

November 24, 2024
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Christ the King Sunday

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP Marsha Colaluce

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with joy!

People: Sing praises to God; sing praises!

Leader: Christ is risen from the dead and reigns in heaven.

People: How majestic is the Lord on high!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God!

*HYMN #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God,

We confess that we have not turned away from sin.

**We worry that our hope is lost
and forget the promise of your love.**

**We take the gift of faith for granted
and fail to keep your commandments.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

Help us, by your Holy Spirit,

**to hold fast to the teaching of your Word
and to guard the treasure entrusted to us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE #654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

*THE PASSING OF GOD'S LOVE AND PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all ... **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON Rosie England

FIRST LESSON Romans 15:13 p. 1125

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* Choir

SECOND LESSON Luke 14:16-23 p. 1034

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "The Kingdom of God Is a Party" Pastor Stephen Choi

Responding to the Word

*DECLARATION OF FAITH (Insert) A Brief Statement of Faith

*HYMN #157 *I Danced in the Morning*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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 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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY ***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

Bearing and Following the Word

*HYMN #134

Joy to the World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #748

Go with Us, Lord

***Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.***

*POSTLUDE

*Please stand if able

STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

The Ministers: All the Members

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi, Pastor

The Rev. Jack E. Roan, Pastor Emeritus

Brian Ballentine, Music Director

Denise DeMasi, Choir Director

Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

Renée Herb, Office Manager

Sarah Sampson, Treasurer

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Confirmation Class. We are beginning a new Confirmation Class in January 2025.

Please speak with Pastor Stephen if you have questions and if you would like to have your child attend.

2025 Mission Trip. We are planning a Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic from June 27 to July 4, 2025.

We will again work with Foundation for Peace and will continue our work with the same church we were helping to build this past summer.

Please let Pastor Stephen know if you are interested in participating. A \$50 deposit is needed to reserve your spot.

Devotionals. The following daily devotionals are available on the table in the sanctuary, or by calling the church office:

- “Our Daily Bread,” Dec./Jan./Feb. issue.
- “Today,” Nov./Dec. issue.
- “Our Daily Bread,” large-print edition, Oct./Nov./Dec. issue.

Pray for This Week’s Mission Partner: Kiva. Kiva is an international non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. By lending as little as \$25, anyone can help a borrower start or grow a business, go to school, access clean energy, or realize their potential. For some, it’s a matter of survival. For others, it’s the fuel for a life-long ambition. Since March 2012, Stewartsville Presbyterian Church has made 558 loans totaling \$14,275 to people living in 87 different countries. We were able to do this with less than \$3,000. As we have been repaid, we are able to give new loans. To learn more about microfinance loans, visit kiva.org

OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY

Assisting in Worship Today	Marsha Colaluce
Greeters Today	Ed and Sue Ham
Broadcast Team	Alan Deak and Bill Fleming
Sunday School and Nursery	Laura Choi and Sarah Sampson

Week Ahead at Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

Today, 11/24: Family Advent Craft after Worship Service, Roan Hall AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Wednesday, 11/27: AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Thursday, 11/28: Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, 11/29: Church Office Closed

Sunday, 12/1: First Sunday of Advent

Adult Sunday School, 9:20 a.m., Library

Worship Service and Children’s Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., with Holy Communion

AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

This Week’s Birthdays and Anniversaries

Today, 11/24: Carol Evanoski

Tuesday, 11/26: Jim & Debbie Riley – Anniversary

Wednesday, 11/27: Jay & Eileen Miers – Anniversary

Thursday, 11/28: David Gary

Saturday, 11/30: Anthony Albert

Announcements

Welcome. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We invite you to sign the pew pad as they are being passed. Restrooms are located downstairs in Roan Hall. We hope that the service is a blessing to you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Congregational Meeting. There will be a brief Congregational Meeting after the worship service on Sunday, Dec. 8. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a new class of Elders and Deacons.

Poinsettias. Please see the insert in today’s bulletin for information on ordering Poinsettias for our Christmas Eve worship service. Poinsettias are \$5 each and dedications can be made in memory or in honor of a loved one. The deadline to order is Sunday, Dec. 8.

Announcements (continued)

Church Office Closed. The church office will be closed this Friday, Nov. 30, for the Thanksgiving weekend.

Regular office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Deacons' Offering. During the month of November, we are receiving a special offering to support the work and ministry of our Deacons.

Please use the envelope in your offering box, or write a check and note "Deacons" on the memo line.

For online giving, please go to the church website, www.stewartsvillepc.org Give Now, Deacons.

AED Training. As you may have noticed, we now have AED units in our sanctuary and Roan Hall. We will be having a training session on how to properly use the AED, and also CPR Training on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7:00 p.m. in Roan Hall.

We have 5 spaces left in the class. Please RSVP to Renée in the church office if you would like to attend.

Hanging of the Greens. Help is needed for the annual "Hanging of the Greens" on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 9:00 a.m. We will be decorating the sanctuary, and putting up the Christmas tree.

The Fellowship Committee will provide a light breakfast.

For more information or to sign up, contact Ed Ham at ehamjr99@gmail.com

Giving Tree. All of the "Giving Tree" tags have been taken. Thank you to everyone who picked a tag!

If you would still like to help a child in need, the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency has also asked for gift cards to Target or Walmart.

The absolute deadline to return unwrapped gifts and gift cards is Sunday, Dec. 8.

2025 Pledge Cards. If you have not already returned your 2025 Pledge Card and Time & Talent Sheet, please put them in the offering plate, or mail them to the church office as soon as possible. Extra Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets are available in the back of the sanctuary, or by calling the church office.

Christmas Joy Offering. We will be receiving the Christmas Joy Offering throughout the Advent season. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you will help families of active and retired church workers, and support Presbyterian-related schools and colleges to provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage.

Please use the special envelope in your box of envelopes, or write a check with "Christmas Joy" on the memo line.

To give online at the church website, www.stewartsvillepc.org, Give Now, and note "Christmas Joy" under Special.

Adult Lunch Group. "Grazing with Grace," our Adult Lunch Group will meet on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 11:30 a.m. at Sports Scene Restaurant at Oakwood Lanes, 234 Route 31, Washington, NJ.

In celebration of Christmas, we will take up a monetary collection which will be donated to a charity to be determined at the luncheon.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please call Louisa Miers at 908-763-3861 by Monday, Dec. 9 to make your reservation. Also, contact Louisa if you need a ride or directions to the restaurant.

Cookie Exchange. We will hold our annual Cookie Exchange on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 9:45 a.m. in Roan Hall. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more information.

The deadline to sign up is Sunday, Dec. 8.

Christmas Caroling. Everyone is invited to go caroling after worship on Sunday, Dec. 15. We will sing Christmas carols to our homebound members, and we will also deliver cookies to them.

If you plan on attending, please speak with Pastor Stephen.

175th Anniversary Survey. 2025 will mark our 175th anniversary as the Stewartsville Presbyterian Church.

As part of our anniversary celebration, we ask that you share some of your fondest memories.

There are surveys on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Place your completed surveys in the offering plate, or mail them to the church office.

Catholic Charities Food Pantry. We continue to donate food and toiletries to the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

At this time, the food pantry is in particular need of juice, jelly, coffee, hot chocolate mix, cake mix and frosting, and condiments (ketchup, mustard, etc.), as well as grocery bags.