*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Song

"Soon and Very Soon"

No. 384

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

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Glory to God the Presbyterian Hymnal © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

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Nursery Attendant	Jordan McLain	

The Session

Roberta Churchill, Diane Mayhew, David WeilClass of 2021Marsha Dibbern, Lazan Rogers, Bill Whitacre, Patsy WhiteClass of 2022Kathy Donadio, Beth Pugh, Roger SnookClass of 2023

Board of Deacons

Alex Bethard, Debbie Henshaw, Shawn Pitcock, Kathy Shue

Class of 2021
Judy Edwards, Brooks Kursey, Jason Mullens
Hoyle Fulbright, Matthew Henshaw, Anne Portrey

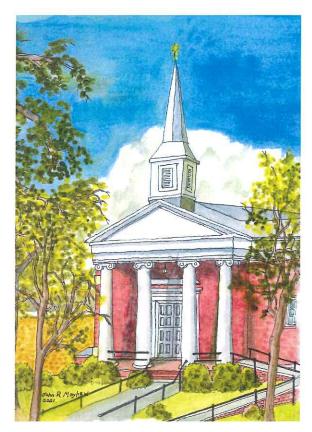
Class of 2023

Trustees

Ron RossiClass of 2021Steve Bossung, Margaret KurseyClass of 2022Allen Rogers, Susan WallClass of 2023

CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 12, 2021 10:30 AM





Please be sure to silence your cell phones

Prelude

*Song

"Advent Promise"

Anna Laura Page

Geneva Ringers

Welcome and Announcements

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

"On This Day Earth Shall Ring" No. 141

*Song "The Snow Lay on the Ground"

No. 116

Lighting of Third Advent Candle

Maria Kisner

Musical Response nse "Light of Joy" from Candles and Carols (© 2008 Lorenz Publishing Company (ASCAP)

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

Glory Singers & Congregation (see insert)

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Your love is good news for the oppressed, O Lord, and you bind up the brokenhearted. Forgive us, O God, when we think that your good news is only for us. Forgive us, O God, when we twist your gospel into something that fits comfortably into our lives. By your light, let us see you leading us beyond ourselves and into the world you love. By your grace, forgive us, and help us to live for you.

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

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon...

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The congregation responds in song because God hears our prayer.

*Sung Response to Confession

"Lo. How a Rose E'er Blooming" No. 129 (vs. 3) This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fill the air, Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us and lightens every load.

Children's Moment

Special Music

"The First Nowell" (© 2001 Oxford University Press.)

Mack Wilberg

Glory Singers

Sung Call to Prayer "There Is a Longing in Our Hearts" No. 470 (refrain & vs. 3)

> (Refrain) There is a longing in our heats, O Lord, For you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer. In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God.

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.

Prayer in worship connect us to God and to one another.

*Song

"Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord"

No. 628

Scripture

Zephaniah 3:14-20

p. 940

Message

"The Gift"

Pastor John

Musical Offering

"The First Noel"

arr. Phillip Keveren

(© 2020 Burton Ave Music) 17th Century English Carol

Presentation of our Gifts and Offerings

*Sung Response

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" No. 93 (vs. 1) Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits; The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

The musical offering allows us time to reflect on all that God has given us.

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

"Light of Joy"

Choir and Congregation

Born is the Child in manger small whom God has sent to save us all. How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy! Glory to God Who reigns on high! Glory to God Who reigns on high!

Choir Only

Source of our joy, to Thee we raise our grateful songs of endless praise.

How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!

Glory to God Who reigns on high! Glory to God Who reigns on high!

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Glory to God in the heavens on high! Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Glory to God, peace on earth is born this night!

Jesus, the gift from heaven above, fills all our hearts with joy and love.

How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!

Glory to God Who reigns on high! Glory to God Who reigns on high!

(©2008 Lorenz Publishing Company (ASCAP)

Today's Scripture Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

 $^{\rm 15}$ The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your

enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

18 I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer

suffer reproach.

¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

NOTES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>We Warmly Welcome Visitors</u> 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.

