



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:

12.14.2025



Celebrations

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:

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.



Third Sunday in Advent December 14, 2025

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

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: Wendy O’Rourke, Denise Call, Karen Phillips,
Carole Menzel, Mandy Nixon

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

Third Sunday in Advent · December 14, 2025

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 35 **Page 615**
Second Reading: James 5:7-11 **Page 1045**

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

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 **Page 836**

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

Sermon: Embracing the Fullness of the Kingdom / Pastor Vivian Hayes

Reader: Chris Woodland

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)

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025

PARENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS: Next Sunday, Dec. 21, please bring your children to **Room 1 at 9:15 a.m.** to put on their costumes and rehearse the songs they’ll sing for the church that day. Also, if they can sing for the early Christmas Eve service, please have them come to Room 1 that night at **6 p.m.**

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.



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.

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.



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.

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



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.

MESSIAH BUDGET NEWS

As of November 30, 2025:	Year to Date Required:	\$390,870.93
	Year to Date Received:	<u>416,207.69</u>
	Shortage of:	\$ 3,635.81



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.