



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:

_____ 12.7.2025



Celebrations

Happy Birthday

December 8: Randy Garrett
December 9: Sophia Bennett
December 11: Marie Markham
December 13: Lauren Coleman, Lane Pierce

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:

The Brown family, the Hopkins family, the Balch family, the Bohannon family, the Knight family, Chris Woodland, Josh Corona, Tom Waldman, Lorene Evans and her son Whitt, Colleen Lucas, Ray Ross, our first responders, 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:

Diocese of San Joaquin

AND THE DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC:

Resurrection Anglican Church, • Midlothian, VA
Resurrection Church • Emporia, VA

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.



Second Sunday in Advent December 7, 2025

816 Kempsville Road • Chesapeake, VA 23320

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

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

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

DEACONS: 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: Craig and Kelly Stern, Jo Ann Woodland,
Lauren Coleman

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

Second Sunday in Advent · December 7, 2025

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 35:5-10 **Page 615**

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8 **Page 975**

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

Gospel: Matthew 3:1–12 **Page 828**

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

Sermon: A Highway Made Straight / Aaron Bennett

Reader: Keith Menzel

Eucharistic Ministers: Carole Menzel, Jim Bohannon

Prayer Team: Anne & Marshall Crow

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today	10:00 am	Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
Monday	7:00 pm	Parish Prayer Meeting (online via Zoom)
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Joyful Noise Club Christmas Service
Thursday	9:30 am	CBS Day Class
Thursday	7:00 pm	CBS
Saturday	1:00 pm	Celebration of Life for Kathy Hopkins

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025

THE LADIES’ CHRISTMAS BRUNCH yesterday was a joyous time of music, fellowship and worship. Thank you to all those who contributed to the Christmas Brunch with their presence, prayers, talents, gifts, and contributions of sacrificial and joyful service prior, during, and after the event, bringing food and making Christmas special for children at Sanctuary of Hope.

JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS SERVICE will be this Tuesday, December 10, at 6:30 pm. We will serve pizza in the Fellowship Hall, then move to the Sanctuary for our annual candlelight program. Helpers are needed!

STAFF & CLERGY CHRISTMAS GIFT: A tradition began at Messiah’s first Christmas service that has continued for over 40 years. The Vestry and church family gave a gift to the clergy and staff, blessing them with a little something extra that holiday year. Your vestry is asking you to join them in continuing this tradition for the 42nd Christmas at Church of the Messiah. Any amount would be appreciated. Just write “Christmas Gift” in the memo line and forward it to the church by December 14.



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES will be held at 6:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The early service is family friendly and includes a children’s sermon. Both services feature traditional music and candle-lighting.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS MUSIC: Our kids will present two songs on Sunday, Dec. 21, and at the 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service.



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

EPIPHANY PRAYER MEETING: Plan now to join us in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, 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.



JOIN US ONLINE IN PRAYER each Monday at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Enter Meeting ID 928 2372 1136 into your Zoom app, or go to www.bit.ly/Monday-Prayer.

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. Check us out online at ChurchoftheMessiah.org and Facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake. Contact us at 757-436-2545 or messiah@churchofthemessiah.org with questions.



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ARE WITH FRANCES KNIGHT on the passing of her husband, Adrian Knight. Cards may be sent to 1219 Lakeview Drive, Portsmouth, VA 23701. Details regarding the Celebration of Life service at the Church of the Messiah will be shared soon.



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.