

Welcome Guests!

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

Flowers: The large red poinsettias are given in memory of:

~ Our precious daughter Caitlyn and good friend, Jim McGaha, spending their sixth Christmas in heaven. Gone but alive in our hearts. ~ *Bob and Dee Lebo*

~ Helen Fisher, with many loving memories of a special friend. ~ *Lisa and Marty*

Birthdays:

Bill Jones—December 3rd

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 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor

“Candle, Candle Burning Bright!”

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 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: *"Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: You don't give up."* -Anne Lamott

Ringing of the Church Bell Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship:

Awake from your sleep: salvation is near!

The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

Heaven and earth will pass away,

But the word of God endures forever.

The day of the Lord is surely coming;

The promise of God will be fulfilled. Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit

*Hymn: "O Come Let Us Adore Him " #145

*Passing the Peace

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Lou and Beth LaBrunda

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.

We join with sisters and brothers around the world, lighting candles to mark our steps in this Advent journey.

Today, we light the candle of Hope.

Even though the world seems dark and cold, we know that the light of Christmas is coming. The face of our Lord will shine, and we will be saved!

Testifying against all suffering and darkness, we kindle this light. Together, we proclaim to the world that, in Christ, we have hope. Amen.

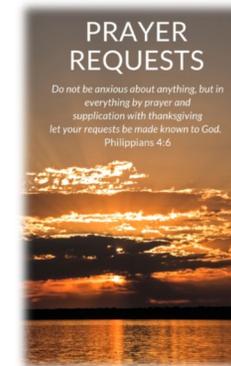
Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of forgiveness, God of love, we come to you as a distracted and anxious people. This season should be a time of hope, a time of prayer and a time of worship, but we have turned it into a season of greed and idolatry.

Forgive us O merciful God, and lead us back to thanksgiving, to gratefulness and to generosity towards others as we await with anticipation the birth of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

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.



News ...

Christmas Poinsettias - Celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ this Advent season by adorning our sanctuary with poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. Forms for poinsettias can be found on the glass table in back of sanctuary and will be available until the 8th of December. The price is \$9.00 each. Contact Marty Cropper with any questions.



Advent Readings - Help participate in our Worship services by reading the Advent scripture and lighting the candle. The sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary.

Grace Parker Breakfast - The next Grace Parker Breakfast will be held this **Wednesday, December 4th** from 7am–12 noon. Come out the day before at 10AM to help us setup. This is a great time of community fellowship. We get a chance to show grace in action. Invite your friends and neighbors - let's show them the warmth of 1st Presbyterian!



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!

Church Calendar

Sunday Worship & Fellowship—December 1st

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

No Confirmation Class this week

Tuesday, December 3rd

Setup for Grace Parker Breakfast	10:00 AM
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Wednesday, December 4th

Grace Parker Breakfast	7:00 AM
Choir Practice	6:00 PM
New Member Class!	7:00 PM

New Member Class - On Wednesday, December 4th at 7PM, a New Member Class will be conducted by Pastor Dan. The curriculum is posted on our website at www.ocmdpresbyterian.org, under the Resources tab. If you have any thoughts about becoming a member of our congregation, please consider attending.

Queen Esther - If you are interested in attending the Sight & Sound Theater production of Queen Esther, a local bus company (Blondee's Express) has a tour on April 9th. The cost is \$124 and includes a meal at the Bird-in-Hand Restaurant. Pickup is in Ocean Pines at 7:45AM. The show is at 3PM, before a return trip that evening. For more information, please call the bus company at 410-641-0130.

Lunch Bunch - December's Lunch Bunch will be held at the Atlantic Hotel in Berlin on Tuesday, December 10th at 11:30. Let Peggy Webster (peggyweb@verizon.net) know if you'd like to attend. It'll be a festive time to spend time in Berlin!

Newsletter - The December Newsletter will be published early this week. If there is content you'd like us to include, please let Beth or Pastor Dan know by Tuesday morning.

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! Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri** (Pew Guide)

Invitation to the Offering

***Doxology** (Pew Guide)

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem: "An Advent Alleluia"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5 (pp. 676, 677 Pew Bible)

Elder Marty Cropper

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 24: 36-44 (pp. 982, 983 Pew Bible)

Rev. Dan McKenty

Time with Children and Youth:

Rev. Dan McKenty

Sermon:

"Candle, Candle Burning Bright!"

Rev. Dan McKenty

***Hymn: "Go Tell it on the Mountain" #138**

***Affirmation of Faith—Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

◇ *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.*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sacrament of our Lord's Supper—seated

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

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. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image, setting us in this world to love and to serve you, and to live in peace with your whole creation. When we rebelled against you refusing to trust and obey you, you did not reject us, but still claimed us as your own. You sent prophets to call us back to your way.

Then, in the fullness of time, out of your great love for the world, you sent your only on to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness. 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. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. He lived as one of us, knowing joy and sorrow. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, opened blind eyes, broke bread with outcasts and sinners, and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and needy.

Dying on the cross, he gave himself for the life of the world. Rising from the grave, he won for us victory over death. Seated at your right hand, he leads us to eternal life. We praise you that Christ now reigns with you in glory, and will come again to make all things new.

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 make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

In union with your church in heaven and on earth, we pray, O God, that you will fulfill your eternal purpose in us and in all the world. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

***Hymn: "The First Noel" #136**

Charge

Benediction

Response and Postlude: "Go From the Pews"