

CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021
10:30 AM

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Matthew 13:31-35; 44-52 p. 973

Message "Starting Small" Pastor John

*Song "Be Thou My Vison" No. 450

(TEXT: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1921, atl.; MUSIC: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927; Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press)

*Sending

Brothers and sisters, as the Church of Jesus Christ, go from this place...

Knowing Christ, growing in God's love, and serving as the Holy Spirit leads.

Our sending is a recommitment to the mission of Charles Town Presbyterian.

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Staff

Pastor	John Bethard	email:	jbethard@ctpres.org
Church Secretary	Rebecca Kaetzel	email:	rkaetzel@ctpres.org
Music Director	Penny Liston	email:	penfvfarm@aol.com
Nursery Attendant	Jordan McLain		

The Session

Roberta Churchill, Janet Harner, Diane Mayhew, David Weil	Class of 2021
Marsha Dibbern, Lazan Rogers, Bill Whitacre, Patsy White	Class of 2022
Kathy Donadio, Beth Pugh, Roger Snook	Class of 2023

Board of Deacons

Alex Bethard, Debbie Henshaw, Shawn Pitcock, Kathy Shue	Class of 2021
Frank Donadio, Judy Edwards, Brooks Kursey, Jason Mullens	Class of 2022
Hoyle Fulbright, Matthew Henshaw, Anne Portrey	Class of 2023

Trustees

Ron Rossi	Class of 2021
Steve Bossung, Margaret Kursey	Class of 2022
Allen Rogers, Susan Wall	Class of 2023



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**"Knowing Christ, Growing in God's Love,
and Serving as the Holy Spirit leads."**

Songs listed with "No." are found in the purple hymnal. Songs listed with "LUYH" are found in the light blue songbook

When this symbol (*) precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Please refrain from singing. Meditate on the words or speak them as the song is played.

Confessing our sins brings us to a place of humility, allowing us to hear God more clearly as we worship.

"We Gather Together"
(© 1985 in Begin 2 Ring 2 by Agape, Carol Stream, Ill.) arr. Frances Callahan
New Genesis Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*
(© 1996 by Agape, Carol Stream, Ill.) arr. Patricia Sanders Cota
New Genesis Ringers

Call to Worship Psalm 103:8-11

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear
him.**

*Song *"God Is Here!"* No. 409
TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1979; ref. 1988; MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941; Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company,
Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company)

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

O God, whose love knows no bounds, forgive us when we fail to reflect your loving kindness. When we turn away from the goodness of your love, call us back with the tender voice of a caring friend. When we stumble over the gift of your grace, lift us up with the strong arms of a loving parent. When we are certain that we are alone in the chaos of this world, shower us with peace, the gentle breeze of an evening rain. When we cannot feel the flowing of your peace, show us your love with the hands and feet of Christ, your love incarnate. Forgive us, risen Christ, of all the ways we fall short, and teach us to be agents of resurrection in the world.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon...

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Sung Response to Confession
"Lay It All Down" No. 92 (LUYH)

Lay it all down, I lay it all down at your feet.
I give you my life, O Lord, I give you my soul.

Lay it all down, I lay it all down at your feet.
Whatever I've gained I count it as loss.

I lay it all down, I lay it all down.
(© 1999 Brian Marsh. All rights reserved. Used by Permission)

Remembering the Departed

Song *"Be Still, My Soul"* No. 819
(TEXT: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; trans. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855; alt., MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. The Hymnal, 1933, alt., Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer: 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music *"Sanctuary"* J. Thompson & R. Scruggs
(© 1982 Whole Armor Publishing) arr. Patricia Sanders Cota
New Genesis Ringers

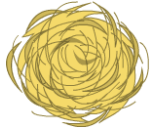
Presentation of our Gifts and Offerings
Offertory *"Jesus, Priceless, Treasure"* Thomas Keesecker
(© 2018 Rimmamwood Publications (ASCAP))

*Sung Response
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 607
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.
(TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988; MUSIC: Genevan Psalter 1551; Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg)

The congregation responds in song because God hears our prayer.

We remember those we have lost during the pandemic.

Offering is our response to all that God has given us!



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Please consider the following daily scripture readings this week: Monday: Matthew 26; Tuesday: Matthew 27; Wednesday: Matthew 28; Thursday: Romans 1; Friday: Romans 2

Birthdays this week in May: Karen Gregoryk; Rebecca Stevens; Dea Ping; Sue Trollier; Vickie Lotts.

Anniversaries this week in May: Corey & Brooke Smith; David & Jackie Weil.

Prayer Concerns: U.S. troops serving worldwide. Please continue to pray for those who are sick. Missionaries supported by CTPC: Drake Williams, Mark Hare in Haiti, Michael & Cathy Sander in Eswatini. Please keep these faithful servants in prayer.

Those persons admitted to the hospital or nursing home seeking a visit from Pastor John must have a family member make contact with the church office. HIPPA law prohibits hospitals from divulging their patient roster.

Weekly Congregational Giving Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934
Sunday's Receipts: \$4,405.

