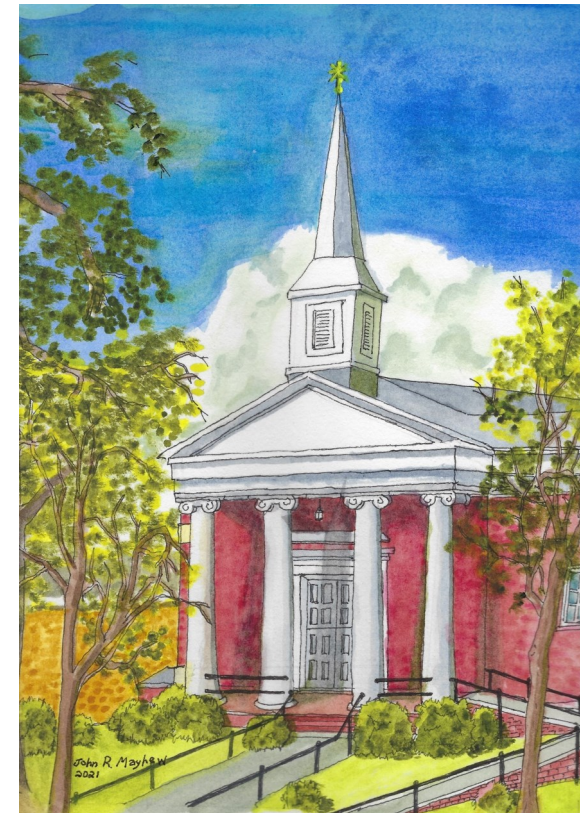


CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

10:30 AM



www.ctpres.org

*Sung Response

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” No. 143 (vs. 4)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

*Song “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” LUYH No. 143

*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.

When directed, please come to the front of the sanctuary. The servers will tear off a small piece of bread and serve you. Please dip it in the cup, partake, and return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand and an elder will bring the elements to you. Please indicate to your server if you would like to receive gluten free bread

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

All songs used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense #A-709478 Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONELICENSE #A-736371 All rights reserved.

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

Pastor
Family Ministries
Music Director
Church Secretary
Nursery Attendant

Staff
John Bethard
Garth Stevens-Jennings
Penny Liston
Rebecca Kaetzel
Jordan McLain

jbethard@ctpres.org
garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org
penfvfarm@aol.com
rkaetzel@ctpres.org

Signe Garms, Gary Scott, Kathy Shue
Doyle Criswell, Marsha Dibbern, Lazan Rogers
Diane Mayhew, Beth Pugh, Patsy White

The Session

Class of 2024
Class of 2025
Class of 2026

Board of Deacons
Alex Bethard, Kaz Feldstein, Debra Low, Doug McDonough
Judy Edwards, Sue Flanagan, Debbie Henshaw, Brooks Kursey
Bob Tansill

Class of 2024
Class of 2025
Class of 2026

Janet Harner
Steve Bossung, Thane Van Zomeren
Margaret Kursey

Trustees

Class of 2024
Class of 2025
Class of 2026

“Advent Psalm” today’s special music

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

(©2002 Hal Leonard Music)

Today’s Scripture Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

3 “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Notes:

The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 8

9:00am Education Hour (all ages)
10:30am Worship Celebration
11:30am Advent Celebration/light lunch
Decorate sanctuary

Monday, December 9

5:30-1:00pm Meals on Wheels (Mon-Fri)
7:30am A.A. Meeting
5:00pm Prayer Group
7:00 pm Technology & Communications
7:30pm A.A. Meeting

Tuesday, December 10

12:-00pm Basic Music
1:00pm Silver Bells
2:00pm Percussion

Wednesday, December 11

12:00pm Bible Study –Zoom
7:00pm CAV Meeting
7:00pm Glory Singers
8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Thursday, December 12

2:30pm FCHC

Friday, December 13

7:30am A.A. Meeting

Saturday, December 14

8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Sunday, December 15

9:00am Education Hour (all ages)
10:30am Worship Celebration
3:00pm Christmas Joy Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

An Advent Celebration for all ages will be held immediately following worship. A light lunch will be served. There will be carol singing, crafts and the trimming of the Christmas tree in the fellowship hall. **Please join us!**

During the Advent celebration following worship today we will decorate the sanctuary. Any adults wishing to help decorate would be most welcome.

