................... Ron Herron & Ronnie Sunkler

THE RESPONSE: “Lift Up Your Eyes” ................................................................................. arr. Joel Raney
   The Sanctuary Choir & Congregation

THE OPENING PRAYER.............................................................................................. Ron Herron & Ronnie Sunkler

♦♦ THE HYMN NO. 96 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” ............................................. WINCHESTER NEW

THE CALL TO CONFESSION
Hear our prayer, O God, as we confess our sin to you. We have failed to understand your gift to us in Jesus Christ. We take your love for granted, claiming your forgiveness, but continuing to sin. We hoard your blessings for ourselves, and overlook the needs of others. We trust in our own strength instead of living by yours. Forgive us, loving Creator. Help us to claim our new life in Jesus Christ your Son. By your Spirit lead us to live in your service, and to share in word and deed the news of your redeeming love. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

♦ THE GLORIA NO. 143: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (Verse 4) ......................... REGENCY SQUARE

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King.

♦ ♦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE (Spoken Responsively)

LEADER: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

PEOPLE: And also with you.

(Children in K-5 are dismissed to go to Children’s Church)

- The Word of the Lord -

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION ............................................................... Ben Cahoon, Liturgist

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-4, 10-11.............................. Ben Cahoon, Liturgist

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM: “The King Shall Come” ................................. arr. John Leavitt

The Sanctuary Choir

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 1:6-8, 19-28............................ The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, ‘I am not the Messiah.’ And they asked him, ‘What then? Are you Elijah?’ He said, ‘I am not.’ ‘Are you the prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ Then they said to him, ‘Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?’ He said, ‘I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, “Make straight the way of the Lord”’, as the prophet Isaiah said.
Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON: “Testifying to the Light” .................................................. The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~ We Respond to the Word ~

♦ THE HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 115 “Away in a Manger” ........................................ MUELLER

♦ THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ............. From A Declaration of Faith (Excerpts from Chapter 3.4)

The Lord has blessed and judged God’s people. When God’s people worshiped the gods of the land, when they put their trust in military alliances, when they failed to do justice and oppressed the poor, God sent the prophets to condemn their sins and to call the people back to obedience. There were times of repentance and reform, but in the end their kingdoms fell. When we forget the Lord and worship our possessions, when we fail to deal justly with the poor, when we seek security no matter what it costs others, we can expect God’s judgment upon us. In the end, we declare God’s goodness and justice. God has truly blessed us beyond our deserving.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER (Spoken in Unison)

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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS .................................................................................. Mollie Bass, Greeting Elder

THE OFFERTORY .............................................................................................. Cheryl Needham

♦ THE DOXOLOGY: “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” ...................... VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

♦ THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION ................................................................. Mollie Bass, Greeting Elder

~ We Go Forth in Jesus’ Name ~

♦ THE HYMN NO. 150 “As with Gladness Men of Old” ........................................ DIX

♦ THE CHARGE & Benediction

♦ THE CLOSING RESPONSE: "He Came Down that We May Have Joy” .............. HE CAME DOWN

The Sanctuary Choir & Congregation

He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.

THE POSTLUDE ...................................................................................... Cheryl Needham

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Annual Christmas Reception - Today!
The Annual Christmas Reception is today following the morning worship service. We invite you to celebrate the season with your church family!

ECCS Christmas Concert
The Eastern Carolina Concert Society would like to invite you to attend their Christmas concert featuring Natalie Drummond and friends this afternoon at 4 pm at Kitty Hawk United Methodist Church.

All Saints’ Episcopal Lessons & Carols
Steve Blackstock and the congregation and choir of All Saints Episcopal Church in Southern Shores would like to invite you to attend their Service of Nine Lessons & Carols this afternoon at 5 pm. This program is presented by the choir and will feature their new pipe organ.

Christmas Musical 2017 CD's
The Music Ministry of Outer Banks Presbyterian Church presented the annual Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra Christmas Musical last Saturday and Sunday evenings. If you would like to purchase a CD of the concert for $10.00, please see Jason Evans or stop by the church office during the week!

