



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:

12.10.2023

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday

December 11: Marie Markham
December 13: Jonathan Bekker
Lauren Coleman
Lane Pierce

Happy Anniversary

December 15: Gary & Misty Taylor

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:

Tim & Seiko Maurer, Carole Menzel & Family, Mary Lafferty, Viola McKinlay,
Ruth Thomas, Sandra Brown, Tom Waldman, Misty Taylor, Josh Corona,
Aaron Woodward (son of Ellen Belfi),
our healthcare workers, all of our members of the military,
and Sanctuary of Hope, our companion church

OUR OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES:

Aaron and Winnie Coleman-Horvat, Croatia
David & Betsy, Turkey
His Love in Action School for the Deaf in Honduras
Miriam Brinckley, Ireland
CMJ (Church's Ministry Among Jewish People)

WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH:
Diocese of Quincy

AND THE DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC:
Church of the Good Shepherd · Lynchburg, VA
Church of the Good Shepherd · Nags Head, NC

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 Second Sunday in Advent • December 10, 2023

816 Kempsville Road • Chesapeake, VA 23320

Phone: 757-436-2545 **Email:** [Messiah@ChurchoftheMessiah.org](mailto: 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: Pastor Ken Shomo

DEACON: The Rev. Tom Sweeney

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: Wendy O'Rourke, Karen Phillips

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

Via Zoom · Meeting ID 928 2372 1136

Second Sunday in Advent · December 10, 2023

PRAYER: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 **Page 539**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-18 **Page 904**

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

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 **Page 743**

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

Sermon: **Prepare the Way** Pastor Nile Gomez

Reader: Chris Woodland

Eucharistic Ministers: Anne Crow, Marshall Crow

Prayer Team: Chris Woodland, Jo Ann Woodland

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today	10:00 am	Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
	12:00 pm	CAST Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	7:00 pm	Parish Prayer Meeting (online via Zoom)
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Joyful Noise Club (Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Vestry Meeting
Thursday	9:30 am	Community Bible Study Day Class
	7:00 pm	Community Bible Study Evening Class

THE LADIES' CHRISTMAS BRUNCH yesterday was a joyous time of music, fellowship and worship. Thanks to all who helped and brought food and gifts for Sanctuary of Hope. Special thanks to Doris Gomez, Wendy O'Rourke, Debbie DeBose, Marie Markham, and Karen Phillips for coordinating this wonderful event.



CAST MEETING TODAY AFTER SERVICE. Messiah will host up to 50 homeless guests January 3-10. Help us reach 100% participation by volunteering or donating items (see insert). Sign ups are in the foyer; learn more at www.churchofthemessiah.org/cast2023.

COAT DRIVE: Sanctuary of Hope is holding a coat and blanket drive. If you have new or gently-used coats or blankets, place your donations in the box in the foyer.

MEN'S MINISTRY NEXT MEETS DECEMBER 30. The December Men's Ministry meeting has been moved down to Saturday, December 30, at 10:00 am. Please mark your calendar for this time of fellowship, teaching, and prayer.

CHRISTMAS 2023



STAFF & CLERGY CHRISTMAS GIFT: Please seek the Lord about contributing towards a gift to our superlative staff and clergy. If led, place your contribution in the offering box or mail it to the church. It should be received by today. Checks should be made payable to Church of the Messiah with "Staff & Clergy Gift" on the memo line.

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 \$12 (non-deductible), and may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

ADVENT WREATH! Sign up in the foyer for children to light Advent wreath candles and read special scriptures. Parents will need to accompany and help their children light the candles.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SONG: Messiah kids will present a song next Sunday, December 17. Please have your kids wear a costume related to the nativity scene (angels, shepherds, wise men, etc.) and arrive 45 minutes early at 9:15 am to practice before the service. See Ken Shomo or Wendy O'Rourke for questions.

JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS SERVICE will be this Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 pm. We will serve pizza in the Fellowship Hall, then move to the Sanctuary for our annual Christmas candlelight program. Helpers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up.

CHRISTMAS EVE: There will be one Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00 pm on December 24. Regular Sunday worship will take place as usual at 10:00 am that morning.

OUR SYMPATHIES ARE WITH TIM AND SEIKO MAURER on the passing of Tim's mother, Victoria Marie Smith, who went to be with Jesus on November 25. Please keep Tim and Seiko in prayer. Cards may be sent to them at 416 Falling Lane, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-3971.



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 17. Poinsettias are \$12 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: \$ _____
 (\$12 per plant, non-deductible)

Check* Cash

*Please write "Poinsettias" on your check.

Please order and I will pay later.