

# “The People of Christmas Pray”

## Dec. 10, 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

## WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2nd Sunday of Advent | December 10, 2023 | Purple or Blue

*(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 RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the beginning was the Word. Spoken. Creating the world.

**All: Jesus, you are the Word of God.**

One: The Word gives life. That life is light.

**All: Jesus, the darkness cannot put out your light.**

One: At the beginning of our time, speak. Shake our worlds.

**All: Jesus, we're hungry for your words of life.**

HYMN #184

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (TFWS) #2090 verse 2

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ann Jessup

*(After the presentation, 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.)*

PRAYER FOR CELEBRATION OF THE INCARNATE ONE

ANTHEM

*Glory of the Father/Word Was God*  
(text John 1:1-3)

Egil Hovland  
Rosephanye Powell

MARY PRAYS

McCullough Adams

MARY'S ANTHEM

*Cradle Hymn*

Kim Arnessan

JOSEPH PRAYS

Daniel Hanlin

JOSEPH'S ANTHEM

*The Hands that First Held Mary's Child*

Dan Forrest

THE SHEPHERD PRAYS		Jay Parmley
THE SHEPHERD'S ANTHEM	<i>Shepherd's Pipe Carol</i>	Rutter
THE ANGELS PRAY		Alma Louis and Rosemary Aravena
THE ANGELS' ANTHEM	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i>	Dan Forrest
THE WISEMAN PRAYS		Lee Haynes

OFFERTORY *Shepherds Came, Their Praises Bring* Helmut Walcha  
*(Giving is easy! Place your gift in the offering plate; text the word "CONNECTIONS" to the number 73256; donate through Realm Connect; visit us online at wsmethodist.org/giving; mail a check to WSUMC, 1401 Washington St., Columbia, SC 29201; or scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.)*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE  
 What can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.  
 If I were a wise man I would do my part. Yet, what I can I give him-give my heart.

CHRISTMAS AFFIRMATION  
 I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem. I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns large and small. I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my own heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today. I believe in the one whom the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts. I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible. I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth. I believe in the one who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of their very Creator. I confess my ever-lasting need of God: the need of forgiveness for selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold. I believe in God who gives us the best of Godself. I believe in Jesus, the Son of the living God, born in Bethlehem for me and for the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE	Hebrews 1	Licia Jackson
-----------	-----------	---------------

JESUS SPEAKS TO US		Catherine Nance
--------------------	--	-----------------

*HYMN #234 FIDELES	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> (stanzas 1-5)	ADESTE
-----------------------	--	--------

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.  
 When our worship ends, our service begins!*

## *Cradle Hymn*

Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber; Holy angels guard thy bed;  
Heavenly blessings without number Gently falling on thy head

See the kindly shepherds round Him; Telling wonders from the sky!  
When they sought Him, there they found Him; With his Virgin-Mother by

See the lovely babe a-dressing; Lovely infant, how He smiled!  
When He wept, the mother's blessing; Soothed and hushed the holy child

Mayst thou live to know and fear Him; Trust and love Him all thy days;  
Then go dwell forever near Him; See His face, and sing His praise!



## *The Hands that First Held Mary's Child*

The hands that first held Mary's Child were hard from working wood; from boards, they sawed and  
planed and filed, and splinters they withstood.

This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail but cradled from the head to heel our  
Lord, newborn and frail. When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame and gazed upon  
those bright new eyes, and spoke the Infant's name, the angel's words he once had dreamed poured down  
from heaven's height, and, like the host of stars that beamed, blest earth with welcome light. This Child  
shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne but God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone.'

The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard, and from his heart rose hymns and  
psalms for heaven's human word. The tools which Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift and use with  
anger, fear, and pride  
to crucify God's gift. Let us, O Lord, not only hold the Child who's born today but, charged with faith,  
may we be bold to follow in his way.

## *Shepherd's Pipe Carol*

Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to Bethlehem  
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King Is  
come to bring us peace on earth and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem  
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem?

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
"Dance and sing for the joy that Christ the newborn King  
Is come to bring peace on earth and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem;  
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem."

