

# QUESTIONS



## We Ask God

### Who is God?

**February 18, 2024**

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

1st Sunday of Lent | Feb. 18, 2024 | Purple

*(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: We wonder – who is God?

**All: We wonder – where is God?**

One: We wonder – how do we reach God? How do we learn about God?

**All: We wonder – are the answers in loving?**

\*HYMN #519

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

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.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Ann Jessup

*(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 before the benediction.)*

ANTHEM

*Who But the Lord?*

Craig Courtney

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #884

\*GLORIA PATRI #70

MEINEKE

MINISTRY MOMENT

Extending God's love to Siblings in Ukraine

OFFERTORY

*Love Bade Me Welcome*

Ralph Vaughn Williams

Soloist: Malcolm Lemmons

*Love bade me welcome. Yet my soul drew back; guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in,  
drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lacked anything.*

*A guest, I answered, worthy to be here: Love said, You shall be he. I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I  
cannot look on Thee. Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, Who made the eyes but I? Truth Lord, but I  
have marred them: let my shame go where it doth deserve. And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame? My  
dear, then I will serve. You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat. So I did sit and eat.*

*Text by George Herbert (compare Song of Solomon 5:5 and 1 John 4:16)*

*(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](http://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.)*

\*DOXOLOGY #95

OLD 100th

\*HYMN #561

*Jesus, United by Thy Grace*

ST. AGNES

SCRIPTURE'S LESSON

1 John 4:7-19

SERMON

"Who is God?"

Rev. Becky Shirley

Part I: Questions We Ask God

\*HYMN #549

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

ST. PETER

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Congregation standing. If standing is uncomfortable, please remain seated and continue your participation.*

*When our worship ends, our service begins!*

**Reverend Becky J. Shirley**  
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Soup Cellar Manager  
tee\_chisolm@yahoo.com

**Rick Frierson**  
Pianist (volunteer)

**PRAYER THOUGHT**

Let everything that we do during the season of Lent come from God and be inspired by God.

**ABSENCE OF FLOWERS DURING LENT**

Throughout Lent, we will not have flowers on the altar during this season of austerity and simple reflection. We hope this absence of flowers will amplify the resurrection message of the Easter flowers when they arrive!

**PRAYER LIST**

Betsy Alexander	Mickey Epting	Karen Horne	Ellen Parker
Karen Basso	Nancy Epting	Lisa Johnson	Shawn Powers
Ann Bell	Carl Evans	Jean Kanes	Genie Quinn
Mickey Bell	Pat Griffin	Beverly McClanahan	Tara Spires
John Benfield	Betsy Halloren	Paul McClanahan	Nancy Williams
Ron Bowden	Rev. Paul Harmon	Sharon McCullough	Our homebound

**SERVING TODAY**

Director of Music	Dr. Catherine Nance
Piano	Rick Frierson
Acolyte	Cora McGandy
Ushers	Susan Caskey, Eleanore Langley
Greeters	Ute, Martha Boynton
Children’s Moment	Ann Jessup
Sound/Video/Projection	Grant Jackson, Lynn Shirley
Visitor Cards	Suzanne Joye
Pew Maintenance	Jammie Watters
Children’s Church	McCullough Adams, Hayden Rowe
Nursery	Maile Noda, Cecelia Daigle
Online Moderator	Ed McClain

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

As of 2-15-24  
Church Budget: \$ Pending.  
YTD  
Church Actual    \$102,492  
Soup Cellar        \$ 5,702  
Foundation        \$    475



**SCAN TO  
GIVE**