

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
67 Central Ave., Ocean View DE 19970
December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of Advent – Communion Sunday



To see visible objects, we need the eyes of the body. To understand intelligible truths, we need the eyes of the mind. To have the vision of divine things, we cannot do without faith. What the eye is for the body, faith is for reason. To be more precise; the eye needs the light which puts it in contact with visible things; reason needs faith to show it divine things.

Theodoret

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY Dec 1	Worship Service – 9:30 am (S) Christian Ed Class 10:30 am – 12:00 pm (FC) AA Mtg. 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm (FC)
MONDAY Dec 2	
TUESDAY Dec 3	Bible Study – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (FC) Seaside Serenity 6:45 – 8:00 pm (FC)
WEDNESDAY Dec 4	AARP Choir – 10:00 – 12:00 (FC) Choir Rehearsal – 6:30 – 7:30 (S)
THURSDAY Dec 5	Shuffles Bridge – 11:00 am – 5:00 pm (FC) Nativity Festival Room Setup 4:00 – 6:45 pm (MH) AA Young – 7:00 – 9:00 pm (FC) Finance Committee Mtg. 7:00 – 8:30 pm (MH)
FRIDAY Dec 6	Nativity Festival Room Setup 9:30 am – 12:00 pm (MH) Nativity Festival Receive Items 10:00 am – 2:00pm (MH) Nativity Festival Setup 6:00 – 7:00pm (MH)
SATURDAY Dec 7	Yoga – Lisa Velasco (410-491-7311) 8:15 – 9:45 (FC) Nativity Festival Finish Setup 9:00 – 10:00 am (MH) Grounds Clean Up 9:30 am – 11:30 am Nativity Festival Event 10:00 am – 2:00pm (MH) Nar. Anonymous – 5:00 pm – 7:30 pm (FC)
SUNDAY Dec 8	Worship Service – 9:30 am (S) Nativity Festival Event 10:30 – 11:30 am (MH) Nativity Festival Breakdown 11:30 – 12:30 (MH) AA Mtg. 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm (FC)

(S) Sanctuary (FC) Fellowship Center (MH) Memorial Hall

RINGING OF THE BELLS

SILENT MEDITATION

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC /PRELUDE

WELCOME

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE-LIGHTING

1. Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy and love; remembering the promises of God, with prayer. We light this candle in hope.

2. *Hear God's promise of hope from Jeremiah 33: 14-16: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the House of Judah. In those days I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness"*

3. Together:

Let us pray: Faithful god, out of death you bring life. Renew us in hope, that we may be alert to the burgeoning of Christ's advent among us. God of promise, God of hope - into our darkness, come! Amen.

Music: *The Candle of Hope – 1st Sunday of Advent*

The Candle of hope we light in this hour
Proclaims that the Lord is coming in Power.
We wait for a future now hidden from view
When Christ in His glory will make all things new.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God of our salvation, for you we wait!

C: Night and day we pray for your return.

L: Come, and fulfill your promise to us!

C: Come, and deliver your people!

**ALL: Come to us with healing, come to us with renewal,
come to us with justice, come to us with redemption.
Come, Lord Jesus! We are here; we worship you!**

GATHERING PRAYER

CONFESSION

What does it mean, that Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead? Let us confess our sins before God and our neighbor.

Faithful God, like everyone else, I too must stand in fear and trembling before the judgment seat of Christ. But the judge is the one who submitted to judgment for my sake. Nothing will be able to separate me from the love of God in Jesus Christ, my Lord. All the sinful failures that cause me pain will perish as through fire, while any good I might have done will be received with gladness by you, O God. AMEN.

Silent Confession

Jesus has been waiting for us, with welcome in His arms and grace in His heart! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed from all that has bound us!

Thanks be to God!

Let us therefore welcome our neighbors, with grace in our own hearts. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us exchange glad signs of Christ's peace.