Angels in the sky came down from on high hovered over the manger where the babe was lying  
Cradled in the arms of His mother Mary sleeping now at Bethlehem

"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily-is He there at Bethlehem?"  
"I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky o'vr Bethlehem."

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily; come with you to Bethlehem?  
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle; is it far to Bethlehem?"

# 2023 Poinsettias

## ***In Memory of:***

Alley, Barbara Gowan  
Barrett, Ralph & Ellen  
Byrd, Madison Vivian  
Byrum, Sister  
Calvert, Evelyn  
Caskey, Samuel Lathan  
Checca, Julio  
  
Clements, Carol H.  
Cobb, Mrs. Gail  
  
Cotter, Marie & L.A.  
  
Cotter, L. Arlen  
  
Fowler, Don  
Hagins, Sara Mangum  
Hepfer, Rick  
Hopkins, Edward Merit  
  
Joye, Barry M.  
Lane, Becky Stubbs &  
    Theo Lyfon  
Lide, Ruth & L.D.  
Mangum, Louise & Tom  
Markert, George

## ***By:***

Joe Alley & Toni White  
Ed and Sara Fisher  
Susan Byrd Mathews  
Sam Waldrep  
Ann & Harvey Jessup  
Beth Caskey Robinson  
Joe Checca &  
    Janet Hopkins  
Deborah Rowe  
Ray Cobb &  
    David Williams  
Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter  
    & Family  
Mrs. L. Arlen Cotter  
    & Family  
Carol Fowler  
Mary & Lanneau Lide  
Kitty Hepfer  
Joe Checca &  
    Janet Hopkins  
Suzanne Joye  
  
Jim Lane  
Mary & Lanneau Lide  
Mary & Lanneau Lide  
Bill Bondine

## ***In Memory of:***

Martin, Andrew  
My Parents  
My Parents  
Our Parents  
Peterson, Nelle  
Rico, K-9 Special Agent  
Rowe, Rick  
Rowe, Rick  
Rozier, Ralph  
Ruffin, Hazel & Bully  
  
Shirley, Elizabeth H.  
Sinclair, Harold &  
    Mary Frances  
  
Smith, Rudolph Horace  
    “R.H.”  
Stephens, Larry Marion  
Stine, Mr. & Mrs. I. F.  
  
Stubenburg, Robert &  
    Rosalind  
Threatt, Sarah  
Vaughan, James Polk  
White, Martha Lillian  
Williams, George Thomas  
Williams, Jane Fisher

## ***By:***

Kathy Rogers  
Kathy Wright  
Martha Boynton  
Jim and Jennifer Laughlin  
Ed and Sara Fisher  
Thom & Shannon Berry  
Sam Waldrep  
Deborah Rowe  
Virginia Vaughan  
Anne Sinclair  
    & Julian Ruffin  
Lynn Shirley  
  
Anne Sinclair  
    & Julian Ruffin  
  
Joe Alley & Toni White  
Ellen D. Carruth  
Ray Cobb  
    & David Williams  
  
Mary Stubenderg  
Betty Cribbs  
Virginia Vaughan  
Joe Alley & Toni White  
Chip Williams  
Chip Williams

# 2023 Poinsettias

## ***In Honor of:***

Andrés, Chef José  
Bean, Julie  
Berry, Shannon and Thom  
Blanton, Knox & Cheryl

Everette, Dr. Tony  
Galloway, Lynda & John  
Hopkins, Jared  
& Suzannah  
Hostetler, Karen McClain

Jessup, Ann  
Lippert, Rev. Alston  
Lippert, Rev. Alston  
Nance, Catherine  
Our Children  
& Grandchildren

## ***By:***

Thom & Shannon Berry  
Fran & Alan-Jon Zupan  
Nancy & Mickey Epting  
Ed McClain  
& Jim Blanton

Thom & Shannon Berry  
Virginia Vaughan

Fran & Alan-Jon Zupan  
Ed McClain  
& Jim Blanton

Keene & Demi Garvin  
Joe Alley & Toni White  
Don & Trisha Britt  
Joe Alley & Toni White

