



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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



December 14, 2025  
10:30 am

# Welcome to Christ Community Church

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

Free wifi:  
CCC Guest >  
guest2020

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

Hymns and  
worship songs  
are used by  
permission.  
CCLI # 187771

**S** - denotes  
congregation  
Standing

Download the  
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: Robbie McCoy

*Cover artwork by Faith Wheeler*

## ***Reflections***

**John 1:14:** “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

**Romans 5:12, 19:** “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned... For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.”

**1 Corinthians 15:22:** “For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.”

**2 Corinthians 5:17:** “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”

**The Westminster Shorter Catechism:** “The only redeemer of God’s elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.”

**Galatians 4:4-5:** “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

Assisting with the service today:

- Rev. Ben Clarke, Assistant Pastor of Next Gen and Worship
- Rev. Jonathan Williams, Assistant Pastor of Adult Discipleship

## Order of Worship

### Welcome & Announcements

### Choral Introit

Children's Choirs

### *Hearing from the Savior*

### § Call to Worship

John 1:1-5, 9-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### *Responding to the Savior*

### § Prayer of Invocation

### § Song of Praise

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel;  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

*Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice!*  
*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

*Chorus*

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Chorus*

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

*Chorus*

## **§ Affirmation of Faith**

from the Westminster Confession of Faith

**Leader:** What does the Bible teach about the person and nature of Jesus Christ?

***All:** Jesus is the Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon Him man's nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance.*

*So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.*

## **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**

**Commandment 11, Scott & Tara Jacobs**

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

## **Old Testament Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 53

Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

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

#### **§ Songs of Preparation\***

#### *What Child is This?*

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

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and lamb are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

#### *Christmas Sanctus*

Holy, holy, holy in a manger lowly,  
Christ the Son, now veiled in flesh in our humanity  
Kingdoms bow before Him, heaven and earth adore Him  
God here in person, hail His majesty.

Holy, holy, holy sings the Virgin Mary.  
For he shall deliver us from sin's captivity.  
Born to heal the nations, Born for our salvation.  
O magnify him, Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.

Heaven's angels sound his praise.  
With earth and sky and sea,  
Join the song of triumph, Glory in the highest,  
Let all creation crown him King of Kings.

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

### **Sermon Text**

Hebrews 2:10-18

<sup>10</sup> For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup> For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup> saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."

<sup>13</sup> And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the children God has given me."

<sup>14</sup> Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup> For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

### **Preaching of the Word**

Rev. Paul Sanders

#### ***"Why He Took on Flesh"***

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 Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, in the dawning of the King.  
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.  
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man.  
In His living, in His suff'ring, never trace, nor stain of sin.  
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.  
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree.  
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.  
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold.  
Bringing many sons to glory; grace unmeasured love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, slain by death, the God of life.  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him. Praise the Lord, He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

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

#### **§ Benediction**

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

*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:*

## ***Description of Officers, their work, vows and how they are elected***

~From the Presbyterian Church in America Book of Church Order

CHURCH OFFICERS- RULING ELDER - BCO 8-1: This office is one of dignity and usefulness. The man who fills it has in Scripture different titles expressive of his various duties. As he has the oversight of the flock of Christ, he is termed bishop or pastor. As it is his duty to be grave and prudent, an example to the flock, and to govern well in the house and Kingdom of Christ, he is termed presbyter or elder. As he expounds the Word, and by sound doctrine both exhorts and convinces the gainsayer, he is termed teacher. These titles do not indicate different grades of office, but all describe one and the same office.

BCO 8-2: He that fills this office should possess a competency of human learning and be blameless in life, sound in the faith and apt to teach. He should exhibit a sobriety and holiness of life becoming the Gospel. He should rule his own house well and should have a good report of them that are outside the Church.

BCO 8-3: It belongs to the office of elder, both severally and jointly, to watch diligently over the flock committed to their charge, that no corruption of doctrine or of morals enter therein. They must exercise government and discipline, and take oversight not only of the spiritual interests of the particular church, but also the Church generally when called thereunto. They should visit the people at their homes, especially the sick. They should instruct the ignorant, comfort the mourner, nourish and guard the children of the church. They should set a worthy example to the flock entrusted to their care by their zeal to evangelize the unconverted and make disciples. All those duties which private Christians are bound to discharge by the law of love are especially incumbent upon them by divine vocation, and are to be discharged as official duties. They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.

CHURCH OFFICERS- DEACON - BCO 9-1: The office of deacon is set forth in the Scriptures as ordinary and perpetual in the Church. The office is one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints especially in their helping one another in time of need.

BCO 9-2: It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress. It is their duty also to develop the grace of liberality in the members of the church, to devise effective methods of collecting the gifts of the people, and distribute these gifts among the objects to which they are contributed. They shall have the care of the property of the congregation, both real and personal, and shall keep in proper repair the church edifice and other buildings belonging to the congregation. In matters of special importance affecting the property of the church, they cannot take final action without the approval of the Session and consent of the congregation. In the discharge of their duties the deacons are under the supervision and authority of the Session. In a church in which it is impossible for any reason to secure deacons, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the ruling elders.

THE PROCESS - BCO 24-1: Every church shall elect persons to the offices of ruling elder and deacon in the following manner: At such times as determined by the Session, communicant members of the congregation may submit names to the Session, keeping in mind that each prospective officer should be an active male member who meets the qualifications set forth in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. After the close of the nomination period nominees for the office of ruling elder and/or deacon shall receive instruction in the qualifications and work of the office.

Each nominee shall then be examined in:

- a. His Christian experience, especially his personal character and family management (based on the qualifications set out in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9),
- b. His knowledge of Bible content,
- c. His knowledge of the system of doctrine, government, discipline contained in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America
- d. The duties of the office to which he has been nominated, and
- e. His willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination

## Questions for Families and Community Groups

"God in the Flesh: The Wonder of the Incarnation" # 3

Hebrews 2:5-18

"Why He Took on Flesh"

1. Especially for the children (BUT ALSO FOR EVERYONE!):
  - a. What is the main reason that Jesus came to earth as a Man?
  - b. Try to memorize this verse: "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."  
1 Corinthians 15:22
2. What was your top takeaway from this week's sermon?
3. Psalm 8 is quoted in Hebrews 2. How is Jesus the fulfillment of Psalm 8?
4. Look at our Hebrews 2 text. Name all the explanations for Jesus coming in the flesh that are given.
5. What comfort is ours knowing Christ became like us in every respect including suffering and temptation?
6. Read Romans 5:12-19. How does this text relate to our emphasis in this week's sermon?
7. How can Jesus help us when we are tempted?
8. How is God's glory seen through the incarnation?

*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:**

- ◆ Tom Davies (the Davies Family)
- ◆ Ralph & Marion Hendricks (John & Victoria Hubbard)
- ◆ Mr. & Mrs. William Iannone (Joanne Iannone Terrell)
- ◆ Bob & Nona Liddell (Roy & Felicia Liddell)
- ◆ Our 2 babies with Jesus (Martha Jo Moore)
- ◆ Larry & Paige McCarty (Martha Jo Moore)
- ◆ Robert Sams (Judy Sams)
- ◆ JoAnn Shaw (Linda & Larry Taylor)
- ◆ Rosa Lee Taylor (Linda & Larry Taylor)
- ◆ Col. Judson M. Terrell, Jr, Pat Terrell & Jud Terrell, III (David Terrell)
- ◆ 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***

- **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

***January***

- **4:** Joint ADS - Installation of Officers. 9:30am, in sanctuary

*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		
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