Christmas Joy Service will be next Sunday, December 15, at 3pm. Our music ministry will present "Prepare the Way—The Road to Bethlehem," featuring our vocal and handbell choirs. Please join us.

Christmas Joy Offering, will be collected next Sunday, December 15th. Because of your generous gifts 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.

Longest Night Service. The season of advent and Christmas is typically focused on joy and celebration. However, not everyone feels that joy, especially those who are grappling with some kind of loss. That grief can cast a shadow over the season. Saturday, December 21, will be the day with the shortest amount of daylight in the year, and many churches host "Longest Night" services that evening to mark the sense of loss and grief for those who are having difficulty during the holidays. Our Longest Night service will be Saturday, December 21, at 7pm. The service is intentionally contemplative, allowing worshipers the time and space to acknowledge the sense of loss they may be experiencing. All who are struggling during this holiday season are welcome to attend.

Christmas Eve worship will be at 5:00pm, and feature communion and candle-lighting. Please plan to join us.

Activity Bags for children attending Worship services are now available. Deacons will be offering them to any child attending. Children who are visiting may take the Activity Bag home with them. Children who are regular attenders will leave their bag in the Narthex to be used again the following Sunday.

Serve the Lord by Serving at His Table! The central Sacrament of our faith is Holy Communion. Preparation for this holy experience requires the hands and hearts of those willing to serve at the Lord's Table by preparing it for celebration of the Sacrament. We need your help! If you feel called to Serve the Lord by Serving at His Table please contact Lazan Rogers or any member of the Worship Team or the church office.

The Discipleship and Family Ministry Committee is seeking an additional attendant for our nursery. This is a paid position to be filled on Sunday mornings from 10:00AM-12:00 noon. We are looking for a Christian individual, 18 years or older, who loves and respects children and is able to provide for their care during the time that parents or caregivers are worshiping. Please contact the church office if you know of someone who would be a good fit for this position. ctpres@ctpres.org.

A nursery is available for children ages 2-5. Please see an usher if you want more information.

Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God in a simple, and secure way. You can choose from The Presbyterian Foundation, Facebook, or PayPal, each of which have a nominal fee that you can include as part of your gift. The Presbyterian Foundation fee does help the organization's mission, and you can easily use a mobile app (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on Google Play/Apple AppStore) to set up for repeating or one time giving. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Donation options and tax information at www.ctpres.org (<http://www.ctpres.org>).

Worship Help Needed. We need help running the technology used in worship each week. We are seeking two or three people to help run the PowerPoint slides and the camera for our live broadcast. These are fairly simple tasks, and we provide training. Please speak with Pastor John or Roger Snook if you can help.

The CTPC Hospitality Center has created this wish list to assist in maintenance and growth. All donations greatly appreciated!



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Birthdays this week: Rachel Tansill, Kathy Reim.

Weekly Congregational Giving Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934.
Designated Offerings: On-Line Donations—\$567; Restore God's House—\$80.

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. HIPAA law prohibits hospitals from divulging their patient roster.**

Last Sunday Worship: In-person—N/A; Nursery—N/A; Virtual Views—583

Ushers for December: Doug McDonough (head), Brooks Kursey (counter)

Ushers for January: TBD

CTPC Upcoming Events:

December 15th:	Christmas Joy Service 3:00pm
December 21st:	Longest Night Service 7:00pm
December 24th:	Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm
December 25th:	Merry Christmas—OFFICE CLOSED
December 26th:	OFFICE CLOSED
January 1st:	OFFICE CLOSED
January 12th:	Ordination/Installation of officers Congregational Meeting following worship

For electronic giving, please scan here:

