



ORDER OF WORSHIP DECEMBER 5, 2021 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Let me hear the peace that God will speak to the faithful, to those who turn and seek God's face. Let God's glory dwell within me and may God's salvation be at hand. For I know that steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. May I be a well-spring for God's righteousness, making a path for God's steps. Amen. (Melissa Yosua-Davis, inspired by Psalm 85:8-13)

Liturgies and Prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

☒ We rise in body or spirit

Welcome

Here at CCC, we are all one family. Restrooms are in the Parish House across the street. Join in when bold letters appear. For COVID, we are masking, sanitizing hands, and practicing physical distancing. During songs, we invite you to be in prayerful meditation or sing along in your heart.

☒ Call to Worship

John the Baptist said, "Prepare the way." So family of faith, how do we prepare our minds for worship?

We silence the inner critic. We let go of busy thoughts. We make space for God to speak.

How do we prepare our hearts for worship?

We bless all emotions. We feel what we feel. We open ourselves up to be moved.

How do we prepare our bodies for worship?

We take in the scent, sight, and feel of this space. We breathe in God's mercy. We exhale God's love.

How do we prepare our souls for worship?

We bring our full selves into this space. We wear our hearts on our sleeves. We trust that even now, God is here.

Family of faith, what we practice in worship, we must live out in our daily lives. So prepare the way. Let us worship Holy God.

Lighting our Advent Wreath

Song Come, Oh Redeemer Come (Fernando Ortega)

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, We wish that peace was something we could buy. We wish that peace could be ordered in a subscription service, found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for in a ballot. We wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when we are feeling our best. However, what we have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over, whether or not we are feeling our best. So today I confess, in front of this community of faith, that I need your help in this Advent season. Prepare the way for greater peace, and teach me how to be a part of it.

Silence is kept for individual confession, reflection, and meditation.

Sharing in Forgiveness

May God forgive you. May God's guiding hand surround you. May you know comfort. May you know peace. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8 **Song** Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)

Sermon

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Please send an email to church.chebeague@gmail.com to add a prayer request to our list.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements/Offering

Financial gifts can be placed in the plate in the entryway or made online at www.chebeaguechurch.org. We also offer ourselves in service to God's work as we connect with the ministries of the church.

✠Affirmation of Faith

We believe that a voice cried out in the wilderness, Saying, "Prepare the way of the Lord." And so, we show up for each other on cold, blustery days. We march toward justice. We roll up our sleeves. We plant trees for our children. We make art. We choose hope. We gather at the Table. We set an extra plate. We sing loudly, with joy. We share stories and wisdom. We celebrate children. We fall together. We rise together. We love together. We do all these things because we believe that God loves us so much that God shows up here. So we prepare and prepare for that next beautiful day. May it be so. Amen.

✠Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sacred Ground - Conversation Circles Starting in December and the New Year! We all want to see improvements in the racial disparities in our society, but it can be difficult to have meaningful conversations about these issues. This program uses discussion groups led by trained facilitators in order to make this conversation safer and more impactful. Small groups meet for 90 minutes every three weeks over the course of ten sessions. During this time they watch and discuss films exploring the history and impact of race and racism in American society. This program is open to people of all faiths (and none!). Learn more and register at: <https://stpaulsmaine.org/learning-sacred-ground-new/>. Zoom sessions are available. Have questions? Contact Andrea Lauerman, the Program Coordinator: SacredGroundME@gmail.com

Longest Night Cantata with Tuttle Road Community Church - Area churches will gather on December 19th at 5:30 PM to acknowledge that sometimes this season can bring challenges and struggles. Join us to bear witness and to find hope together. Service will be over in time for folks to make the 7:30 boat back to Chebeague.

Christmas Eve - 4 PM and 7 PM This year, due to physical distancing protocols, we will be offering two opportunities for Christmas Eve worship. Our earlier service will be geared for a more participatory and interactive time, with either a pageant (or carols and smores outdoors). Our 7 PM service will be our traditional carols and candlelight service. We will be requiring masks and anticipate being able to sing quietly while masked with strict distancing protocols in place. Reservations will be required so that we can maintain appropriate distancing - stay tuned for details on how we'll be connecting with folks to reserve spots. We will be offering a remote option for our 7 PM service. Please contact Pastor Melissa with any questions!

Looking to share your gifts during the holiday season? Milestone Recovery in Portland has an Amazon wish list and accepts monetary donations as well. <https://milestone-recovery.org/>

PRAYER LIST

For the families of Jane Harrington, Peg Lyons, and Bill Cushing. And for Lola & Bill Armstrong, Dick Bowen, Anne Brown, Bob Dyer, Ed Gilchrist, Lisa Googins, Kyle Grannell, Chuck Hilly, Hobey Hinchman, Billy Hutchinson, Roy & Suzanne Jackson, Jessica, Jonathan, Mary Lou & Frank Koughan, Scott Libby, Lisa, Beryl O'Neil, Bea Pettit, Herb & Florence Rich, Helen Scott, Alison Shepherd, Juan Toj, Linda White, Craig Winslet, Rev. Alijandro and the people of Guatemala; those who live with addiction or mental illness; veterans and those serving in the military; children who are hungry or abused; victims and perpetrators of domestic violence; refugees and those who are homeless; housing on Chebeague; our island school and families, the leaders of our country, children and families at the border, those who experience hate because of their racial identity or sexual orientation, including Black, Asian, Hispanic, Middle-Eastern, Native American and LGBTQ+ folx, all impacted by COVID-19, those who are disabled, those who are ill, our new church, our environment, those who experience injustice in our world, and that all may know hope and love.

Join us for other church activities, both in-person and virtually!

Sundays
10 am Worship

Thursdays
10 am Office Hours
11 am Ladies Aid
1 pm Bible Study with Gloria Brown

Food Pantry
Contact chebundance@gmail.com to make an appointment or for information.

For all our events, including Zoom links, visit www.chebeaguechurch.org.

Contact Us

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