CENTERING MUSIC: #88: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OT READING Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (p. 572)

ANTHEM: #347: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 21: 25-36 (p. 65)

L. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON: Guessing? Or God-ing?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

I believe in God, the Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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, and is seated at the right hand of God the Almighty. He will come again, to judge the living and the dead. 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.

CONCERNS AND JOYS

Please email, text or call your concerns directly to Pastor Terry at:
Cell: 862-432-1196, Office: 302-539-3455 or tdougherty@ovpc.org

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hymn #92: *While We Are Waiting, Come*

THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Our element of bread includes gluten-free wafers (in a plastic sleeve). Our cup is grape juice, except for pale wine in the center.

If, in the depths of your spirit, you are crying out, “Come, thou long-expected Jesus”, this table has been laid out for you. For those who sing “born to set thy people free”, and desire, themselves, to be free, the table of the Lord has a place. If your heart aches to be released from fear and sin, receive the bread of heaven, and the cup of salvation. Those who find, or seek to find, their rest in Jesus Christ: this table is set for you. Come; taste and see. The Lord is good. *(Rev. Christopher Harrison)*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, we give you thanks for your creation: fragile, yet fruitful; enough for all. We give you thanks that you call communities where love and justice may flourish; enough for all. We give you thanks that you invite us to journey with you this Advent: awake, curious, longing to meet you

at your table of grace. You light our path one step at a time, beckoning us onto a Way that offers us new eyes to see the vision of the Promised One, new senses to feel the love of the Vulnerable One, new courage to share the urgency of the ruler of Peace. Along the Way, we join our voices with all creatures of heaven and earth:

***Holy, holy, God Almighty,
You are wholly love and light!
Heaven and earth are flowing with your glory,
Holy God of power and might.
Sing Hosanna, in the highest,
Sing Hosanna, we proclaim!
Crying blessed be the faithful, who are coming in your Name.
Amen.
(Mark Miller)***

We thank you, our God, for sending us Jesus, Emmanuel, whose life, death and resurrection have become the way to find you, to know you, to join you as you create your new heaven and earth. We remember the night when Jesus gathered at table with His friends in a time of struggle and fear; how he took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them saying "Take and eat, for this is my body". We remember that after supper, as Jesus looked forward to your day of joy and power, He took the cup of wine, blessed it and gave thanks, then shared it, saying "This is the cup of the new covenant, my life poured out for you. I will not drink this

again until I drink with you, in the reign of God. Now, drink it, all of you, and remember me". Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ died, for us. Christ rose, for us. Christ will return, for us!

Holy Spirit, even as you were present at the creation, be present now, causing this bread and cup to be for us the bread of life and the cup of blessing. In and through it, transform us into one body in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

THE LORDS PRAYER

{we will partake of the elements together; first the bread, and then the cup}

The body of Christ, given for you.

Thanks be to God.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Thanks be to God!

Let us pray: **God of new beginnings, you have drawn us near to you, to strengthen and renew us. Kindle in us the fire of your spirit; may your light so shine through us that all will welcome Jesus at His coming. We ask this in the name of Jesus Himself, Emmanuel. AMEN.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

DOXOLOGY: #606: *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

***DEDICATION**

HYMN: #348: *Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending*

CHARGE

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

ALLELUIA!

Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say: rejoice! The Lord is near.

AMEN!

BLESSING

POSTLUDE:



We respectfully remind you of the ongoing expenses of our ministry, and of our beautiful campus. Please continue to donate. We can receive your donation by regular mail, online via PayPal or if you would like to drop your donation off, come to the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and drop it in the mailbox outside of the office.

“May our gifts be a source of light, in a world that has learned to love darkness.”

Prayer List

John Burris	Alex Rhodes	Dottie Nicholson
Mo Gittman (Maureen) Carol Kratch	Family of Elaine Jackson Ruth Schafer	Peggy Schaffer Family of Charlie O'Neill
Family of Dick Peoples	Jeff Neihammer Norbert Kraich	Pastor Bruce Gillette
The Family of Janice Parris Pat Robinson	Flora Beaver Judy Reich Cheryl Hartman	Francis Carbine Andrea Miller

Prayer requests will be kept on this list in the bulletin for three months unless the office hears otherwise.

