



# WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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December 7, 2025

## WELCOME!

We are grateful you are here to worship with us! We are an open community of Christians helping people find and give hope through Jesus Christ - regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, disability or socioeconomic background. No matter who you are, where you are from, who you love, or what you look like, know that God loves you and **YOU BELONG HERE**. Please take a moment to help us get to know you by completing the blue tear-off section of this bulletin and placing it in the offering plate during the service.



# Order of Worship

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Becky Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT

*Betelehemu*

arr. Barrington Brooks

Nigerian Carol sung in the original Yoruba language.  
See insert for translation.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Cody Lidge and Jay Parmley

CHORAL RESPONSE #211 (UMH) *Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verse 2)

\*HYMN #250 (UMH)

*Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY

Teddy Aravena will sing the 1st verse,  
Then the congregation will join in on subsequent verses.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY

*Glory to God*

Children's Choir with Joe Hudson, accompanist  
*Nativity Tableau*

Terry Taylor

OFFERTORY

*What Sweeter Music? (see insert for text)*

John Rutter

\*DOXOLOGY (sung to the tune of "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen")

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, on every hill and coast! Praise God  
above all angels who comprise the Holy Ghost! Praise to the Father and the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost! O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! O tidings  
of comfort and joy!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

COMMUNION ANTHEM *The Dream Isaiah Saw*  
(see insert for anthem text)

Glenn L. Rudolph

\*HYMN #216 (UMH)

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

EST IST EIN ROS

\*BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

NOTES: UMH = Red United Methodist Hymnal; TFWS = The Faith We Sing

\* = Please stand as you are able

**Notice: We are accepting job applications for a Full-time  
Operations Manager. Apply to [wsumcemployment@gmail.com](mailto:wsumcemployment@gmail.com)**

**Save the Date For the Following Services**

**Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service - 5 PM**

Carols and Candle lighting and Communion

**Sunday, December 28th - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Sunday, January 4th - New Year Prayer Walk - Columbia UMC - 3 PM**

# Opportunities to Grow in Faith & Serve in Love

## **Today and December 14 - Heifer Living Gift Market Before Sunday School, before and after Worship Service**

You have the opportunity to gift family members and friends with not only heifers, but sheep, goats, bees, chickens, and more. For each purchase of an animal or share of an animal, you will receive a card to notify your recipient of their symbolic gift. All donations from the Washington Street Market will be sent to a Heifer project in Ecuador.

## **Tonight - 5 PM - Mary's Maidens**

### **Meet in the Elementary Children's Sunday School Room**

All girls in 1st-5th grades are invited to join us tonight from 5:00-6:30. We will make Christmas decorations for members of WSUMC who are not able to come to church during the holiday season.

## **Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - Book Discussion - 6 PM**

Join us in the John Harper Classroom to discuss  
*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson.

## **Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - 2 PM - Youth Cookie Decorating**

Youth in the 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades invited to meet in the Youth Room

## **Children's Christmas Tree**

Smiling faces shine bright on the WS Children's Christmas Tree. If your child's picture is missing, see Mary Lide this Sunday after the worship service. Pictures may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

## **Cookies & Homemade Treats for First Responders**

Please join members of our Active Faith Ministry as they bring zip lock bags filled with a dozen cookies or other homemade treats to the worship service on December 21<sup>st</sup>. The treats will be blessed during the service. At the conclusion of the service, worshippers will be asked to take one or more bags to persons in the community who are working on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day (ex: firefighters, police officers, hospital employees, etc.) as an expression of gratitude for their service and as an outward and visible sign of God's love for them.

## **Save The Date For The Following Ministry Events**

### **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - 11 AM - Christmas Cantata - Sanctuary**

The Choir presents A Christmas Cantata with full Orchestra

### **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> - 4 PM - Youth Caroling**

The Washington Street UMC Youth Group will be singing Christmas Carols to our homebound members on December 14<sup>th</sup> from 4 - 6 pm. All are invited to join. Carolers will meet at Washington Street UMC and will carpool to the caroling locations.

### **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - 6 PM - YoPro - Sing-Along-Messiah**

YoPros meeting for Sing Along Messiah, please note that they will be meeting at 6pm by the Chapel .

### **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> - 7 PM - Sing-Along-Messiah - Sanctuary**

### **Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> - 11 AM - The WELL - Chapel**

An especially welcoming service for persons with cognitive difficulties.

### **Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> - Birthday Party for Jesus - 10 AM**

All children are invited to join together in the upstairs children's room.

## In Our Prayers

Ann Bell	Karen Horne	Paul McClanahan	Joe Plough
Jerry Bundy	Lisa Johnson	Patrick McClanahan	Joe Slade
Blake Burnside	Jean Leitner	Ellen Parker	Our Homebound
Nancy Epting	Sam Mathews		

### 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.*

### 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.



#### Today's Volunteer Team

Acolyte:	Beatrice McGandy
Children's Church:	Lizzie Chewning Sophia Bourne
Greeters:	Shelley Stafford Jim Lane
Sound/Video/Projection:	John Pannell
Ushers:	Susan Luthren and Garry Stevens
Communion Servers	Melanie Dobson, Kathy Wright, Susan Caskey, Pam Jenkins

#### 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

### Stewardship Report

**Attendance on 12/04: 269 ( 156 in person + 113 online as of 11/30)**

**YTD Offerings Received: \$741,609**

**YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$98,895**

**YTD Expenses: \$938,136**

**YTD Soup Cellar Expenses: \$77,619**

**YTD Gifts to WSUMC Foundation: \$16,611**

#### Staff Worship Leadership Team

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Becky Shirley	rjshirley@umcsc.org
Associate Pastor for Nurture:	Rev. Alston Lippert	aflippert@umcsc.org
Director of Music Ministries:	Dr. Catherine Nance	catherine@wsmethodist.org
Organist:	David Turner	david@wsmethodist.org
Pianist:	Dr. Rick Frierson	(volunteer)
Audio/Video Technology	Ryan Wiskes	ryan@wsmethodist.org