Outer Banks Presbyterian Church
Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina

Sunday, December 8, 2019
10:00 am

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 ORGAN PRELUDE: “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” ......................... J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please pass the guest pads.)

~ The Liturgy of the Advent Candle ~

THE CHORAL INTROIT: “God with Us, Emmanuel”............................... arr. Joel Raney

The Sanctuary Choir

♦THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) .............................................. Gary & Linda McGee

Leader: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Prince of Peace.

People: The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

Leader: In the midst of conflict, we look to the One who brings harmony.

People: The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

Leader: In the midst of confusion, we look to the One who brings clarity.

People: The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

Leader: In the midst of division, we look to the One who brings unity.

People: The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

Leader: In the midst of separation, we look to the One who restores the broken.

People: The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES OF HOPE & PEACE ......................... Gary & Linda McGee

THE RESPONSE: “God with Us, Emmanuel”................................. arr. Joel Raney

The Sanctuary Choir & Congregation

♦THE OPENING PRAYE ................................................................. Gary & Linda McGee

††THE HYMN NO. 88: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Vs. 1, 4-7) ............................................. VENI EMMANUEL
THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Spoken in unison)

Eternal God, you are holy, while we wallow in our sinfulness. Lord, you judge your people with righteousness and mercy, while we are judgmental. Your servant defended the cause of the poor, yet our greed results in many people being unable to receive your blessings. You bring peace and goodwill to the earth, but we remain intent on fighting with one another and holding onto grudges. Lord, forgive us and help us to live as your faithful disciples. Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

♦ THE GLORIA NO. 143: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (Verse 4) ......................... REGENT 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 CHORUS: ”He Came Down that We May Have Peace” (Sung twice) ....................... McGee

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

~ The Word of the Lord ~

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION ................................................................. Brenda Brown, Liturgist

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 11: 1-10................................. Brenda Brown, Liturgist

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

THE CHORAL ANTHEM: “Christmas Is Coming” ..................................................... Joel Raney

The Sanctuary Choir
THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 3: 1-12 ..........................The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor;’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON: “Refocusing on God” ...................................................... The Rev. Dr. Jody Moore

~ We Respond to the Word ~

♠ THE HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 96: “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry” ...... WINCHESTER NEW

♠ THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH .............................................. 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 ........................................................................ Barb Nowland, Greeting Elder

THE ORGAN OFFERTORY: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" ...................... arr. Mark Hayes

♠ 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 ................................................................ Barb Nowland, Greeting Elder
The prophet anticipates the coming of the Messiah, which will be a time when the Lord will establish justice and peace among the nations. Zechariah anticipates a humble Messiah who will come riding a donkey instead of a more impressive animal. In Jesus, we find that the King of Kings and Lord of Lords came willing to sacrifice and to serve others. We will light the candle of Joy on the Advent Wreath.

The Blue Christmas Service, December 15 at 3:00 pm

On December 15th, Outer Banks Presbyterian Church will host a Blue Christmas Worship Service at 3:00 pm. Blue Christmas, also called the Longest sleep in the Western Christian tradition, is a day in the Advent season marking the longest night of the year. Near this day, some churches hold a church service which recognizes that the holidays are sometimes "blue" or filled with difficult feelings around painful life events such as death, disease, poverty, or abuse. This worship service is traditionally held around the longest night of the year, which falls on or about December 21, the Winter Solstice. There is an interesting convergence for this day as it is also the traditional feast day for Saint Thomas the Apostle. This linkage invites making some connections between Thomas's struggle to believe the tale of Jesus' resurrection, the long nights just before Christmas, and the struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss. This worship service will include opportunities for expression of grief and pain as well as an opportunity to focus on the promise of hope we have in Jesus Christ. All OBPC church members, friends, and local citizens are invited to attend this meaningful service.
Sanctuary Flowers
The flowers are placed in the sanctuary this morning by Rosalyn Pugh in memory of her marriage to Charles.

Advent Devotions
The cherished carol "I Wonder as I Wander" launches this inspiring Advent journey through themes of seeking and being found by God. These daily Advent devotions capture the surprise, truth and wonder of God's pursuit of each one of us. Copies of "I Wonder as I Wander," by Michelle Van Loon, are available in the Gathering Space.

Poinsettia Donations
Orders for Christmas Poinsettias in honor or memory of someone are currently being accepted. The cost is $10.00 each. Order form envelopes are available in the Gathering Space. The last day for placing your order is today, December 8.

Third Thursday Luncheon
Join us for the last 3rd Thursday Lunch of the year on December 19 at 12 noon. The lunch will be held at the Sea Ranch Resort in Kill Devil Hills and everyone will choose their own lunch from the menu. Please RSVP to the church office at 252-441-5897 or office@outerbankspresbyterian.org by December 12 to let us know if you will be attending. This is a special time of fun and fellowship and there will do door prizes! We hope you will join us.

Christmas Joy Offering
By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor the gift of Jesus by providing assistance to current and retired church workers (ministers, educators, missionaries) in their time of need, and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools, and colleges, and equipping communities of color. There will be a bulletin insert and special envelopes available on December 15.

Christmas Reception
The Annual Christmas reception will be Sunday, December 15 following the morning worship service. The Fellowship Committee will host this event and requests that finger foods be brought for refreshments. Please sign up on the sheets provided in the Gathering Space. Come - celebrate the season with your church family!

