

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.

\*Sung Response “Glory to God” No. 583

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

\*Song “Blest Be the God of Israel” No. 109

\*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  
Music Director  
Church Secretary  
Nursery Attendant  
Custodian

Staff  
John Bethard  
Penny Liston  
Rebecca Kaetzel  
Jordan McLain  
Ed Brown

[jbethard@ctpres.org](mailto:jbethard@ctpres.org)  
[penfvfarm@aol.com](mailto:penfvfarm@aol.com)  
[rkaetzel@ctpres.org](mailto:rkaetzel@ctpres.org)

Chris Clark, Doyle Criswell, Marsha Dibbern  
Diane Mayhew, Beth Pugh, Patsy White  
Christian Pechuekonis, Kathy Shue, Roger Snook

The Session

Class of 2025  
Class of 2026  
Class of 2027

John Edwards, Sue Flanagan, Debbie Henshaw, Brooks Kursey  
Matthew Henshaw, Anne Portrey, Bob Tansill  
Tommy Morgan, Gary Scott, Ruth Scott

Board of Deacons

Class of 2025  
Class of 2026  
Class of 2027

Steve Bossung, Thane Van Zomeren  
Margaret Kursey  
Marty Kable

Trustees

Class of 2025  
Class of 2026  
Class of 2027

# CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024  
10:30 AM



Know. Grow. Serve.

[www.ctpres.org](http://www.ctpres.org)

*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*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “*Longing*” Jason W. Krug  
(©2023 Grassy Meadow Music)  
Geneva Ringers

Lighting of Second Advent Candle  
Lazan Rogers & Violet Eilers

Candlelight Response  
*Excerpt from “A Thrill of Hope”*  
(©2010 Hope Publishing) Joel Raney  
Glory Singers

\*Song “*Savior of the Nations, Come*” No. 102

Prayer of Confession (responsive)  
One: We seek to serve you, O Lord, with glad and generous hearts.  
**All: Forgive us when our hearts are hardened and move us to trust the depth of your promise.**  
One: We seek to live as baptized people, repenting of sin and sharing your grace.  
**All: Forgive us when we fall into selfish ways, and move us to know the goodness of your call.**  
One: Have mercy on us, O God.  
**All: By your grace, cleanse us. By your providence, help us to learn from our mistakes. By your Holy Spirit, equip us to love and honor you. Amen.**

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

\*Sung Response to Confession  
“*Of the Father’s Love Begotten*” No. 108 (vs. 6)

Children’s Moment Pastor John

Special Music “*Creation Will Be At Peace*” Anna Laura  
(© MCMXCV by Alfred Publishing) Geneva Ringers

Page

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

\*Song “*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*” No. 827

Scripture Romans 15:1-13 p. 1097

Message “*He Came for Us*” Pastor John

\*Profession of Faith “*Apostles’ Creed*” (see screen)

Sharing of our Gifts and Offerings  
(for digital giving, please use QR Code on insert)

Musical Offering “*Immanuel*” arr. Carol Tornquist  
( © 1999 ThankYouMusic)

*The congregation responds in song because God hears our prayer.*

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

*While not written by the apostles the Apostles Reflects the faith of the early church. It has undergone numerous revisions attaining its final form during the 8th century.*

*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.*

NOTES:

Today’s Scripture Reading  
Romans 15:1-13

**15** We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. <sup>3</sup> For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.” <sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup> and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup> And again it says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup> And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, December 7**

9:00am Education Hour (all ages)  
9:30am Glory Singers  
9:45am Geneva Ringers  
10:30am Worship Celebration  
11:30am Geneva Ringers  
12:00pm Small Group Ringers  
4-6:00pm Pathfinders Youth Group Caroling

**Monday, December 8**

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

**Wednesday, December 10**

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

**Friday, December 12**

7:30am A.A. Meeting

**Saturday, December 13**

8:00pm A.A. Meeting

**Sunday, December 14**

9:00am Education Hour (all ages)  
9:30am Glory Singers  
9:50am Small Group Ringers  
10:30am Worship Celebration  
11:30am Congregational Meeting  
3:00pm Christmas Joy Service

**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.

**The Session** has called for a congregational meeting next Sunday, December 14th, immediately following worship for the purpose of acting on the 2026 terms of call for the pastor. Copies of the terms of call are available in the narthex.

**Christmas Joy Service** will be next 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.

**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 Sunday, 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 Service** will be at 5:30pm, and feature communion and candle-lighting. Please plan to join us.

**Memorial poinsettias** have been placed in our sanctuary this Advent and Christmas season. If you purchase a poinsettia, please remove it from the sanctuary after the service on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**The church office** will be closed on Thursday, December 25th, Friday, December 26th, Thursday, January 1st, and Friday, January 2nd. Merry Christmas! And Happy New Year!

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

**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.

**Yokefellows Sunday School** class is in need to two Sunday school teachers. Teachers are furnished with teaching materials from the Adult Bible Studies series. Teachers will only be asked to teach one Sunday per month. Please contact the church office if you are interested (304-725-5316 or ctpres@ctpres.org).

**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/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) (<http://www.ctpres.org>).

**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:** Megan Henshaw, Meredith Hunt, Rachel Tansill, Kathy Reim.

**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–2; Virtual Views–394.

**Weekly Congregational Giving** Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934. General Offering –\$1,960; Designated Offering–Sunday School–\$49; Help Fund–\$226; Poinsettias–\$56; Hospitality Center–\$100; Hunger–\$10; Christmas Joy–\$100.

**Ushers for November:** Debbie Henshaw (head), Anne Portrey (counter), Bob Tansill  
**Ushers for December:** Matthew Henshaw (head), Brooks Kursej (counter), Ann Portrey

**CTPC Upcoming Events:**

|               |                                                                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 7th  | Pathfinders Youth Group—Caroling 4-6:00pm                                        |
| December 14th | Congregational Meeting following worship 11:30am<br>Christmas Joy Service 3:00pm |
| December 21st | Longest Night Service 7:00pm                                                     |
| December 24th | Christmas Eve Service 5:30pm                                                     |
| December 25th | OFFICE CLOSED—Merry Christmas                                                    |
| December 26th | OFFICE CLOSED                                                                    |
| January 1st   | OFFICE CLOSED—Happy New Year                                                     |
| January 2nd   | OFFICE CLOSED                                                                    |

**For electronic giving, please scan here:**

