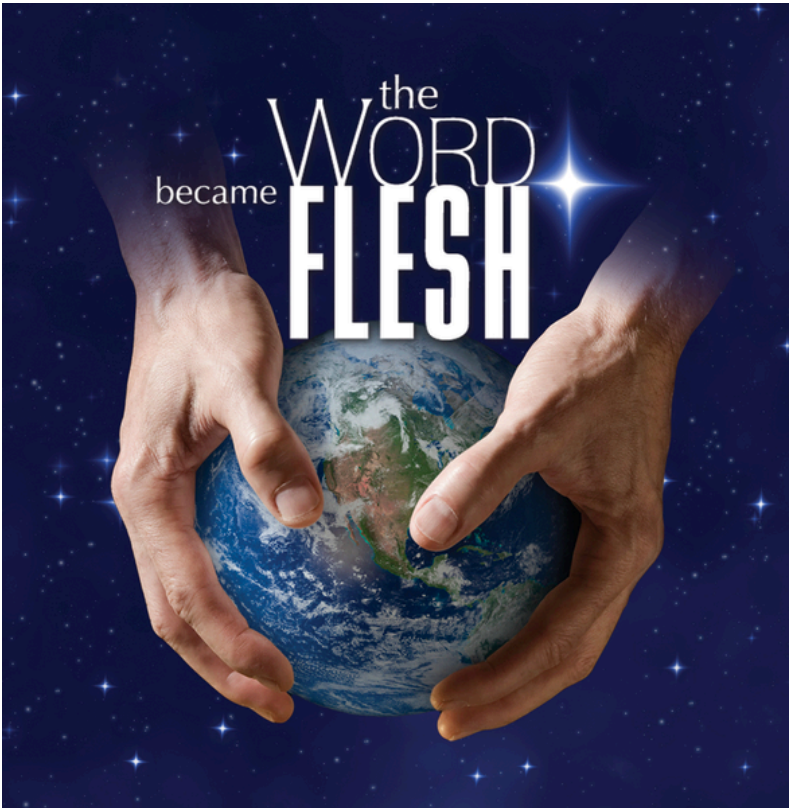




WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



December 15, 2024

Order of Worship
3rd Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CHOIR RESPONSE #211 (UMH)

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 3)

BAPTISM & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS #33 (UMH)

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

Words and Music by
Dan and Heidi Goeller

Arranged and Orchestrated by
Dan Goeller

Christmas Fantasy for Orchestra

This Is My Father's World ~ John 1:1; Col. 1:15-16a, 17; Gen. 1:26-27, 31

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white
Declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world,
I comfort in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
O may my will not sway;
The oceans' tide, the rivers wide
His will they do obey.
This is my Father's world,
His will shall be my prayer.
The Lord is King, let all nature sing;
His glory we declare!

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus ~ Ephesians 2:4-5a, 8

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Come to us, redeem and cleanse us,
Show us mercy, grant us peace.
Heir unto the throne of David
Fear and strife shall ever cease.
By Thine own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

The Savior Foretold ~ Isaiah 9:6-7

Unto Us a Child Will Be Born

Unto us a Son will be given,
Unto us a Child will be born.
Unto us a Son will be given,
Unto us a Child will be born.

He will rule with justice,
His peace will never end.
Reigning on the throne of David,
He will rule forevermore.

Unto us a Son will be given,
Unto us a Child will be born.
Unto us a Son will be given,
And his name will be called:

Mighty God, Eternal Father,
Counselor, the Prince of Peace.
In his kingdom He will bring us
Justice, peace, and righteousness.

Unto us a Son will be given,
Unto us a Child will be born.
Unto us a Son will be given,
Unto us a Child will be born.

The Angel Gabriel ~ Luke 1:26-33

Gabriel's Message with Gloria and Magnificat

The angel Gabriel from heaven came
His wings as drifted snow, His eyes as flame
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!
Magnificat anima mea dominum.

Of her Emanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

The Child Is Born ~ Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 2:1, 3-7; John 1:14

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly and Silent Night

(Choir Only)

Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Angels winging, Praises singing, Noels ringing, Tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

(Choir and Congregation remain seated)

Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing greet the morrow: Christ the Babe
was born for you! Christ the Babe was born for you!

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Good News of Great Joy ~ Luke 2:8-14

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Glory to God in the highest.
Gloria in excelsis Deo
Glory to God in the highest.

And peace to His people on earth.
Peace to His people on earth.
Peace on earth to those
With whom He is pleased.

Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father;
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.
Heaven and earth rejoice and sing.

Angels We Have Heard on High and Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
(Congregation and Choir)

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains:
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald an-gels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Offertory--The Wise Men ~ Matthew 2:1-11a

Joy to the World! and O Come, All Ye Faithful

(Congregation and Choir)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee born this happy morning,

Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

The Word Became Flesh ~ John 1:10-14

We Have Seen His Glory ~ John 1:14; Philipians 2:11

We have seen His glory,
The Prince of Peace has come;
He left His heavenly throne above
And made this world His home.

