

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
MORNING WORSHIP ~ 8:45 & 11:00 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*The service of worship begins with the music.
Through its power and brilliance may you feel the majesty of
God, in its quietness, God's peace.*

~ WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD ~

****WELCOME, REGISTRATION, ANNOUNCEMENTS**
*(Please sign the attendance sheet and pass
it to the end of the pew for usher pickup.)*

THE PRELUDE (8:45 am) Ryland Brown
(11:00 am) "Christmas Melody" The Cherub Choir
Directed by Macy Covington

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***THE HYMN NO. 211** VENI EMMANUEL
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs. 1, 5-7)

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

"Canticle of Light and Darkness"

Leader: We look for light but find darkness,
For brightness, but walk in gloom.

**People: We flounder like those who have no eyes;
We stumble at noon as in the twilight.**

Leader: If I say, "Let only darkness cover me,
And the light about me be night,"

**People: Even the darkness is not dark to you,
The night is bright as the day,
For darkness is as light with you.**

Leader: Blessed be your name, O God, for ever.
You reveal deep and mysterious things;

**People: You are light and in you is no darkness.
Our darkness is passing away
And already the true light is shining.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

"The Candle of Joy"

*(After the Candle Lighting Reading, the following will be
sung to the tune of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")*

**"Lord we thank you, and we praise you, for your gift to
us divine. As we celebrate this Advent, fill our hearts
with joy sublime. Candles glowing, spirit growing, as the
Christ child comes to Earth. We rejoice his holy birth.
We rejoice his holy birth."**

THE MORNING PRAYER

*(Leader: Lord, in your mercy.
People Respond: Hear our 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.**

THE ANTHEM

The Praise Band
by All Sons & Daughters

"God With Us"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Great God of Light, you sent your Son into the
world to be the light of the world. Bless these
offerings and we who present them, that both may
be used to bring light to those who dwell in
darkness. Amen.**

**THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR
OFFERINGS**

THE OFFERTORY

"He Who is Mighty" by Sovereign Grace Worship

The Praise Band

***THE DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

~ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ~

***HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 203** ELLACOMBE
"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

THE CHILDREN'S TIME

Ruth Hughes

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁷He came for testimony, to bear witness to the
light, that all might believe through him.

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Alex Stevenson

"Bearing Witness to the Light"

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

***THE HYMN NO. 196** HYFRYDOL
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: At Aldersgate we are ...

**People: Hearts on Fire ... Seeking, Sharing,
Serving ... For God!**

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***THE POSTLUDE**

"The Lion and the Lamb"

The Praise Band
by Bethel Music

**Congregation will please stand as able.*

Our service of worship has ended.

Let our worship through service begin.

MESSY CHRISTMAS – Join us for Messy Christmas
TODAY as we celebrate the joy and the mess of Christmas
together. Activities begin at 3:30, worship begins around
4:30 with a meal to follow. This is always a special worship
service that includes lots of singing and our re-telling of the
Christmas story. Everyone is welcome!

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE – Sometimes this time of
the year, instead of being a season of light and hope,
becomes the darkest time of the year. On **December 20**, just
before the shortest and darkest day of the year, we will have
a Blue Christmas Service. This worship service recognizes
our losses and is designed to give space to lift our grief, our
pain, and our loss to God. Join us at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary
for this special worship opportunity.

SHEEP TRAIL – Our Sheep Trail is going on all month
long in Downtown Greenville. Pick up a Trail card and enjoy
some shopping and sheep hunting. This year our sheep have
come from all over the world and are helping us learn about
different Christmas traditions.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY REPORT - 135 families
have estimated their giving for next year. The new total is
\$495,520 so far. Continue to keep this campaign in your
prayers. If you haven't turned in your estimate of giving
card, please do so. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS

Dec. 17 3:30 PM Messy Christmas
Dec. 20 6:30 PM Blue Christmas Service
Dec. 24 8:45 AM Worship with preaching
11:00 AM Moravian Love Feast
7:00 PM Christmas Eve
Candlelight & Communion Service
Dec. 31 8:45 & 11:00 AM: Worship – Covenant Renewal

ATTENDANCE

December 10, 2017
Sunday School – 139 Worship - 293

PRAYER CONCERNS

As of printing Thursday, December 14, 2017:

Greenville Memorial: Larry Stallcup
Home: Phil & Jennie Ruth Waynick, Fred Copeland,
Ralph Bell, Alton Durham, Freida Parker, Beth Rambo,
Tom Barnhill, Kim Beam
Brookdale @ Hawthorne: Nita Bearden
Mt. Pleasant, SC: Florence Hale
Myrtle Beach, SC: Randy Hale
Haywood Estates: Ann Linse **Waterstone:** Ruth Gunter
Westminster Senior Living at Augusta Place: Melba Poole
The Palmettos: Atrice Hughey
Rock Hill /Daughter: Bill Taylor
Mt. Home Health & Rehab, NC: Nancy Reitz
Rolling Green: Jan Ellington, Wayne & Audrey Rowan,
Wilma Tiedeman

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 17, 2017

8:45 am & 11:00 am Worship - Praise Band
9:45 am Sunday School
3:30 pm Messy Christmas—Gym, Parker Hall & Sanctuary

Monday, December 18, 2017:

6:30 pm UMM (Spouse) Christmas Din. & Movie—Parker Hall

Wednesday, December 20, 2017:

6:30 pm Blue Christmas Service—Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24, 2017- Christmas Eve Services

8:45 am Worship—Traditional Worship
9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship – Moravian Lovefeast

7:00 pm Candlelight & Communion Service

Mon./Tues., December 25 & 26, 2017: Merry Christmas

Church Office Closed

SERVING TODAY

Advent Candle: 8:45 am Ruth Ann & Marshall Gooch
11:00 am Betty & Dave Herndon
Lay Readers: 8:45 am John Myers 11:00 am Lee Gettys
Greeters: 8:45 am Barbara & John Sanders
11:00 am Lee & Robert Gettys
Acolytes: 8:45 am Ben Keith 11:00 am Anna Kate Schemm
Crucifer: 11:00 am Julian Gettys
Usher Captains: 8:45 am David McAvoy
11:00 am Frank Mathis
Ushers: 8:45 am Eddie Beam, Henry Scoggins, Suzanne Haney
11:00 am Jim Cox, Bonnie Lampe, Trey Covington, Paul Sleight,
Coley Altman, III

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Worship the Lord through giving.

2017 General Budget Needs	\$772,516.00
November Receipts	59,899.57
Budget Needs YTD	708,148.43
Income Received YTD	652,299.53
Total Expenses Paid YTD	685,464.44

E-GIVING QR CODE



MINISTRY STAFF

The Rev. Alex Stevenson, Pastor (ext. 207)
Johannah Myers, Director of Christian Formation (ext. 211)
Ruth Hughes, Director of Children's & Leisure Min. (ext. 204)
Luke Browder, Dir. of Music (ext. 208)
Ryland Brown, Musician
Jennifer Nelson, Director, Child Development Center (ext. 202)
Josh Consalvo, Director of Youth (ext. 212)
Susan Hamilton, Office Manager/Communications (ext. 210)
Cameron Vaughn, Financial Secretary (ext. 206)

MINISTERS – THE CONGREGATION

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Friday: 9:00-Noon
Phone: 864/244-1820 Fax: 864/244-9701
Child Development Center... 864/268-5028
Website: www.aumcsc.org
<http://facebook.com/aumcsc>

MISSION STATEMENT

... We are called to make disciples by embracing all people with God's love in Christ and equipping each other for service to God and His world. **VISION STATEMENT**

Hearts on Fire...Seeking, Sharing, Serving...For God! 

Welcome to

ALDRSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THERE WAS A MAN
SENT FROM GOD
WHOSE NAME WAS JOHN.
HE CAME AS A WITNESS TO TESTIFY
CONCERNING THAT LIGHT,
SO THAT THROUGH HIM ALL
MIGHT BELIEVE. HE HIMSELF
WAS NOT THE LIGHT;
HE CAME ONLY AS A
WITNESS TO THE LIGHT.

The Rev. Alex Stevenson

7 Shannon Drive
Greenville, South Carolina 29615
864-244-1820

www.aumcsc.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

8:45 am & 11:00 am

December 17, 2017

Established October 9, 1960

Open hearts...Open minds...Open doors
The people of The United Methodist Church

Stephen Ministry Congregation