

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.

*Sung Response “We Praise You, O God” No. 612 (vs. 1)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Song “Now Thank We All Our God” No. 643

*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.

Pastor John Bethard jbethard@ctpres.org	Staff John Bethard Penny Liston Rebecca Kaetzel penfvfarm@aol.com Jordan McLain rkaetzel@ctpres.org Tara Buffet
Music Director Diane Mayhew diane@ctpres.org	The Session Chris Clark, Doyle Criswell, Marsha Dibbern Diane Mayhew, Beth Pugh, Patsy White Christian Pechuekonis, Kathy Shue, Roger Snook
Church Secretary Rebecca Kaetzel rkaetzel@ctpres.org	Board of Deacons Judy Edwards, Sue Flanagan, Debbie Henshaw, Brooks Kursey Matthew Henshaw, Anne Portrey, Bob Tansill Tommy Morgan, Gary Scott, Ruth Scott
Nursery Attendant Jordan McLain	Trustees Steve Bossung, Thane Van Zomeren Margaret Kursey Marty Kable

CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025
10:30 AM



Please use this time to quietly prepare for worship.

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.*

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

Please be sure to silence your cell phones

“Praise to the Lord the Almighty” Kevin McChesney
(© 1991 Agape Music)
Silver Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Grace and Majesty” Jason W. Krug
(© 2025 Grassy Meadow Music)
Silver Bells

Call to Worship Psalm 89:5-8
Let the heavens praise your wonder, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord, a God
greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones,
and awesome above all who are around him?
O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are,
O Lord, with your faithfulness all around you?

*Song “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun” No. 265

Prayer of Confession (in unison)
Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to seek your will. You come to us in glory, yet we hide our faces from you. You speak to us in truth, yet we close our hearts to your word. Forgive us, God of grace. Release us from sin, restore our lives, and rule in our hearts, this day and always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon...
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Sung Response to Confession “We Are Forgiven” No. 447

Children’s Moment Pastor John

Special Music “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
(© 2014 The Lorenz Publishing Co) Mary McDonald
Rose Ann Glover

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

*Song “Crown Him with Many Crowns” No. 268

Scripture Jeremiah 23:1-6 p. 773

Message “The Real King” Pastor John

Sharing of our Gifts and Offerings

Musical Offering “A Song of Thanksgiving” Michael Helman
(2014 Lorenz Publishing)
Silver Bells

The congregation responds in song because God hears our prayer.

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

Please pass the offering plate to your neighbors in your pew.

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

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

Session News

Highlights of the November 18 stated meeting:

- ◆ Approved as presented the minutes of the October 2025 stated meeting.
- ◆ Received with regret, the resignation of nursery worker Tara Buffet.
- ◆ Approved funding one third of David Weil’s psychological review. David is okay (we think); this is part of the process of becoming a certified ruling elder. This will allow David to serve as a part time pastor for a small congregation.
- ◆ Approved the wedding request of Jessica Donadio and her fiancé for April 25, 2026.
- ◆ Examined officers-elect and sustained the examination by unanimous vote. Ordination and installation will happen during worship on January 11.
- ◆ Approved by unanimous vote the 2026 income and expenditure plan.
- ◆ Approved the 2026 terms of call for the pastor and called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 14th, after worship for congregational vote.
- ◆ Approved a recommendation from the trustees to adopt new guidance on legacy gifts. This new guidance results in undesignated legacy gifts being used in the following way: 25% will be deposited in the church operating account, 50% will be deposited into our investments, 20% will be deposited into the trustees checking, which we now refer to as a building fund. 5% will be set aside for use by the mission and outreach committee. This practice, along with the anticipated income from renting out the Liberty Street rooms will put us in a much more stable financial position.
- ◆ Reviewed the deacon’s ministry for 2025.
- ◆ Heard a report from the presbytery meeting. We were shocked to learn earlier Tuesday that Howard Boswell passed away. Howard is the husband of general presbyter Bronwen Boswell, and pastor of Buena Vista church.
- ◆ Heard a verbal report from the DFM committee, with emphasis on the need for further staffing.
- ◆ Received the treasurer’s report with no questions or exceptions.

Today’s Scripture Reading
Jeremiah 23:1-6

23 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. ³ Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD.

⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

Notes:

The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 23

- 9:00am Education Hour (all ages)
- 9:30am Sliver Bells
- 10:30am Worship Celebration
- 4-6:00pm Pathfinders Youth Group

Monday, November 24

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

Tuesday, November 25

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

Wednesday, November 26

- 7:00pm CAV Meeting
- 8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Thursday, November 27 — Happy Thanksgiving

- OFFICE CLOSED
- 5:30pm Friendship Ministry Meal

Friday, November 28

- OFFICE CLOSED
- 7:30am A.A. Meeting

Saturday, November 29

- 8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Sunday, November 30

- 9:00am Education Hour (all ages)
- 9:30am Glory Singers
- 9:45am Alleluia Singers
- 10:30am Worship Celebration
- 11:30am Advent Festival/Decorating Church

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.