We have seen the glory,
Of the Father's only Son;
Whose vict'ry rescues us from death,
The curse of sin undone.

God the Father, rich in mercy,
Reaches down from heav'n above.
To offer us salvation
By virtue of His love.

Jesus Christ, the Word Incarnate,
Hero of redemption's story.
We worship and adore Him,
For we have seen His glory.

We have seen His glory,
Raise your voice in one accord.
Let ev'ry tongue His name confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord!

BENEDICTION

NOTES: UMH =Red United Methodist Hymnal

* = Please stand as you are able

Opportunities to Grow in Faith & Serve in Love

Today, December 15, 9:30-12:15 - Heifer Living Gift Market

In the hallway outside the Volunteer's Office. Purchase a symbolic animal in honor of a friend or family member. You will receive a card to send to your gift recipient(s). Donations from Washington Street's market are designated to projects in Ecuador. Heifer Ecuador's Future of Food Signature Program works with 30,000 farming families to improve economic, social and environmental outcomes. In partnership with local communities, Heifer works to strengthen value chains that provide rural farmers, often women and Indigenous populations, with sustainable living incomes. The program has established schools to teach best practices for farming. Learn more about Heifer International at Heifer.org.

Children's Christmas Tree

Take a moment to see the smiling faces on the Children's Christmas Tree. It will make you smile! We are blessed to share the Love of Jesus with these precious children.

Tomorrow, December 16, 7:00 pm - Sing-A-Long Messiah

Celebrate the season with an evening of music, community, and joy! Doors open at 6:00 PM for first-come, first-served seating. Come between 5:00 - 6:30 PM to view a beautiful collection of nativity sets from around the world.

Thursday, December 19, 11:00 am in the Chapel - The W.E.L.L.

Please join us for this 30-minute service of Christmas Carols, an Interactive Christmas Story and Communion. The Service is especially friendly to persons living with dementia or other cognitive issues.

Help Us End 2024 Well and Get Ready for New Ministry in 2025

"Thank You" to each person who has contributed to making ministries of care, compassion and kindness possible throughout the year. To date we have received \$677,253 toward budget needs and numerous volunteers have given their time and talent through the ministries of WSUMC. We have received 112 financial estimate of giving cards totaling \$597,259 toward our 2025 goal of \$ 750,000 and 57 persons have completed a kindness Volunteer Service Booklet. If you would like to help us meet some of the remaining budgetary needs for this year, please select one of the various giving methods on the back page of this bulletin. If you would like to help us engage in meaningful ministries in 2025, you will find pledge cards and Kindness Booklets outside the Sanctuary doors.

Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service

A special service filled with carols, candle lights and communion

Monday, January 6, 5:30 pm - Advocacy 101 Training

Light supper at 5:30, with training to start at 6:00 pm in Threatt Hall.

As Disciples of Christ, we follow in Jesus's way of life carrying forward his ministry of peace, justice and service. In this training we will learn how to be more effective as peace makers and the voice of justice as we learn: How a bill becomes a law in SC, ways to interact with our State Legislators and how to find information about proposed legislation. RSVP by contacting Rev. Alston (aflippert@umcsc.org) or Rev. Becky (rjshirley@umcsc.org)

Prayer List

Ann Bell	Carl Evans	Sam Mathews	Ellen Parker
John Benfield	Pat Griffin	Paul McClanahan	Joe Plaugh
Ron Bowden	Karen Horne	Patrick McClanahan	Our Homebound
Mickey Epting	Lisa Johnson	Sharon McCullough	

Making Disciples of Jesus for the Transformation of the World

The congregation of Washington Street UMC praises and serves God from the heart of the city in ways that reach 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.

Stewardship Report

Thank you for your Financial Support

Your Gifts help make ministry happen every day !

You may give by texting **CONNECTIONS** to 73256 Your gift to 1401 Washington Street, Columbia, 29201 by scanning the QR you see here.

Attendance on 12/8: 452 (222 in person + 230 online as of 12/11)

YTD Offerings Received: \$677,253 YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$69,136

YTD Expenses: \$867,746 YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$74,869

YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$25,551



Today's Volunteer Team

Acolyte:	Beatrice McGandy
Children's Church:	Heidi Ankeny Tracy Powers
Greeter:	Thom Berry
Sound/Video/Projection:	Spencer Stevens John Pannell
Ushers:	James Boulware Susan Caskey

Contact Information

Website:	wsmethodist.org
Address:	1401 Washington Street Columbia, SC 29201
Phone:	803-256-2417
Email:	info@wsmethodist.org
Office Hours:	Monday -Thursday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Worship Leadership Team

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Becky Shirley	rjshirley@umcsc.org
Associate Pastor for Nurture:	Rev. Alston Lippert	alippert@umcsc.org
Director of Music Ministries:	Dr. Catherine Nance	catherine@wsmethodist.org
Organist:	David Turner	david@wsmethodist.org
Pianist:	Dr. Rick Frierson	(volunteer)