Christmas Musical at OBPC
Sunday, Dec. 8 | 5:00 pm
Tonight at 5:00 pm is the last performance of our 12th Annual Christmas Musical. The concert will be presented by the Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, and guest singers under the direction of Nonie Booth and Jason Evans, with Susan Harman-Scott providing narration.

The first portion of the concert will be an assortment of Christmas favorites sure to get you in the Christmas spirit – and don’t forget to bring your voice – there will be opportunities for you to join in song too! The second portion of the concert will feature both traditional carols and newly composed anthems that visit the timeless Christmas story with fresh insight. A nursery will be provided onsite and a freewill love offering will be taken.

Outer Banks Chorus Christmas Concerts
Sat., Dec. 13, 7 pm
Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Kitty Hawk
Sun. Dec. 14, 4 pm
St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Nags Head

The OBX Chorus is now in its 33rd year of bringing choral music to the Outer Banks! The chorus is under the direction of Mr. Kyle Cook and the accompanist is Ms. Cheryl Needham. The chorus, nearly 90 members strong, will present its holiday concert “Good People, All Rejoice!” Admission to each performance is by a free-will donation at the door. The concert will feature sacred and secular music that celebrates the most wonderful time of the year!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be December 24th at 5:00 pm. Please be sure to include worship in your plans for Christmas Eve! We will sing many of our favorite carols, hear the Christmas story through a number of Scripture readings, and have a brief sermon. On Christmas, we proclaim the Good News that Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God with us.
**This Week at OBPC**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**  
Second Sunday of Advent  
9:00 am......................Sunday School  
10:00 am .....................Morning Worship  
5:00 pm ......................Christmas Concert

**Monday, December 9, 2019**  
2:00 pm......................Prayer Chain Training  
6:30 pm ......................Boy Scouts

**Tuesday, December 10, 2019**  
10:00 am ......................Faith Knitters  
6:30 pm ......................Stated Session Meeting  
6:30 pm ......................Cub Scouts

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019**  
9:30 am ......................Lydia Circle  
6:00 pm ......................Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
6:30 pm ......................Adult Study  
7:15 pm ......................Handbells

**Thursday, December 12, 2019**  
5:00 pm ......................Girl Scouts  
5:30 pm ......................Hope, Faith & Love Circle

**Friday, December 13, 2019**  
8:00 am ......................Men’s Study

**Saturday, December 14, 2019**  
10:00 am ......................Handbells

**Sunday, December 15, 2019**  
Third Sunday of Advent  
9:00 am ......................Sunday School  
10:00 am ......................Morning Worship  
11:15 am ....................Christmas Reception  
3:00 pm ......................Blue Christmas Service  
4:30 pm ......................Youth Group

AA meetings are held at the church  
Mon-Sat at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

**Vital Signs**

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**Attendance**

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**This Week....**  
December 8, 2019  
Greeting Elder: Barb Nowland  
Liturgist: Brenda Brown  
Coffee Hour:  
Christian Education  
Children’s Church:  
Hardy & Wood

**Next Week....**  
December 15, 2019  
Greeting Elder: Ike McRee  
Liturgist: Ron Baker  
Coffee Hour:  
Christmas Reception  
Children’s Church:  
Writtenberry & Michler

**Room In The Inn Volunteers Needed**

Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church will be hosting RITI December 22-29. They are in need of chaperones (male or female) and meals. If you plan to be in town Christmas week and can volunteer for a night or meal, please contact Nancy Griffin at RIPC 252-423-1781. Or you can contact Betse Kelly at RITI 252-305-3885. Chaperones need to be at RIPC from 6 pm to 7 am. Dinner and breakfast are provided.

All Saints Episcopal Church in Kitty Hawk is in need of chaperones for the weeks of Jan. 19-26 and Mar. 22-29. If you can chaperone for 1 or more nights (6 pm to 7 am), please contact Tim McKeithan at 757-672-3045. Or you can contact Betse Kelly at RITI 252-305-3885.

**Assisted Listening Devices**

If you have trouble hearing the service, we now have devices to amplify the sound. They are available at the sound booth and must be checked out and returned at the end of the service. Four of these devices are available on a first come, first served basis.
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.

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**
Cathie Feild, Office Manager (441-5897)

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

Another way to give is through online donations via a website link ❤️GIVE NOW at: www.outerbankspresbyterian.org.

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**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
cnipman@aol.com

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

**Cathie Feild**
Office Manager
office@outerbankspresbyterian.org

**Heather Day**
Nursery Caregiver

**Brenda Feury**
Sexton

**The Stated Session**

**Gary McGee, Clerk of Session**
453-4470

**Class of 2019**
Jean Basnight
480-1028

Mollie Bass
480-0858

Jim Goes
261-1149

**Class of 2020**
Bobby Gentry
449-8165

Bob Messinger
202-0935

Barb Nowland
480-0423

**Class of 2021**
Ron Campbell
412-979-2607

Ike McRee
261-1129

Judy Whittle
255-0705

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**Outer Banks Presbyterian Church**

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907 S. Croatan Highway / P.O. Box 2199
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Phone: (252) 441-5897
e-mail: office@outerbankspresbyterian.org
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9am-4pm