



## 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](http://www.churchofthemessiah.org/contact). Please feel free to call us anytime at 757-436-2545 or visit our website, [ChurchoftheMessiah.org](http://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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 11.30.2025



## Celebrations

### Happy Birthday

December 2: Pastor Marty O'Rourke  
December 3: Aiden Bennett, Viola McKinlay  
December 5: David Nizankiewicz  
December 6: Myra Greggs, Mandy Nixon

## 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, Chris Woodland, Adrian Knight, 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](http://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.*



**First Sunday in Advent November 30, 2025**

**816 Kempsville Road • Chesapeake, VA 23320**

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

**Web:** [ChurchoftheMessiah.org](http://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](http://www.ChurchoftheMessiah.org/Livestream)  
Children’s Church · Fellowship Hall (After Worship until Communion)  
Today’s Teachers: Wendy O’Rourke, Denise Call, Carole Menzel  
Janet Nixon

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

First Sunday in Advent · November 30, 2025

**PRAYER:** Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 2:1-5 **Page 587**

**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14 **Page 1052**

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

**Gospel:** Matthew 24:36–44 **Page 851**

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

**Sermon:** How Should Christ’s Return Affect My Life Today?/  
Pastor Marty O’Rourke

**Reader:** Marcia Curtis

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Marcia & John Curtis

**Prayer Team:** David & Susie Martin

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today	10:00 am	Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
Monday	7:00 pm	Parish Prayer Meeting (online via Zoom)
Thursday	9:30 am	CBS Day Class
Saturday	10:00 m	Woman's Ministry Brunch (Fellowship Hall)

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025

**THANK YOU TO OUR “ELVES”!** The Christmas decorations at Messiah were put up in time for Advent by our trusty team of helpers: Marcia & John Curtis, Bob and Alicia Greeley .

**“PREPARE HIM ROOM”** is the Advent theme of our **LADIES’ CHRISTMAS BRUNCH** here this Sat., Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. Please sign up in the foyer and bring a friend! Also, we’re collecting toys in gift bags for Sanctuary of Hope’s outreach to kids in Portsmouth. Special requests this year: craft kits for girls and boys, Hot Wheels, Legos, crayons & coloring books. Thank you for your generosity!

**JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** will be Tuesday, December 9, 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!

**JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING** Sunday, December 7, at Commonwealth Senior Living Georgian Manor. Put on your festive apparel and meet at 4:45 pm at 651 River Walk Parkway in Chesapeake. Bring instruments if you like! All are welcome. Please contact Lauren Coleman if you’re planning to join: [laurencoleman711@gmail.com](mailto:laurencoleman711@gmail.com) or (703) 217-2243.



**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.

**GIVING TREE** Tags are now available on the foyer tree along with the sign-up sheet. We are partnering with the House of Blessing to sponsor 15 children in need this holiday season. Please return all tags and unwrapped, bagged gifts by December 8th. Please pray for the child on your tag. See Melissa in the church office for more details.

**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](http://www.churchofthemessiah.org/contact). Check us out online at [ChurchoftheMessiah.org](http://ChurchoftheMessiah.org) and [Facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake](https://Facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake). Contact us at 757-436-2545 or [messiah@churchofthemessiah.org](mailto:messiah@churchofthemessiah.org) with questions.

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ARE WITH RALPH HOPKINS** on the passing of his wife, Kathy Hopkins. Cards to the family may be sent in care of their daughter, Grace Bagwell, 1648 Kepler Bend, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. A Celebration of Life service is scheduled for Dec. 13 at 1:00 p.m.



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.