Jim & Jennifer Laughlin

## ***In Honor of:***

Our Children and  
Grandchildren  
Our Children and  
Grandchildren  
Our Five Grands  
Rowe, Deborah  
Shirley, Rev. Becky  
Shirley, Rev. Becky  
Taylor, Rev. Christine  
The Grace Class  
Waldrep, Sam  
Waldrep, Sam  
Walters, Paula  
Williams, Chip

WSUMC Choir  
Zupan, Brady

## ***By:***

Nancy & Mickey Epting  
  
C. Grant & Licia Jackson  
Don & Trisha Britt  
Mary Mangum Lide  
Joe Alley & Toni White  
C. Grant & Licia Jackson  
Thom & Shannon Berry  
Charles Joye  
Mary Mangum Lide  
Joe Alley & Toni White  
Virginia Vaughan  
Nancy Whittle  
& Sandra Howell  
Keene & Demi Garvin  
Fran & Alan-Jon Zupan

**A Special Christmas Eve at  
Washington Street UMC  
Sunday, December 24, 2023  
11:00 am | "Deck the Halls with Love"**

**5:00 pm | A Service of Carols, Candlelights & Communion  
featuring The Washington Street Sanctuary Choir  
with "Three Steps to Freedom: The Christmas Spirit(uals)"**

**presented by the Washington Street Players with musical assistance from  
Elizabeth & Mike Cameron, Brianna Grant,  
Janet Hopkins, and Emmi Lee**

<b>Reverend Becky J. Shirley</b> Senior Pastor rjshirley@umcsc.org	<b>Felicia Yockel</b> Director of Child Development Center felicia@wsmethodist.org	<b>Jammie Watters</b> Administrative Assistant jammie@wsmethodist.org
<b>Reverend Alston Lippert</b> Associate Pastor for Nurture & Discipleship Development allippert@umcsc.org	<b>Robbie Douglas</b> Business Manager rdouglas@wsmethodist.org	<b>Terrence Chisolm</b> Soup Cellar Manager tee_chisolm@yahoo.com
<b>Sarah-Kate Gravelly</b> Director of Children & Youth Ministries sarahkate@wsmethodist.org	<b>Jane Peterson</b> Director of Communications jane@wsmethodist.org	<b>Louis Shirer</b> Organist louis@wsmethodist.org
<b>Catherine Nance</b> Director of Music catherine@wsmethodist.org	<b>Jerry Sumpter</b> Director of Maintenance jerry@wsmethodist.org	<b>Rick Frierson</b> Pianist (Volunteer)

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prepare the way of the Lord and make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

PRAYER LIST

Betsy Alexander	Nancy Epting	Jean Kanes	Genie & Ron Quinn
Karen Basso	Pat Griffin	Martha Helen King	Peggy Ward
Ann Bell	Betsy Halloren	Beverly McClanahan	Nancy Williams
Mickey Bell	Rev. Paul Harmon	Paul McClanahan	Our homebound
David Byrum	Karen Horne	Sharon McCullough	
Mickey Epting	Lisa Johnson	Shawn Powers	

POCKET PRAYER QUILTS

The Pocket Prayer Quilts you will receive today were made with love by Tabitha's Table, the sewing small group led by Ann Jessup and Licia Jackson. Our thanks to Jim Webber for donating sewing machines and supplies from the late Dottie Webber to furnish our sewing room on the second floor.

SERVING TODAY

Director of Music	Catherine Nance
Organ	Louis Shirer
Piano	Rick Frierson
Acolyte	Alma Louis Aravena
Ushers	Tommy Betenbaugh, Alan-Jon Zupan
Greeter	Ute Wachsmann-Linnan, Jim Lane
Children’s Moment	Ann Jessup
Sound/Video/Projection	Spencer Stevens, Lynn Shirley
Visitor Cards	Suzanne Joye
Pew Maintenance	Jammie Watters
Children’s Church	Shelley Stanford, Tracy Powers
Nursery	McKenzie Powers, Olivia Rowland
Online Moderator	Ed McClain

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

<u>As of 12-5-23</u>	
<u>Church Budget: \$866,231</u>	
Church Actual	\$ 674,029
Soup Cellar	\$ 61,409
Foundation	\$ 14,594



SCAN TO  
GIVE

Attendance on 12/3/23: 196 (in person); 201 (online) = 397 (as of 12-6-23)