



WELCOME, VISITORS!

We are delighted you came today! Looking for a church home? We warmly invite you to be part of our church family! To help us get to know you better, or if you have questions, please fill in this form, tear it off, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher or pastor. You can also submit a Digital Connection Card at www.churchofthemessiah.org/contact. Please feel free to call us anytime at 757-436-2545 or visit our website, ChurchoftheMessiah.org. God bless you!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to be contacted?

- Yes No By phone By email

Please check all that apply:

- I would like a pastor to contact me.
- First-time visitor Returning visitor
- I would like to know more about Church of the Messiah
- I would like to know more about the Christian faith.
- I have decided to renew my commitment to Christ.
- I would like prayer (see reverse).

My response to today's message:

12.22.2024



Celebrations

Happy Birthday

December 23: Monica Flynn

December 24: Wendy O'Rourke



Please Pray

Please join us in praying for these requests throughout the week (Prayer requests will appear for one month unless requested otherwise.)

OUR NATION AND WORLD:

- An end to hostilities in Israel and peace and healing for all people.
- Protection and healing for our nation, and an end to racism and violence.
- Guidance for our leaders in government.
- Help for all affected by war and violence, disease, and natural disasters.
- A movement of revival at home and abroad.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Susan Bohannon, Debi Balch, Chris Woodland, Kathy Hopkins, Sandra Brown, Josh Corona, Tom Waldman, Aaron Woodward (son of Ellen Belfi), our healthcare workers, all our members of the military, and Sanctuary of Hope, our companion church

OUR OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES:

Aaron and Winnie Coleman-Horvat, Croatia
The Rev. Bisoke Balikenga, Democratic Republic of Congo
David & Betsy, Turkey
His Love in Action School for the Deaf in Honduras
Miriam Brinckley, YWAM-Harpenden, England
CMJ-Israel (Church's Ministry Among Jewish People)

WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH:

Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy

AND THE DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC:

Light of Christ Anglican Church · Heathsville, VA
New Creation Church · Hagerstown, MD

If you would like our prayer ministry to pray for a special need, please submit a confidential Prayer Request online at www.ChurchoftheMessiah.org/contact. Please indicate if you would like your prayer request included in the bulletin, sent only to the prayer team, or both.



Our mission is to make tangible the life-transforming power of God's love so that all may come to know Christ.



The Fourth Sunday in Advent · December 22, 2024

816 Kempsville Road · Chesapeake, VA 23320

Phone: 757-436-2545 **Email:** Messiah@ChurchoftheMessiah.org

Web: ChurchoftheMessiah.org **Facebook:** [ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake)

RECTOR: The Rev. Dr. Martin K. O'Rourke

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: The Rev. Nile Gomez

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR: The Rev. Dr. Ken Shomo

DEACONS: The Rev. Tom Sweeney, The Rev. Vivian Hayes

WEEKLY SERVICE INFORMATION

Sunday Service with Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

In-Person or Livestream at www.ChurchoftheMessiah.org/Livestream
 Children's Church · Fellowship Hall (After Worship until Communion)
 Today's Teachers: Pastor Ken, Doris Gomez

Monday Prayer Meeting · Online at 7:00 p.m.

Online prayer meetings are on hiatus until January 13.

The Fourth Sunday in Advent · December 22, 2024

PRAYER: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Psalm 80:1-7 **Page 439**

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:1-10 **Page 893**

(Response after each lesson: Thanks be to God.)

Gospel: Luke 1:46-55 **Page 761**

(Responses: Glory to You, Lord Christ. ... Praise to You, Lord Christ.)

Sermon: **Mary's Song** Deacon Vivian Hayes

Reader: Debbie White

Eucharistic Ministers: Cherry Jenson, Ron Jenson, Chris Woodland

Prayer Team: Julie Hall, Marie Markham

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today	10:00 am	Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
Tuesday		CHRISTMAS EVE—OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON
	6:30 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
	10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Wednesday		CHRISTMAS DAY—OFFICE CLOSED
Thursday		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED
Friday		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2024

OUR CHILDREN ARE PRESENTING TWO CHRISTMAS SONGS TODAY!

Messiah's kids are excited to share the joy of the season with us; thank you to Wendy O'Rourke for coordinating this special treat! Afterwards, the kids will enjoy a Christmas party during the regular Messiah Kids time; visitors are welcome.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES will be held at 6:30 pm and 10:00 pm. The early service is family friendly and includes a children's sermon. Both services feature traditional music and candle-lighting. Invitations are available in the foyer — invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers!

LAST SUNDAY TO ORDER POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS! Use the attached form to order and dedicate poinsettias to be placed around the altar on Christmas Eve. Each plant is \$13 (non-deductible), and may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The church office will close at noon on Christmas Eve, and will reopen on Monday, December 30. We will also be closed New Year's Day. The clergy and staff of Messiah wish everyone a blessed Christmas and New Year!



EPIPHANY PRAYER MEETING: Plan now to join us in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm on Monday, January 6, to pray that God will use us in the coming year to bring the Good News of His love to our community and the world. There will be no online prayer meeting that day.

ONLINE PRAYER MEETINGS ARE ON HOLD UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. There will be no online prayer meetings on December 23, December 30, or January 6. Join us next on Zoom on January 13.



CHANUKAH BEGINS DECEMBER 25! Cards are available in the foyer to send Chanukah greetings to your Jewish friends or family members.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VESTRY ELECTIONS will be held the first Sunday in February. Up to three new Vestry members may be elected this year, so please begin to prayerfully consider individuals (including yourself) who you feel may be called to this leadership role.

JOIN THE C.A.S.T.! Help Messiah and the Chesapeake Area Shelter Team provide food, shelter and more to those in need the week of February 19-26. Join or co-lead one or more of the 10 teams by signing up in the foyer. There are ways to support some of the teams even if you cannot be present while we are hosting guests.

WELCOME, VISITORS! We'd love to get to know you! Please fill in the attached "Welcome Visitors" form and drop it in the offering box, or submit a Digital Connection Card at www.churchofthemessiah.org/contact. You can check us out online at ChurchoftheMessiah.org and Facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake.



POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase and dedicate poinsettias to decorate the altar on Christmas Eve, please fill out this form, detach it, and place it in the offering box along with your payment. If you cannot pay today, please indicate this below and bring your payment by December 22. Poinsettias are \$13 each and may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

Given by:

Dedication: To the Glory of God and

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In thanksgiving for: _____

Number of plants ordered: _____

Amount paid: \$ _____

(\$13 per plant, non-deductible)

Check* Cash

*Please write "Poinsettias" on your check.

Please order and I will pay later.