2017 Advent Devotional
The Advent devotional booklet for 2017 has been selected by the Worship Committee and is now available in the Gathering Space. The title is, “Moving Toward the Manger,” written by Frederick Buechner.

Welcome New Members
On Sunday morning, December 10, we received Anthony and Elaine Spencer as new members into our church family. Anthony and Elaine live in Buxton and are former members of First Presbyterian Church in Reidsville, NC. Be sure to give them a wonderful and warm Outer Banks Presbyterian welcome.

Christmas Eve Schedule
Sunday Morning, Dec. 24, 10 am
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Luke 2: 1-20: Luke tells the story of Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born in a simple manger because there was no room for his parents in the inn. We see the depths of God’s love for us in Jesus Christ coming to this world as a vulnerable and precious baby boy. We will light the candle of Love on the Advent Wreath.

Sunday Evening, Dec. 24, 5 pm
Join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols. Enjoy the story of Christmas told through scripture and song. Special Music will be provided by the Sanctuary Choir; Cheryl Needham, pianist; Jason Evans, organist; and Hollie Writtenberry-Lewis, soloist. There will also be a live nativity. The service will close with the singing of “Silent Night” as we light candles in celebration of Christ’s birth.

Christmas Joy Offering
Each year we take a special offering to assist retired church professionals - ministers, educators, missionaries - who have medical needs. A portion of this offering goes to support racial/ethnic schools and colleges. Please give prayerful consideration to your gift for these special groups of people. To make a contribution, put your gift in the special baskets at the end of each pew.

2018 Pledge Envelopes
Boxes of 2018 Pledge envelopes for those who requested them are labeled and available on the table in the Gathering Space.

Office Closings
The office will be closed on Dec. 25, 26, & 29 and January 1st for Christmas and New Year’s.

Merry Christmas
This Week at OBPC

Sunday, December 17, 2017
9:00 am ............................................. Sunday School
10:00 am ............................................. Morning Worship
11:15 am ........................................ Christmas Reception
5:00 pm ................................................ Youth Group

Monday, December 18, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.
6:30 pm ............................................. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 19, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.
6:30 pm ............................................. Cub Scouts

Wednesday, December 20, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.
6:30 pm ........................................ Adult Bible Study

Thursday, December 21, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.

Friday, December 22, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
8:00 am ............................................. Men’s Bible Study
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.

Saturday, December 23, 2017
7:30 am ................................................. A.A.
10:00 am ................................................. A.A.

Sunday, December 24, 2017
9:00 am ............................................. Sunday School
10:00 am ........................................ Morning Worship
5:00 pm ........................................ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Those Serving Today....

This Week: Dec. 17, 2017
Greeting Elder:
Mollie Bass
Advent 3 Readers:
Ron Herron & Ronnie Sunkler
Liturgist: Ben Cahoon
Christmas Reception:
Fellowship Committee
Children's Church:
Bev Jones

Next Week: Dec. 24, 2017
Greeting Elder:
Mollie Bass
Advent 4 Readers:
Ben and Melanie Cahoon
Liturgist: Nonie Booth
Coffee Hour: The Session
Children's Church:
Lynda Wood / Andrea Braymiller

2018 Sanctuary Flower Schedule
The sign-up sheet for flowers is now available in the Gathering Space! Placing flowers in the sanctuary is a great way to honor or memorialize someone or to honor a birthday, anniversary, birth or any other special occasion!

2018 Coffee Hour Schedule
We are looking for members to volunteer to help with 2018 Coffee Hours. Two or three members will work together each Sunday to set up the coffee and provide snacks. To volunteer, please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space!

Vital Signs
Sat., Dec. 2 (Concert) ....................... $775.00
Sun., Dec. 3 (Morning Worship) ....... $6,091.00
Sun., Dec. 3 (Concert) ..................... $1,314.00
Sun. Dec. 10 (Morning Worship) ...... $8,180.00
Total for December ...................... $16,360.00
Pennies for Hunger (December) ..... $88.86

Attendance
Sun., Dec.10 (Morning Worship) .......... 140
Each day, let us remember the many in our church family who are ill, hurting, homebound, and lonely along with those who have lost loved ones this year.

**Homebound, Nursing Home & Out of Town Members**

Joan Phifer .......................................................... 325 Horace Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23462
Don & Nancy Bierwerth ................................. 410 Hastings Ln, Apt. 309, Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Jane Smith .......................................................... Greenfield Reflections #107
304 Bowman Mill Rd, Strasburg, VA 22657

Etta Parrott .......................................................... 3400 Bay Drive, Kitty Hawk NC 27949
Mickey Meekins................................. Peak Resources, 430 Health Center Dr., Nags Head, NC 27959
Max Strange .................................................. 138 Clairborne Creek Dr., W. Monroe, LA 71291

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**Members & Friends – Other Prayer Concerns**

Sarah Garvin (*Mother of Teddy Garvin*) ................. Recovering from Heart Attack on 12/9
Judy Bear .................................................................................. Recovering from Back Surgery
Children & Grandchildren of Anthony & Elaine Spencer .............................................. CA wildfires
Barbara Nock ........................................................................ Recovering from Back Surgery
Lawrence Rust (*Grandson of Barbara Rust*) .................. Deployed to Afghanistan
Barbara Morgan .................................................................. Recovering from surgery
Cindy Goes ........................................................................ Undergoing treatments for cancer
Russell Taylor ......................................................... Diagnosed with stage IV Cancer that is quite progressive
Amanda Kirkman (*Friend of Trish Thomas*) ...................... Health concerns
Lou Batzler (*son of the late Rev. Dr. Richard Batzler*) ................................................ Throat cancer
Ansley Johnson (*Friend of Sharon McRee*) ......................... 7-year old with Leukemia
Tim Tiller (*Friend of Kathryn Lamb*) ................................. Recovering from a stroke
Richard Pfersick (*Friend of Barbara Rust in Georgia*) .................. Serious heart problems
Kathy Ballard (*Daughter of Natalie & Duel Ballard*) ..................... Diagnosed with oral cancer
June Harris .......................................................... Recovering from brain injuries sustained in a car accident
Al (*friend of Lois Werner*) .................................................................................. Colon cancer
Gwen Engleright ........................................................................ Health concerns
Margaret Brown ........................................................................ Health concerns
Billie S. (*Friend of Melinda Mogowski*) ................................................. Cancer
Donna K. (*Friend of Melinda Mogowski*) ......................................... Battling cancer
Bud Sheets .................................................................................. Health Concerns
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 of 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 or any of our programs, please contact us!

Our church believes providing worship for visitors is a vital part of our mission. Our building was planned to accommodate the many visitors who come to this vacation community. This places an additional financial challenge on our resident membership. We need and welcome financial support from our visitors.

Disbursing Treasurer
Jeanne Martie (441-8608)

Receiving Treasurers
Becky Lofton-DeSanto
(480-0724)
Barbara Nowland
(480-0423)

Church Staff

Ministers
All Members of the Church

The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore
Pastor
revjody.moore@gmail.com

Jason K. Evans
Director of Music
Ministries/Organist
cepianoman@aol.com

Hollie Writtenberry-Lewis
Director of Youth, Children and Young Families Ministries
holliewrittenberry@gmail.com

Cathie Feild
Church Secretary
office@outerbankspresbyterian.org

Heather Day
Nursery Caregiver

Brenda Feury
Sexton

The Stated Session
Bev Jones, Clerk of Session

Class of 2017
Nonie Booth
261-6058
Kathryn Lamb
441-6400
Melinda Mogowski
441-7195

Class of 2018
Buzz Boyd
255-0496
Jeanne Martie
441-8608
Tom Smith
441-3572

Class of 2019
Jean Basnight
480-1028
Mollie Bass
480-0858
Jim Goes
261-1149

Outer Banks Presbyterian Church

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