

December 31, 2023



The congregation of Washington Street UMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways that reach our neighbors near and far. We welcome and affirm all who seek the love and mercy of Christ regardless of race, creed, age, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. We honor traditions as rooted in our history, our expression of worship, and our respect for theological curiosity. We nonetheless see vital change and ongoing renewal as essential for spiritual growth.

PROUD MEMBER OF





WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas | Dec. 31, 2023 | White (As our worship begins, please silence any electronic devices. Portable hearing devices are available in the Narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.)

PRELUDE

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away

J.S. Bach

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #249

There's a Song in the Air

CHRISTMAS SONG

*CALL TO WORSHIP One: On the cusp of this new year, All: we look with awe and wonder at the Christ child and the world around us. One: We seek to follow the way of Jesus Christ All: so that this world might grow to be like the one God wants for us.

MORNING PRAYER

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 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.

GLORIA PATRI #70

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

(After Children's Moments, children 5 and under may go with the class leader to the 2-3's classroom located on the first floor past the elevator on the left. They may be picked up there, or they will be escorted back to the sanctuary prior to the benediction.)

ANTHEM

This Child, This King

David Ray

MEINEKE

Rev. Alston Lippert

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH written by Nathan Nettleton We believe in God, the creator and giver of life, who brought all creation to birth, who mothers us and fathers us, protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.

We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting, nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.

We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ. Hunted at birth and humiliated at death, Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection.

And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Amen.

MEINIEVE

GLORIA FATRI#/0		MEINERE
OFFERTORY (Giving is easy! Place your gift in donate through Realm Connect Washington St., Colu	Jesu Bambino Soloist: Matia Beery a the offering plate; text the word "CONNE ; visit us online at wsmethodist.org/giving; m mbia, SC 29201; or scan the QR code on the	Pietro Yon CTIONS" to the number 73256; pail a check to WSUMC, 1401 back of the bulletin.)
*DOXOLOGY #95		OLD 100th
*HYMN (TFWS) # 2093	The Snow Lay on the Ground	VENITE ADOREMUS
SCRIPTURE LESSON	John 1:18	
SERMON Part Four: De	"Deck the Halls with Promise" ck the Hall: Decorating Our Life with V	
*HYMN #242	Love Came Down at Christmas	GARTAN
*BENEDICTION		
*CHORAL RESPONSE		
*POSTLUDE	In Thee is Gladness	J.S. Bach
*Congregation standing. If stand	ling is uncomfortable, please remain seated a	and continue your participation.

ongregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation. When our worship ends, our service begins! Reverend Becky J. Shirley Senior Pastor rjshirley@umcsc.org

Reverend Alston Lippert Associate Pastor for Nurture & Discipleship Development aflippert@umcsc.org

Sarah-Kate Gravely Director of Children & Youth Ministries sarahkate@wsmethodist.org

Dr. Catherine Nance Director of Music catherine@wsmethodist.org Felicia Yockel Director of Child Development Center felicia@wsmethodist.org

Robbie Douglas Business Manager rdouglas@wsmethodist.org

Jane Peterson Director of Communications jane@wsmethodist.org

Jerry Sumpter Director of Maintenance jerry@wsmethodist.org Jammie Watters Administrative Assistant jammie@wsmethodist.org

Terrence Chisolm Soup Cellar Manager tee_chisolm@yahoo.com

Louis Shirer Organist louis@wsmethodist.org

Rick Frierson Pianist (volunteer)

PRAYER THOUGHT

And Christ shall reign forever and ever. Hallelujah! Thanks be to God.

Betsy AlexanderNancy EptinKaren BassoCarl EvansAnn BellPat GriffinMickey BellBetsy HallonRon BowdenRev. Paul HMickey EptingKaren Horn	Jean Kanes Martha Helen King en Beverly McClanahan rmon Paul McClanahan	Shawn Powers Genie & Ron Quinn Tara Spires Peggy Ward Nancy Williams Our homebound
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SERVING TODAY

Director of Music Catherine Nance Organ Louis Shirer **Rick Frierson** Piano Acolyte Cora McGandy Ushers Tommy Betenbaugh, Alan-Jon Zupan Ute Wachsmann-Linnan Greeter Children's Moment Rev. Alston Lippert Sound/Video/Projection Lynn Shirley Visitor Cards Suzanne Joye Pew Maintenance Jammie Watters Heidi Ankeny, McCullough Adams Children's Church McKenzie Powers, Tracy Powers Nursery Online Moderator Ed McClain

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

<u>As of 12-28-23</u>	
Church Budget:	\$866,231
Church Actual	\$ NA
Soup Cellar	\$ NA
Foundation	\$ NA



SCAN TO GIVE

Dec. 24: (11:00 am) 200 (in person); 170 (online) = 370; Dec. 24: (5:00 pm) 287 (in person) 192 (online) = 479

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