If you need prayer for whatever reason, call Kathy Sheetz (302-539-2827) to initiate a chain of prayers. Please contact the office at 302-539-3455 or email office@ovpc.org to update the prayer list! Thank you!

Our live streaming services will begin at 9:20 with pre-service music with worship beginning at 9:25. If you happen to miss us live, please visit our YouTube page so you can worship with the recorded version.

LITURGIST: Bob Wolf

SCRIPTURE READER: Lene Kuhblank

GREETERS: Marti Sommer and Carol Kester

SANCTUARY FLOWERS – Donated by Amy Donahue in honor of her sisters Louise and Beth Donahue.

Announcements 12/01/2024

This Week

- **OVPC Nativity Festival** – Mark your calendars for the annual OVPC Nativity Festival, scheduled for Saturday, December 7, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 8, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in adding your own special nativity set to our display, or in helping make the event a real blessing for our congregation and the whole community as a volunteer, please get in touch with Shannon or Jane Bonbright. Please see this week's **Church Calendar** for details on dates and times.
- **Christian Ed** – Today 10:45 – 12:00 - Star Words '24; looking at the year through our stories led by Bev Bailey in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Finance Committee** – Meeting Thursday, December 5th at 7:00 pm in Memorial Hall.

Future Events

- **Food Pantry** – Grocery shopping lists have been replenished. Pick up one today so you can take advantage of sales and keep our hungry neighbors fed. Thank you for each and every item you contribute!
- **Christian Ed – Today, December 1st**, Shannon Flynn and Bev Bailey will offer a presentation on Advent carols.
- **Deacons Meeting** – Next Deacons meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19th @ 2:00 in Memorial Hall.
- **Movie Night:** Because of the busy church schedule (Nativity Festival 12/7 & 12/8 and our Christmas dinner on 12/13) and folks traveling to be with friends and family, there will be no movie night in December. We will get together again to celebrate the new year on January 3rd at the Wolf's home.

New Initiatives

- **December Mission Opportunity:** As per tradition, we will once again be participating in the Christmas Joy Offering. This is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church. The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. 50% of our gifts smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and 50% of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and 50 colleges equipping communities of color. Please look for more information in the Weekly Insight and on our church website.

Ongoing Events

- To work in Frankford Thrift Shop, contact Elaine Wolf.
 - **Announcements:** All announcements are due to the office by Monday prior to the date you want it published.
 - **OVPC Choir** - Rehearsal has resumed and will continue weekly on **Wednesdays at 6:30pm** in the Sanctuary. Returning choir members and new voices alike are welcome to attend. If you are planning to be part of the Choir for the 2024-2025 season, please let Shannon know via email (ShanFlynnMusic221@gmail.com) or text (443-405-5799). Looking forward to a great year of making music together!
- **Volunteers Needed:**
- Greeters** - If you are interested in volunteering, please use the sign-up sheet in the back of the church or call Pam Dougherty. Thank you
- Scripture Readers** - If you are interested in volunteering to read, please call the office or email at office@ovpc.org.

Ocean View Presbyterian Church

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Office: (302) 539-3455
EMAIL: office@ovpc.org
Website: www.ovpc.org

PASTOR

Rev. Terry Dougherty – Email: tdougherty@ovpc.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Al Yoor – Email: office@ovpc.org

CEMETERY INFORMATION

TBD

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

TBD

WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Sue Baer – Email: slglbaer@aol.com

SESSION for 2024

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Sue Baer – Email: slglbaer@aol.com

Bob Wolf – Email: wolfbo@comcast.net

Bev Bailey – Email: baileybev@aol.com

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CLERK OF SESSION

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