In-Person Worship Information

No Advance Sign Ups. Even just a few months ago, this would have been a necessary step, but as more and more people get vaccinated, we feel that signing up to come to worship isn't necessary.

Masks are still required. For the same reasons we still wear masks outside our homes, we expect all those worshipping to wear masks in the building.

No singing...yet. The virus is still out there, and it is spread via aerosol, meaning the water droplets that come from our noses, mouths, etc. Even with masks, singing remains a spreader activity. For now, we encourage attendees to speak the words of the songs and hymns we sing. The first moment we can sing without fear of spread, sing we shall! So hang in there, that time is hopefully coming soon!

Seating and social distancing. We are not blocking off pews, nor are we telling people where they can sit or with whom. By now, we should all know how social distancing works. We do ask that worshipers sit at least every other pew. When we serve communion, we will be bringing the bread and the cup to each person, not passing it down the pew. We need will access by way of the pew in front.

Offering. We will have offering plates available at the doors, and we ask that everyone drop their gifts into the plates as they enter. This is to limit contact.

Virtual worship will still stream. We will continue to stream worship services live over Facebook. If you don't feel well or don't yet feel safe, worship with us virtually!

Like we said in the fall, when we last attempted to open, this is a fluid situation. Please be patient. As we are able, we will relax these guidelines, and work our way toward a more familiar experience. Until such a time, we all must patiently work together.

Today's Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-35; 44-52

³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

³⁴ All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

I will open my mouth in parables;

I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Warmly Welcome Visitors in the name of our Lord. We invite you to tell us more about yourself by filling out a visitor's card, and placing it in the offering plate located in the narthex.

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ivy van Vuuren and Lessie Garber Sutherland, the mothers of David and Laura van Vuuren.

Today we remember those persons from our church family who have passed away over the last year: Jean Dorsey, Bill Shultz, Ken Psillas, Adam Stevens, Helen Foltz, Scottie Marcus, Joyce Friel, Scott Murray.

The New Genesis Ringers: Debbie Gregory, Marsha Dibbern, Hoyle Fulbright, Lazan Rogers and Debbie Henshaw.

Pentecost Offering will be received on Sunday, May 23rd. Giving to the Pentecost Offering is investing in our greatest resource, our youth and our children. The Pentecost Offering makes it possible for the church to encourage, develop, and support its young people and address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of this offering stays in our local community and will be designated for Jefferson County Community Ministries. The other 60% will help support: young adult volunteer programs, ministries for youth, and child advocacy. Please note in memo line: Pentecost. Thank you.

Attention Graduates: We would like to honor your achievements. If you have a graduate in your family or know of any graduates (high school or college) in our church family, please call (304-725-5316) or email (ctpres@ctpres.org) their name, high school or college, and future plans to the church office by Monday, May 17th.

Sermon Passages: May 16th: Matthew 14:22-33; May 23rd: Matthew 15:1-20; May 30th: Matthew 15:21-28.

The flower chart is available for sign up. Available dates: May 16, 23, 30; June 13, 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25; August 8, 15, 22, 29; September 12, 19, 26; October 10, 17, 24, 31; November 14, 21, 28; December 12. Sign up by calling church office at 304-725-5316, or by email at ctpres@ctpres.org. Please include your name, phone number or email, name of person(s) and in honor of or memory of. Please take flowers with you following worship.

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00pm.

Topic: Charles Town Presbyterian Church Bible Study

<https://zoom.us/j/96202042739?pwd=ZWt5aUhJYlBOVHJobE1RYmFoT2llQT09>

Meeting ID: 962 0204 2739

Passcode: 021517

Congregational Nominating Committee – The CNC for 2021 has begun meeting. They will prayerfully consider nominations for Elders, Deacons, and Trustee for the class of 2024, and at-large members of the congregation for next year's CNC. If you have suggestions for the CNC to consider, please reach out to members of the CNC with your ideas. The 2021 CNC is Kathy Donadio, Matthew Henshaw, Jane Ishman, Henry Christie, and Stephanie Rossi.

Online Giving. Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God. In addition to the no-fee Facebook donations and nominal fee Paypal service, we set up online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. **Money donated via any of these services gets deposited to our church bank account.** By going through the Foundation, the fee they charge actually helps the mission of their organization, which is to help Presbyterian churches to be excellent stewards of their gifts and resources. The exciting part about working with the foundation is that we are able to use a mobile app that is connected to our account. The app is called Give Plus (created by Vanco) and you can find it at the Google Play Store if you have an android device or you may find the app in the Apple app store by searching for "Give Plus." The great part about the Give Plus app is that you can set up for weekly, monthly or one time giving! If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

For electronic giving, please scan here:



The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 9—Happy Mother's Day

9:00am Zoom Sunday School (all ages)
10:30am Worship Celebration

Wednesday, May 12

7:00pm Zoom Bible Study

Monday, May 10

5:30-1:00pm Meals on Wheels (Mon-Fri)
7:00pm Zoom Communication & Technology meeting

Thursday, May 13

6:00pm Homeless Dinner

Sunday, May 16

9:00am Zoom Sunday School (all ages)
10:30am Worship Celebration

Tuesday, May 11

7:00pm Zoom Deacon's Meeting