



WASHINGTON STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 24, 2026

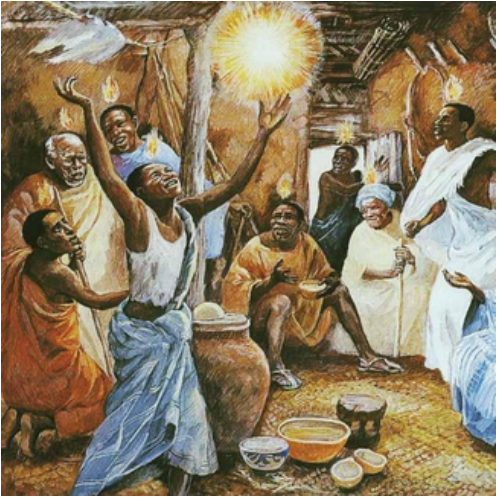


Photo Credit: Jesus Mafa. Pentecost (1973), from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Pentecost

Exactly 50 days after Easter, Pentecost is the celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all believers, empowering the church for mission and proclaiming that God's Spirit is unbounded and available to all. Pentecost symbolizes the transition of the disciples from a fearful, hidden group into bold, empowered preachers. It is also seen as a message of unity, bridging language and cultural divides.

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.

Whether you are visiting with us or looking for a church home, it's great to have you here with us! Please scan the QR code to let us know you are worshipping with us today and let us know how we can help you.



New Here?

We have many children's ministries for your kids to be a part of!

We have special listening devices for those who are hearing impaired.

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

For more information, visit our website at wsmethodist.org

No one at Washington Street will EVER solicit you for gift cards of any kind!



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.

Today's Scriptures:

Acts 2:1-6

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place.

Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting.

They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak. There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages.

John 20: 19-23

It was still the first day of the week.

That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Order of Worship Pentecost

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Shirley

RINGING OF THE BELL

CHORAL INTROIT *Spirit of the Living God*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jacob Schatz

Leader: Beloved, the Spirit of Truth gathers us here to receive and discern God's good news working among us.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Leader: In recognition of Memorial Day, may we call up the Holy Spirit to inspire us to honor those who gave their lives for freedom, and to live in gratitude for the peace they secured.

All: We remember fallen soldiers, and the sacrifice they made for the sake of others. We give thanks to God for brave men and women who have given their lives so that we may worship without fear.

Leader: Beloved, the Holy Spirit is here, moving and working among us. So let us worship God with open hearts and minds ready to receive all the Spirit has to give.

All: Yes, let our service of worship begin. Amen.

*HYMN #539 (UMH) *O Spirit of the Living God* FOREST GREEN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #883

A Statement of Faith of The United Church of Canada

*THE GLORIA PATRI #70 (UMH)

MEINEKE

ANTHEM *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me* K.Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: I would gracious be; and with words that help and heal would thy life in mine reveal; and with actions bold and meek would for Christ my Savior speak. Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: I would truthful be; and with wisdom kind and clear let thy life in mine appear; and with actions brotherly speak my Lord's sincerity. Holy Spirit, dwell with me: I would holy be; separate from sin, I would choose and cherish all things good, and whatever I can be, give to him who gave me thee! Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: I would mighty be; help me now thy power to see, I would mighty be. 'gainst all weapons hell can yield be thou my strength and shield; let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

(Although not directly quoted from Scripture, the overarching prayer of the hymn—that the Spirit would dwell in the believer—echoes Romans 8:11 and 1 Corinthians 3:16)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Lisa Voegeli

Afterwards, children will go to the choir room for a short time of music. Children ages 3-5 will then be escorted to Children's Church in the 2-3 year-old Sunday school room, where they may be picked up after the worship service. Older children will return to their parents.

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's Spirit is alive and at work among us, gathering us for worship, calling us to return to God through prayer, praise and confession. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit of the Living God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly, but fear keeps us quiet and circling. We confess our lack of courage, splintered by uncertainty and second-guessing. Forgive us for all the times we shrink from your call. Embolden us to dream beyond what we know and imagine the world as beloved community. Let your Spirit fill us, prodding us beyond inertia. Grant that we might be Christ's body, not in fits and starts but with steady conviction. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us be active participants in ushering in your peaceable kin-dom. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. Amen. (Acts 2:21)

OFFERTORY*Padre Nuestro*

Carlos Rosas

Soloist: Patricio Aravena

***DOXOLOGY #94 (UMH)**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

HYMN#192 (UMH)There's a Spirit in the Air*

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

John 20: 19-23

SERMON

Spirit Empowered

Rev. Becky Shirley

HYMN #331 (UMH)Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us* FOR THE BREAD***BENEDICTION & CHORAL RESPONSE*****POSTLUDE****Native American Folk Art**

The Native American folk art pieces used for today's altar were provided by Jean Kanes.

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

* = Please stand as you are able

If you would like for us to join you in prayer, please find a prayer card in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate during the service today. You may also email your prayer requests to wsumcprayers@gmail.com

Ann Bell

Barbara Graybill

Sarah- Kate Gravely

Karen Horne

Lisa Johnson

Jean Leitner

Jim Lane

Sam Matthews

Paul McClanahan

Ellen Parker

Patrick McClanahan

Carole McConkey

Cathy Puckett

Joe Plough

Nancy Whittle

Our Homebound Members

Prayer Thought

As the sun shines brighter, Lord, fill our hearts with light and gratitude.

Stewardship Report**Attendance on 5/17: 348****172 in person****176 online (as of 5/21)****Offerings****YTD Received: \$356,404****YTD Soup Cellar Gifts: \$26,678****Expenses****YTD General: \$372,265****YTD Soup Cellar : \$25,415****Foundation****FYTD Gifts: \$5,654****Thank you for your****Financial Support**

Your gifts help make ministry happen every day!

You may give by texting **CONNECTIONS** to 73256, mailing your gift to 1401 Washington Street or by scanning the QR you see here.



Calendar of Ministry Events

May 25th - Memorial Day - Church Office
Closed

Salkehatchie Summer Service

The Salkehatchie Penn Center
Camp will be June 20th - 27th.
To sign up, scan the QR code!



Salkehatchie Donations

Donate supplies for our
Salkehatchie campers by
scanning the QR code!



Vacation Bible School

VBS 2026 will be held from
July 20th to the 23rd! Sign up
your kids ages 4 through 5th
grade by scanning the QR
code!



June 7th - Wear Orange Sunday

All are invited to wear orange in support of
Wear Orange's efforts to prevent gun
violence.

June 11th - Safe Space Dinner

The Social Justice Action Team will be
hosting a Safe Space Dinner for homeless
LGBTQIA+ youth on June 11th at
Reformation Lutheran Church.

Today's Volunteer Team

Acolyte:	Lydia Fink
Children's Church:	Shelley Stafford Melanie Dobson
Greeters:	Jim Lane
Sound/Video/Projection:	John Pannell Ryan Wiskes
Ushers:	Lisa and Vickie Voegeli

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 & Fridays 9:00-am- 2:00 pm

Safe Space



We are committed to providing a safe, healing and
affirming environment for All of God's Children
to grow in Faith.

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