QUESTIONS

We Ask God

Why should I Go To Church?

March 3, 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.





WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Lent | March 3, 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 gather around God's table with Christians throughout the world. All: Though we differ in languages, customs, and traditions, One: we are siblings in Christ! All: For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. One: We are One in God's Spirit! All: We are the church together.

*HYMN #384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

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.)

Prayer of Confession

Lord, today we confess that we often live as those who have never heard of you. We plan and strategize as though the outcome depended solely upon us. We worry and fret like those who have no advocate. Forgive us Lord, for the scheming and conniving we do to make sure that we have our own way. Forgive us Lord, for not leaning upon you when we feel weak, powerless or alone. Teach us how to live more like those who belong to you and less like those who belong to the world. (Silent moments of personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MINISTRY MOMENT

WSUMC Museum

Dr. Mike Broome

OFFERTORY

Deep River Choir Soloist: Walter Dean

(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 A bulletin.)

*DOXOLOGY #95

OLD 100th

*HYMN #75

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

OLD 100th

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 100

HOMILY

Why Should I Go To Church? Part III: Questions We Ask God.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
One: We praise You and we give You thanks for Your diverse creation...we join with all heaven and earth to praise You in an endless chorus of praise:
All: Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
One: Holy are You, and blessed...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
One: Pour out Your Holy Spirit...now and forever.
All: Amen.

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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM	My Wordless Prayer	Craig Courtney
	Come Ye Disconsolate	arr. Terre Johnson
	Soloist: Anthony Porter	· · ·

Where there is charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us as one. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us honor and love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*HYMN #79

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name stanzas 1-4

GROSSER GOTT

*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** Senior Pastor rjshirley@umcsc.org

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

Dr. Catherine Nance Director of Music catherine@wsmethodist.org

Betsy Alexander

Karen Basso

Mickey Bell

John Benfield

Ron Bowden

Ann Bell

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

David Turner Organist david@wsmethodist.org

Dr. Rick Frierson Pianist (Volunteer)

STEWAR DSHIP R FPOR T

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we don't behave and we believe, we may end up believing as we behave.

PRAYER LIST

- Karen Horne Lisa Johnson Jean Kanes Beverly McClanahan Paul McClanahan Sharon McCullough
- Ellen Parker Shawn Powers Genie Quinn Nancy Williams Our homebound

IN SYMPATHY

Rev. Becky Shirley joins the entire staff and Washington Street Church family in expressing our deepest sympathy and Christian love to Patti and John Beerman and their family in the death of Patti's sister,

Tara Spires.

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!

SERVING TODAY

Mickey Epting

Nancy Epting

Betsy Halloren

Rev. Paul Harmon

Carl Evans

Pat Griffin

		STEWARDSHIF REFORT		
Director of Music	Dr. Catherine Nance	<u>As of 02-28-24</u>		
Organist	David Turner	<u>Church Budget: \$ NA</u>		
Piano	Dr. Rick Frierson	Church Actual \$ 118,941.85		
Acolyte	Cora McGandy	Soup Cellar \$ 6,824.00		
Ushers	Ricky Rowe, Lee Smith	Foundation \$ 650.00		
Greeters	Úte, Shelley Stafford			
Children's Moments	Ann Jessup			
Sound/Video/Projection	Spencer Stevens	国際設置		
	Lynn Shirley			
Visitor Cards	Suzanne Joye			
Pew Maintenance	Jammie Watters			
Children's Church	Shelley Stafford			
Nursery		SCAN TO GIVI		
Online Moderator	Ed McClain			
$A_{112} = \frac{1}{2} $				

Attendance on 2/25/24: 181 (in-person); 109 (online as of 02/29); TOTAL = 290

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