

Prayer and Care List

Please pray for those who are homebound, sick and grieving:

At home: Liz & Vann Johnson, Aubrey Roane, Anne Eastes,

Harriet Heath, Pat Spear

Churchland House: Ed Heath

Lake Prince Woods: Sarah Brown, Milt Brown

Mayfair House: Mary Alice Thomasson

Clergy and Staff

Pastor	Rev. Dr. H. Celeste Heath
Liturgist	Rev. Ellen Comstock
Lindauer Endowed Chair	Chris Titko
for Music and Fine Arts	
Administrative Assistants	Pam Snider, Dorothy Williams
Communications	Bonnie White, Chris Titko
Audio Visuals Control	Ray Comstock
Bookkeeper	Dianne Hunter
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Ray Edmonds
Choral Scholars	A'Maia Polansky, Annie O'Shea, Caroline Tovar, Miles Pifer, Isaac Samuel

Contact Information

Phone: 757-397-1297

Email: monumentalumc.office@gmail.com

450 Dinwiddie St., Portsmouth, VA 23704

Website: www.monumentalumc.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am to 3pm, Friday 9am to 12pm

Calendar

December 24 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service (Prelude begins 4:50p)

December 24 – January 2 – Church Office Closed



December 21, 2025

4th Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m.

ENTRANCE

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Manger Lullaby

H. Morris

Monumental Bells

Call to Worship

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,

Come, peasant, king to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings;

Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

This, this is Christ, the King,

Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring Him laud,

The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Opening Prayer

Here, at the nativity of your birth, give us the courage to face this moment with a steadfast love that casts out fear. Open us to new understandings of the unfolding story of your presence among us. Show us how to be with and for one another in ways that add to the flourishing of all creation.

We pray in the name of the Child, the Love Enthroned in our hearts and lives. Amen.

***Hymn** *Love Come Down at Christmas* *Hymnal #242*

Scripture Reading *Matthew 1:18-25*

Offertory

Anthem *Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child* *L. Larson*

Doxology

Hymn *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine* *TFWS# 2099*
1-Women 2-Men 3-All Refrain-All

Sermon *Enthroned by Love*

Morning Prayers

SING **Star-Child** **2095 TFWS**
Star-Child, earth-child, go between of God
Love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod
This year, this year, let the day arrive when
Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

Prayers

SING
Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign
Down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine
This year, this year, let the day arrive when
Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

Music *What Child is This/Child of the Poor*
Melodie Warren, Celeste Heath

Sending Forth

***Hymn** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* *Hymnal #218*

***Benediction**

Response

This, this is Christ, the King,

Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Postlude *Joy to the World* *F. Bock*
***Please stand if you are able.**

Congregational Offering December 14, 2025

Received: \$4,118.00

Altar Guild (Poinsettias).....	\$90.00
Use of Bldg & Facilities (Parking).....	\$600.00
Love Gift.....	\$510.00
Nativity Scene.....	\$132.00
TOTAL GIVING FOR 12/14/2025.....	\$5,450.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Vol. and Health & Safety Team Assignments:

Vol.1, D. Scott check-in; Vol. 2, J. Thacker (R3) greeter at Chapel entry door; Vol. 3, B. Richardson (R1), greeter at Dinwiddie Street door/Acolyte; Vol. 4, L. Edmonds (R2), Addnl. H&S Resp.

Christmas DinnerTheater-today, December 21st at 5pm.

Christmas Gifts. As we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season, we invite you to prayerfully consider contributing to a special love gift for our dedicated church staff. Throughout the year, they serve our congregation with faithfulness, compassion, and joy, and this offering is a meaningful way to express our gratitude. If you feel led to give, please designate your donation as "Staff Christmas Gift", and place it in the worship offering or mail it to the church office. Thank you for helping us bless those who continually bless our church family.

Christmas Eve Service – Lessons and Carols, Wednesday, December 24, 5pm. Prelude begins at 4:50 pm.

The church office will be closed December 24th thru January 2nd.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE"
FROM THE MONUMENTAL STAFF!