



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Faithful to the Scriptures  
True to the Reformed Faith  
Obedient to the Great Commission



November 30, 2025  
10:30 am

# Welcome to Christ Community Church

*For God's glory, to make and deploy mature  
and equipped disciples of Jesus Christ.*

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CCC Guest >  
guest2020

This facility is  
equipped with a  
hearing  
assistance  
system. Please  
ask a Sound  
Technician for a  
receiver.

Hymns and  
worship songs  
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**S** - denotes  
congregation  
Standing

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CCC Simpsonville  
app today!



Whether you are a visitor or a member, it is a joy to worship our Lord Jesus Christ with you this morning. Please consider participating in our Discipleship Hour and Community Groups throughout the week as well.

We believe it is right and good for children of all ages to be with the adult community in worship. Please do not hesitate to keep your child with you. However, we do offer Children's Church for 3-5 yr. olds. Those children participating can be dismissed to the children's wing during the song prior to the sermon.

Because we live in a fallen, broken, sinful world, we can come to Sunday morning worship at times with hearts weighed down with burdens, struggles and concerns. It is not God's will that we shoulder these burdens and concerns alone. Each Sunday immediately following the worship service, there are people at the right front of the church who stand ready to listen to your concerns and to pray with you. So, whatever your concern, no matter how big or small, feel free to come, to share and to be prayed for.

Prepare yourself now for the highest calling of the people of God which is the worship of God in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

Building Attendant for today: Andrew Woodford

*Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler*

## ***Reflections***

**1 John 4:9:** In this, the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

# Order of Worship

## Gathering Song

## Welcome & Announcements

### *Hearing from the Savior*

#### § Call to Worship

Genesis 12:1-3

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

### *Responding to the Savior*

#### § Prayer of Invocation

#### § Songs of Praise

*Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

## *And Can It Be*

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above so free, so infinite His grace!  
Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

*Chorus:        Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

## **§ Confession of Faith**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;*

*And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.\*  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

\*This refers to Jesus taking  
upon Himself the wrath of God  
for the sins of His people  
while upon the cross.

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church\*\*,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

\*\* This refers to the  
"universal church" that in-  
cludes all the true elect of God  
from every tongue, tribe and  
nation throughout past, pre-  
sent and future history.

## **Tithes & Generous Giving**

Three ways to give: the Giving Box, online through the website, or mail to the church at PO Box 80787, Simpsonville, SC 29680

## **Prayers of the Church**

**Jay & Sumter Brantley, Shepherd's Staff in Nkishon, Kenya**

### ***Hearing from the Savior***

## **Old Testament Reading**

Hosea 1:10-2:1, 2:21-23

Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God." And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head. And they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

Say to your brothers, "You are my people," and to your sisters, "You have received mercy."

"And in that day I will answer, declares the Lord, I will answer the heavens, and they shall answer the earth, and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil, and they shall answer Jezreel, and I will sow her for myself in the land. And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people'; and he shall say, 'You are my God.'"

### ***Responding to the Savior***

## **§ Song of Preparation\***

*Jesus, Messiah*

\*Parents who desire may bring their 3-5 yr. olds to the children's wing for Children's Church.

He became sin, who knew no sin;  
That we might become His righteousness;  
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing.

*Chorus: Jesus, Messiah.  
Name above all names, Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from heaven;  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.*

His body the bread, His blood the wine  
broken and poured out, all for love.  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing.  
*Chorus*

Bridge: All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You;  
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world.

*Chorus (2x)*

## ***Hearing from the Savior***

### **Sermon Text**

Ephesians 1:3-10

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup> which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.

### **Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Jonathan Williams

*“Before There Was Time”*

Week after week we proclaim the Bible because we are convinced it is the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God. That means that it comes to us from God, so it is true in everything that it claims. Therefore, you can trust it with all of your heart and it will not let you down.

