

Welcome Guests!

Welcome to those of you visiting us today. We hope you find the love of Jesus Christ in our Church.

Flowers:

~ One large white poinsettia is placed in memory of James B. Thaxter, Jr., given lovingly by Bill and Jan Owens and their daughters, Chris, Jessie, Joellen, and Michael Anne.

~ A large poinsettia is given in honor of our children, Greg Dypsky and Sharon Sauer and their spouses, Lisa and Jeff, and our two grandsons, Nathan and Ryan. We are blessed, Cliff and Sara Dypsky

~ A bud vase of three red roses is placed in memory of my loving husband, Richard, celebrating his birthday on December 12th, with our Lord and Savior. ~ *Mary Snyder*

~ A basket of flowers is placed in memory of my wife and our sister, Sue Mumford Foster, on the 5th anniversary of her triumphant entry in the Eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, on December 16th. ~ *Bob, David and Julie, Danny and Liz.*

~ A bud vase of three yellow roses is placed in honor of Summer Brenner and her completion of our Confirmation Class. Summer, as your name suggests, you bring sunshine to our church. May God guide and lead your every step. Love, your church family.

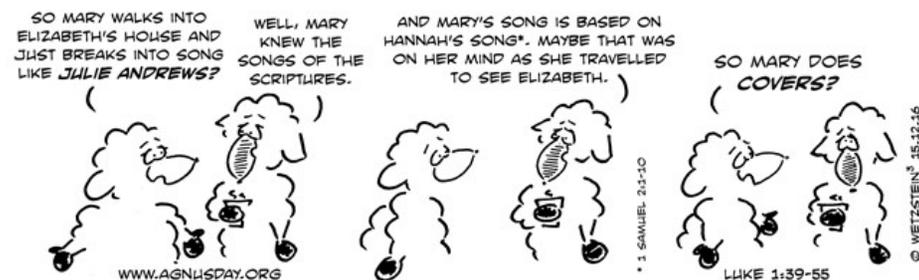
Birthdays:

Marty Cropper—December 16th

Email Addresses:

For office emails, please make sure you are using ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com and **NOT** the Verizon.net email account.

For emails to Pastor Dan, use ministerocpresby@gmail.com.



Sunday, December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor

“Blessed Are You Among Women”

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City MD 21842

Phone: 410-289-9340

Email: ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.ocmdpresbyterian.org>

Hours: 9:00 – Noon, Tuesday-Friday

Liturgy for Sunday, December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: *"In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'" - Luke 1: 39-45 [NRSV]*

Ringling of the Church Bell Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 146: 5-10 (responsive)

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD! Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit: "Song of Mary (Magnificat)"

***Hymn: "What Child is This" #137**

***Passing the Peace**

Lighting of the Advent candles – Peggy Webster and Paul Whitson

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

Week by week the light grows stronger and brighter, as we anticipate the coming of the Christ.

The candles of Hope and Preparation are already ablaze. Today we light the candle of Joy.

Prayer Concerns

To place a name on the prayer list, please email Bettie Wainwright at gbwain@comcast.net or call Pete Steger at 410-289-9323.

It's so important that you
are connected to some
one who prays for you
and who prays with you.



Church Calendar

Sunday Worship & Fellowship—December 15th

Worship	10:30 AM
Adult Bible Study - Graison Wainwright	9:00 AM
Nursery & Preschool - Dee Lebo	10:30 AM
Children & Youth – Mabel Rogers	10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 17th

W.O.W.—Women of Worship	11:00 AM
Choir Practice	6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 18th

Choir on Tuesday for this week

Christmas Eve Service - Our beautiful, candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be held at 7PM on Tuesday, December 24th. Please share with your friends and neighbors and join us for this joy-filled service.

Advent Readings

Christmas Cards

2020 Tithing Envelopes

Fellowship Hall Giving Tree - Our annual Christmas Giving Tree in Fellowship Hall has been setup for collection of goods to go to Diakonia and the Cold Weather Shelter. Please bring in gloves, mittens, hats, and men's white socks. Let's keep folks warm & dry!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. As you promised long ago, you have revealed the majesty of your name in a little child, born in Bethlehem; he is our joy and our peace. He is our shepherd, feeding us with mercy and leading us in safety.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born of Mary, Jesus Christ is our salvation and strength, the fulfillment of your word and the hope of generations. Christ lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things. Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world. In Jesus Christ, help us to live according to your will. Sanctify and shape us into the image of Christ's body, so that our lives may be a holy offering of love and praise. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Pew Guide)

***Hymn: "Joy to the World" #125**

Charge**Benediction**

Response and Postlude: "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing"

We excitedly anticipate the coming of the Mighty One. The promise of healing, comfort, liberty, and freedom is good news that is meant to be shared!

Rejoicing in the mercy and justice of our Lord, we kindle this flame. Together, we lift our hearts and voices in songs of joy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of Light, God of Incarnation, you shone light in the darkness and your Word became flesh. We confess that we do not always seek the light and are often seduced by the darkness. Again, and again we learn the bitter lesson that the bread offered by the darkness is stale and the cup is always empty. Forgive us our greed Lord; forgive us our shallowness and lead us back to your light. Teach us again to be good and true witnesses to the glory of your Son, the glory as of a Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The good news of Advent is Christ's love and forgiveness of sin.

Thanks be to Christ who sets us free to love and to serve.

Rejoice! For in Christ we are forgiven! Amen!

***Gloria Patri** (Pew Guide)

Invitation to the Offering

***Doxology** (Pew Guide)

Prayer of Dedication**Choral Anthem: "Come Take the Body"****Prayer for Illumination** (unison)

God of Hope, God of Preparation, God of Joy, send your Spirit to enlighten us with your Word so that we may prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child and share with others the message of Hope and Joy that his coming brings to the world. This we pray in the name of the One born poor and humble and holy. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-10 (p. 709 Pew Bible)

Elder Chris Greenwood

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- ◇ *When we are celebrating communion, we will serve non-alcoholic grape juice instead of wine.*
 - ◇ *Headphones are available at the back of the sanctuary for hearing assistance.*

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 46-55 (p. 1013 Pew Bible)

Rev. Dan McKenty

Time with Children and Youth:

Rev. Dan McKenty

Sermon: “Blessed Are You Among Women”

Rev. Dan McKenty

***Hymn: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” #133**

Presentation of New Members

Elder Mabel Rogers—Clerk of Session

On behalf of the session, I present Steve Hales, Ann Hales, Loren Cowan, and Summer Brenner who have been received into the membership of this congregation by reaffirmation of faith.

Rev. Dan McKenty (Congregation responding)

In baptism you were claimed by God, marked as Christ’s own forever, and joined to his body by the Holy Spirit.

You come to us then, not as strangers, but as friends in Christ and members of the household of God.

We rejoice that you now desire to join with this congregation in the worship and mission of the church.

Hear these words from scripture:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

As members of the body of Christ, let us all reaffirm the faith into which we were baptized: (Congregation responding)

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Rev. Dan McKenty (New members responding)

Steve, Ann, Loren, and Summer we have professed our faith as one body. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and mission through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God’s help.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God’s help.**

Rev. Dan McKenty (Congregation responding)

Holy God, thank you for calling us to be your people and joining us to Christ’s body, the church. We praise you for leading Steve, Ann, Loren, and Summer to this congregation. Empower us by your Spirit, that we might love one another as Christ loved us, honoring him in all that we say and do, giving our lives in service to others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Steve, Ann, Loren, and Summer, remember your baptism and be thankful and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you. **Thanks be to God.**

Welcoming of our new members

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper (intinction)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.