<u>Christmas Joy Service</u> will be this evening, Sunday, December 12, at 7pm. This year, the service will have a different tone. There will be plenty of music but also an emphasis on prayer and personal peace and encouragement during the holidays. It will be different than what we are used to, but still very uplifting and joyful!

Christmas Joy Offering. The Presbyterian Mission Agency is able to help provide brighter educational opportunities for students at historically Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges, a longstanding tradition of the church. Gifts to the offering also supported the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, a fund that stands in the gap to assist retired church leaders and their survivors in difficult times. Together, they make the Christmas Joy Offering a tribute to the leaders of our church—past and present.

The mission and outreach team would like to thank everyone who contributed food for the Christmas parade. You would not believe all the hotdogs, rolls and tortilla chips that were donated. It was amazing! More than twenty people showed up to help set up, cook, and hand out food. We had a great time and the weather was beautiful. It was wonderful to reach out to the community but it was a beautiful sight to see our church family working together and enjoying the parade. There is nothing better than a small- town Christmas parade! Our church family always steps up to the task at hand. Thank you for your support.

CTPC will be helping with the Cheer Booth downtown. We are scheduled for Thursday, December 16th, from ten to one. We will set up a table in front of the booth and collect money for the Friendship meal fund. We will play Christmas music and greet the downtown shoppers. If you are interested in helping out for an hour or two, please contact Kathy Donadio, Diane Mayhew, or Patsy White. It is another way that we can help during this Christmas season. It should be a lot of fun!

<u>Christmas Eve</u>. On Christmas Eve, worship will be at 7pm, and feature communion and candle-lighting. It's hard to believe this is the first in-person Christmas Eve service in two years! We are only doing one service because many people are still choosing to worship virtually due to the pandemic.

<u>If you purchased</u> a poinsettia, please remove it from the sanctuary after the 7:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Thank you.

2022 Giving Envelopes are now available in the narthex. If you give with a check, envelopes are not necessary. If giving with cash, please write your name on an envelope to enable us to credit your giving statement properly.

Sermon Passages: December 19th: Micah 5:2-5a; December 26th: TBD; January 2nd: Ephesians 1:3-14; January 9th: Acts 8:14-25; January 16th: John 2:1-11.

Please consider the following daily scripture readings this week: Monday: Revelation 9; Tuesday: Revelation 10; Wednesday: Revelation 11; Thursday: Revelation 12; Friday: Revelation 13.

Friendship Meals. The calendar is almost complete for 2022! Thanks to all who have offered to serve a meal next year. There are four months without servers: June 4th, August 6th, September 3rd, and December 3rd. It is still early, but if one of these dates is a date that you can serve, please let us know.

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:

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Birthdays this week in December: Kathy Reim, Glenn Moreland, Nathaniel Pugh, Andrew Rossi, Jessica Donadio, Kathy Donadio, Don Engle.

Anniversaries this week in December: Dennis & Marsha Dibbern.

<u>Prayer Concerns</u>: 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. HIPAA law prohibits hospitals from divulging their patient roster.

Weekly Congregational Giving Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934. Sunday's Receipts: \$3,885; On-Line Giving—\$2,009; Special Offerings: Sunday School—426; Loose—\$120; Hunger—\$61; Poinsettias—\$30; Help Fund—\$80; Christmas Joy—\$10; Music Programs—\$25; Friendship Meal Donations—\$476.73.

Last Sunday Worship: In-person -55; Nursery-o; Virtual Views-100.

The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 12 9:00am Education Hour (all ages) Wednesday, December 15 12:30pm Legato Ringers

10:30am Worship Celebration
7:00pm Christmas Joy Celebration

Monday, December 13

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

7:30 pm A.A. Meeting

4:00pmZoom Bible Study6:30pmGeneva Ringers7:00pmCAV Meeting7:30pmGlory Singers8:30pmA.A. Meeting

Thursday, December 16

5:30pm Friendship Ministry Meal

Saturday, December 18 8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Sunday, December 19

9:00am Education Hour (all ages) 10:30am Worship Celebration