## ***Responding to the Savior***

### **§ Song of Response**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art,  
dear Desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;  
Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;  
“Go to Him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;  
By His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

### ***Hearing from the Savior***

#### **§ Benediction**

Zephaniah 3:17

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

*If you have a need or would like to find out more about the Gospel, the Post Worship Team stands ready to meet with you and pray. Simply make your way to the front right-hand side of the sanctuary after the Benediction, and a team member will be there to meet with you.*



*Space for Notes:*

## ***Questions for Families and Community Groups***

*Advent Series · Before There Was Time · Ephesians 1:3-10*

1. For Children:

a. Why is God's greatest gift, Jesus, better than any Christmas present?

b. One day Jesus will come again and make right everything that has gone wrong. "Everything that is sad will come untrue." What are you looking forward to seeing Jesus put right when He comes again?

2. How does it help you to know that God has chosen you to be holy and blameless before Him?

3. How does this passage transform how we think about worldly identities and sources of meaning?

4. How would you use this passage to help a friend who is anxious about news and world events?

5. This passage shows us that God accomplishes his redemptive purposes at just the right time in history. What has helped you to trust God's timing in your life?

6. Why is Paul so exuberant in these verses? How do the truths here lift your heart to bless God?

## ***Why Do We Do That?***

## **Post Worship Prayer**

All of us encounter things which are a concern for us. These might be personal needs or the needs of family members or friends. The need may be an upcoming surgery, an on-going health issue, a situation with your family, work or school. Whatever your concern or need is, we do not want you to carry it alone! Praying isn't the only way we care for one another, but it is an important way. So, we want to have the opportunity to come alongside and listen and then pray with you about your need. Each Sunday immediately following the worship service, there will be two people at the right front of the sanctuary who stand ready to meet with you and pray. We take seriously the command of Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." We hope you will avail yourself of this opportunity for us to care for you in this way.

*Thank you to all who provided funds for the poinsettias that have been used to decorate our church for the Advent Season.*

### **Poinsettias placed in memory of:**

- ◆ Ralph & Marion Hendricks ( John & Victoria Hubbard)
- ◆ Bob & Nona Liddell (Roy & Felicia Liddell)
- ◆ Our 2 babies with Jesus (Martha Jo Moore)
- ◆ Larry & Paige McCarty (Martha Jo Moore)
- ◆ Robert Sams (Judy Sams)
- ◆ John & Helen Thornton & brothers, John & Joe (Roy & Felicia Liddell)

### **Poinsettias placed in honor of:**

- ◆ Our priceless CCC Staff (Martha Jo Moore)



*Mark your calendars:*

## ***December***

- **6:** Children's Ministry Cocoa & Carols, 10:30am
- **7:** Meet the Nominees, 9:30am, Joint ADS class in the sanctuary
- **9:** Women's Ministry Christmas Gathering, 6pm
- **14:** Congregational Meeting, 9:30am, Joint ADS class in sanctuary
  - Election of officers
  - Church-life update
- **21:** No ADS
- **24:** Christmas Eve Service, 6pm
- **28:** No ADS

*More information can be found in the Update, on the app, and/or website.*

- \* *The first Sunday of each month we take a collection of personal care items for the Center for Community Services. Items can be placed in the wagon located next to the Information Desk in the foyer.*
- \* *Members can pick up a monthly giving report summary in the Deacons' office.*

### ***Church office: 864.967.2815***

#### **Staff**

Paul Sanders, Senior Pastor	864.431.6688	Rachel Beeson, Dir. of Children's Ministry	864.617.6768
Jonathan Williams, Ass't. Pastor/Discipleship	803.629.2952	Felicia Liddell, Dir. of Assimilation	813.335.7320
Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor/Youth	770.328.6363	Kim Wallace, Dir. of Women's Ministry	864.981.2449
	Jim Perry, Church Administrator	864.449.5609	
	Joanne Heiser, Admin. Assistant	864.593.2424	
	Steve Britton, Clerk of Session	864.277.9248	
	Robbie McCoy, Chair of Diaconate	707.499.1560	