

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

*Song “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” No. 136

*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.

<i>Pastor</i>	Staff	
<i>Music Director</i>	John Bethard	jbethard@ctpres.org
<i>Church Secretary</i>	Penny Liston	penfvfarm@aol.com
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	Rebecca Kaetzel	rkaetzel@ctpres.org
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	Jordan McLain	
<i>Custodian</i>	Tara Buffet	
	Ed Brown	
	The Session	
Chris Clark, Doyle Criswell, Marsha Dibbern		Class of 2025
Diane Mayhew, Beth Pugh, Patsy White		Class of 2026
Christian Pechuekonis, Kathy Shue, Roger Snook		Class of 2027
	Board of Deacons	
Judy Edwards, Sue Flanagan, Debbie Henshaw, Brooks Kursey		Class of 2025
Matthew Henshaw, Anne Portrey, Bob Tansill		Class of 2026
Tommy Morgan, Gary Scott, Ruth Scott		Class of 2027
	Trustees	
Steve Bossung, Thane Van Zomeren		Class of 2025
Margaret Kursey		Class of 2026
Marty Kable		Class of 2027

CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025
10:30 AM




Know. Grow. Serve.
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 *“Love Came Down at Christmas”* Jason W. Krug
(©2025 Grassy Meadow Music)
CTPC Ringers

Lighting of Third Advent Candle Bob & Janis Schindell

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

*Song *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* No. 82

Prayer of Confession (unison)
Loving God, you have told us what we should do: live humbly, give generously, and be rich in compassion. Even still, O God, we fall back into our selfish ways. We have been claimed in the waters of baptism, but we do not live as people redeemed. We have been washed in waters of grace, but we do not trust in the depth of your love. Forgive us, God of mercy. Heal us, guide us, and call us to try again. 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 *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* Plainsong
Patricia Dick arr. Fred Bock

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

*Song *“While We Are Waiting, Come”* No. 92

Scripture James 5:7-11 p. 1202

Message *“Waiting Well”* Pastor John

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

Musical Offering *“Joyous Baroque”* arr. Catherine Rollin
(© MCMXCVIII by Alfred Publishing)

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.

Today’s Scripture Reading
James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

NOTES:

The week ahead at Charles Town Presbyterian Church

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

Monday, December 15

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 17

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

Thursday, December 18

5:30pm Friendship Ministry Meal

Friday, December 19

7:30am A.A. Meeting

Saturday, December 20

8:00pm A.A. Meeting

Sunday, December 21

9:00am Education Hour (all ages)
10:30am Worship Celebration
11:30am Geneva Ringers
12:30pm Small Group Ringers
6:15pm Glory Singers
7:00pm Longest Night 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 today 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 held this afternoon at 3pm. Please 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 24th. 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!

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.

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

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>).

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: Nathaniel Pugh.

Anniversaries this week: Dennis & Marsha Dibbern.

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 –72; Nursery–2; Virtual Views–31.

Weekly Congregational Giving Needed to Meet Expenses Budget: \$6,934. General Offering –\$4,070; Designated Offering—Sunday School—\$3 5; Loose—\$138; Help Fund—\$80;Poinsettias—\$112; Hospitality Center—\$100; Hunger—11; Christmas Joy—\$90; Mission & Outreach Parade—\$250; Restore God’s House—\$340; Sound System—\$20. On-Line Donations—General Offering—\$1,721; Restore God’s House—\$40.

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

Ushers for January: TBD

Worship Assistants January: 11th-Margaret Kursey, 18th: Sue Flanagan

CTPC Upcoming Events:

December 14th	Congregational Meeting following worship 11:30am
	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:

