



CHESTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Chester, Virginia

11:00A.M.

December 31, 2017

WE GATHER

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PEACE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

VOLUNTARY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

There is good news of great joy for all!
Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.
Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord,
The glory of God's people and a light to all.
Let us worship God!

*HYMN 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord
shines upon us.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. You
reveal your saving love, but we hide your love from others. You
claim us as your children, but we do not claim you as our God.
Forgive us, God of grace. Let your will be done in our lives
according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Lord... (Silent,
personal confession)

KYRIE 575

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Hear the promise of the Lord: See your salvation has come! You are a
holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSE 581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen, amen.

WE NURTURE

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:22-40

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

Christmas 1982

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Confession of 1967*

God expressed love for all humankind through Israel, whom
God chose to be a covenant people to serve him in love and
faithfulness. When Israel was unfaithful, God disciplined the
nation with judgment and maintained the covenant through
prophets, priests, teachers, and true believers. These witnesses
called all Israelites to a destiny in which they would serve God
faithfully and become a light to the nations.
The same witnesses proclaimed the coming of a new age, and a
true servant of God in whom God's purpose would be realized.

*HYMN 148

Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple

EVENING HYMN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord...

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive
our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.

WE GIVE THANKS

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures
here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world, Jesus Christ,
through whom we have received adoption as your children.
With Jesus our brother, we dedicate ourselves in ministry to the
world, that we may live as heirs of your promises to the honor and
glory of your name. Amen.

WE REACH OUT

*HYMN 136

Go tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

The End of Worship; the Beginning of Service

*All who are able may stand.

Bold Type indicates a congregational response.

Scripture

Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Welcome. We’re glad you joined us for worship today. We are an engaged community of faith called to deliver God’s word, grow in faith and serve all people. We worship on Sunday mornings at 8:45 in the fellowship hall and at 11:00 in the main sanctuary. We pray that you experience Christ’s presence in our midst, and that his presence will sustain you in the week ahead.

Children are especially welcome in our worship services. For families who prefer, child care is available for birth through age 5 in rooms 119 & 120. Worship bags are available from the ushers for children attending the service. During the service, parents with young children are welcome, if they prefer, to adjourn to the downstairs conference room and continue listening to the service.

If you are a visitor we hope you will make Chester Presbyterian Church your church home. Please pick up a copy of *Connections@CPC*, our church newsletter in the narthex. It is full of activities and program schedules to assist you in finding areas of interest in our ministries. Our pastor, staff and officers would be delighted to answer any questions you may have about our many programs and activities, and to discuss membership with you at your earliest convenience.

Serving Today

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|-----------------|--|
| Liturgist | Sue Williams |
| Sanctuary Guild | Joe Gee |
| Ushers | Richard and Susan Nunnally; DT and Jana Wood |
| Greeters | Maury and Libby Gatewood; Don Davidson; Bob Brown, Sr. |

Office Hours: 9:00A.M. – 4:30P.M. Monday – Friday. Church staff can be reached at 748-4636.

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| Gordon B. Mapes, III, Pastor | gmapes@chesterpres.org |
| James Dorn, Director of Music | jdorn@chesterpres.org |
| Linn W. Coghill, Membership Coordinator | lcoghill@chesterpres.org |
| Jessie Partridge, CE Intern | christian.ed@chesterpres.org |
| Jacqueline Poliquin, Church Administrator | office@chesterpres.org |
| Jennifer Simonpietri, Accountant | jennifers@chesterpres.org |
| Kim Hopkins, Preschool Director | 748-9465 preschool@chesterpres.org |
| Sandra Walker, Financial Secretary | 751-0713 financial.sec@chesterpres.org |
| Don Davidson, Treasurer | 717-5020 treasurer@chesterpres.org |
| Lucinda Wood | christian.ed@chesterpres.org |
| Carroll A. Briggs & Ron L. Briggs, Sextons | |

**God’s Call to Chester Presbyterian Church is:
*Deliver God’s Word, Grow in Faith, Serve All People.***



Phone: 748-4636 Fax: 748-6470
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www.chesterpres.org

This Week at CPC

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| Sunday, December 31 | 10:00A.M. | AWE – FH |
| | 9:45A.M. | Intergenerational SS, Advent – FH |
| | 11:00A.M. | Worship – Sanctuary |
| Monday, January 1 | | New Year’s Day – office closed |
| Tuesday, January 2 | 10:30A.M. | CPC Staff – 1 st Fl CR |
| | 5:30P.M. | Grace Café – FH |
| | 6:30P.M. | Mission Committee – Rm 214 |
| | 7:00P.M. | Worship Committee – 1 st Fl CR Property Committee – 2 nd Fl CR |
| Wednesday, January 3 | 7:00A.M. | Wednesday Men’s Breakfast – FH |
| | 10:00A.M. | Pastor’s Bible Study – 1 st Fl CR |
| | 6:30P.M. | Diaconate – 1 st Fl CR |
| | 7:00P.M. | AA Living Life – Rudy Ctr |
| Thursday, January 4 | 6:30P.M. | AWE Singers – Robing Room |
| | 7:00P.M. | GS Troop #26 – 2 nd Fl CR |
| | 7:30P.M. | Chancel Choir – Rm 213 |
| Friday, January 5 | 8:00P.M. | AA Big Book Study – Rudy Ctr |
| Saturday, January 6 | 8:00A.M. | Saturday Men’s Breakfast – FH |
| | 9:00A.M. | Unhanging of the Greens – Campus |
| | 11:00A.M. | AA Common Journey – Rudy Ctr |

Please Remember In Your Prayers: Helen Hines; Susan Hendler; Larry Turner, Sr.; Nancy Muller family; Ani Martin; Elizabeth Jones; Kelly Cahill, Brad Peebles; Janice Kraft; Cynthia and Todd Woerner’s daughter, Rebecca Hodell, and Cynthia’s friend Susan Huntington; Deborah Regal’s sister, Cherrill, and her sister-in-law, Barbie Harris; Jude Osborne’s sister-in-law, Terrie Zehnder; Nancy Gefvert’s sister-in-law, Debbie Vincent; Frank Brownlee’s stepson-in-law, Gordon Hailey; Beverly and Charles Crute and their daughter, Cathy Toney; Wanda Gentry’s daughter, Mary Gentry; Bob and Marnie Brown’s son-in-law, Guy Champ; shut-ins; those in assisted living facilities, especially Larry Grina; Nancy Porterfield; Walter Beam; and our military, especially members and friends of our congregation serving overseas.

Please welcome to the piano guest musician – and our neighbor – Noah Slate.

New Tuesday night adult CE class begins January 9: *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts*, based on the book of the same name by Charles V Bryant and led by Marnie Brown. The 6-week journey will help you discover—or name—your spiritual gifts and help all of us to understand how to use spiritual gifts at CPC. This will be an experiential class (as opposed to lecture), so please register in the office and pick up your book (\$12; books are available now) soon enough to read the first 5 chapters before classes begin.
Dates in 2018: Jan 9, 16, 23 and 30; Feb 6 and 13. **Time:** 6:30-8:00 PM each Tuesday. **Location:** 2nd floor conference room.

This is CANNED VEGETABLES week for our Food Pantry. Please place your donations in the shopping cart in the narthex. *\$10 Kroger gift cards are especially needed and appreciated.* Thank you.

Grace Café welcomes you for dinner every Tuesday, 5:30-6:30P.M. in the fellowship hall. baked ham, black-eyed peas, white rice, boiled potatoes, stewed tomatoes, and dessert rolls. Come out and unwind with good friends.

The church office is closed Monday, January 1, in celebration of the New Year holiday.