Children’s Thanksgiving Offering. This Thanksgiving we ask you to remember children and families experiencing pain, hunger, hopelessness, separation from loves ones. The Apostle Paul teaches us that part of living together in community is reaching out to our brothers and sisters when they face hardships, temptation, or sorrow. Four ministries started by leaders in the Presbyterian Church serve our communities and address the needs of thousands of children each year. By participating in the Thanksgiving Offering Program, our congregation will sustain the valuable services provided by: Edmarc Hospice for Children; Presbyterian Children’s Home of the Highlands; Presbyterian Home & Family Services and the Family Alliance. The Thanksgiving Offering will be collected today. Note memo line “Thanksgiving offering”. As always, thank you for your generosity.

Six-cents-a-meal offering will be collected today to benefit the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

The church office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, November 27th, and Friday, November 28th. Happy Thanksgiving and have a safe holiday.

5th Sunday offering will be collected next Sunday, November 30th, to benefit the Pastor’s Help Fund.

The Birthday Cake Project ensures that all kids can enjoy a birthday cake on their special day. Because Christmas is the birthday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is an appropriate time to collect the contents for birthday cake kits and assemble them as part of our Advent Celebration on November 30. If you would like to contribute to this project and support our CTPC children and youth, you can do so by bringing any of the following to the church office during the week, or to the Hospitality Room on Sunday mornings no later than November 30: box cake mix, can of frosting, can of soda (Coke or Sprite), disposable cake pan w/lid, one birthday cake candle, gift bag, generic birthday card. Thank you.

An Advent Celebration for all ages will be held following worship next Sunday, November 30th. A light lunch will be served. There will be carol singing and crafts in the fellowship hall. **Please join us!** We will also decorate the sanctuary. Any adults wishing to help decorate would be most welcome.

Our Mission and Outreach Committee is asking for donations of hotdogs, rolls and plain tortilla chips for the Charles Town Christmas parade on Saturday, December 6th. We welcome your help as our church serves food and drink to those attending the Charles Town Christmas Parade. This is a chance for us to greet the community and serve some free food. It is always a fun day! Please have donations to the church by next Sunday, November 30th. Any questions please contact Doyle Criswell at 502.718.6411.

It is urgent that we create a list of people who would volunteer to keep the nursery with Jordan for the immediate future. There will be a signup sheet on the piano and in the narthex. If you have not had a background check with CTPC this will need to be done. Tara will be resigning her position in the nursery after November 30. DFM will start taking resumes for this position right away. If you know someone who might be interested please call the church office: 304 725 5316.

Memorial poinsettias will be placed in our sanctuary this Advent and Christmas season. Call or email the church office by **Wednesday, December 3rd**, to sign up (304-725-5316 or ctpres@ctpres.org). Cost is \$12.00, single stemmed. If you purchase a poinsettia, please remove it from the sanctuary after the service on the 24th. Thank you.

Christmas Joy Service will be on Sunday, December 14th, at 3pm. Please plan to join us.

Christmas Joy Offering, will be collected during the service. 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.

A nursery is available for children ages infant -5. Please see an usher for more information.

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 any member of the Worship Team or the church office.

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>).

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Birthdays this week: Sharon Harrell, Allen Peacher.

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. Please keep these faithful servants in prayer.

Last Sunday Worship : In-person –80; Nursery—3; Virtual Views—58.

Weekly Congregational Giving Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934.

General Offering —\$2,205; Designated Offering—Sunday School—\$79; Loose—\$61; Facility Use—\$200.

Ushers for November: Debbie Henshaw (head), Anne Portrey (counter), Bob Tansill

Worship Assistant November: 23rd-Henry Christie

Ushers for December: Matthew Henshaw (head), Brooks Kursey (counter), Ann Portrey

CTPC Upcoming Events:

November 23rd	Pathfinders Youth Group 4-6:00pm
November 27th	OFFICE CLOSED—Happy Thanksgiving
November 28th	OFFICE CLOSED
November 30th	Advent Festival/Decorating church following worship
December 6th	Charles Town/Rason Christmas Parade 2pm
December 7th	Pathfinders Youth Group—Caroling 4-6:00pm
December 14th	Christmas Joy Service 3:00pm
December 21st	Longest Night Service 7:00pm
December 24th	Christmas Eve Service 5:30pm
December 25th	Merry Christmas—OFFICE CLOSED
December 26th	OFFICE CLOSED
January 1st	Happy New Year—OFFICE CLOSED
January 2nd	OFFICE CLOSED

For electronic giving, please scan here:

