

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Christmas Eve
MORNING WORSHIP ~ 8:45 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.)*

INTROIT "A Cradle Carol" by R. Pringle & D. Forrest
Luke Browder, soloist

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***HYMN NO. 234** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the
way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a
highway for our God.

**People: Then the glory of the LORD shall be
revealed, and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."**

Leader: Speak to us Lord. As you promised through
your prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist, come
to us now.

**People: May all the barriers be removed so that we
can receive your Word and worship you, in
the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

"The Candle of Love"

*(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 love 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.**

ANTHEM "God Made Low" by J. Hansen & B. Kauflin
Johannah Myers, soloist

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

David Bell

**Loving God, you have blessed us time and time
again throughout our lives. We, like Mary, can
magnify you by proclaiming, "Our spirit rejoices
in God my Savior!" We place these gifts on your
table as we seek to change people's lives - to
empower social justice, to feed the hungry, to offer
mercy to the outcast, to lift up the lowly. In the
name of the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.**

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

THE OFFERTORY

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

arr. Chip Davis

Josh Consalvo, saxophone

***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. 237 FRENCH CAROL**

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

THE CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Alex Stevenson

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-38 NT Pg. 56-57

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by
God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a
virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of
the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

RESPONSIVE READING NO. 199

"Canticle of Mary"

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Alex Stevenson

"From Heaven to Nazareth - From Gabriel to Mary"

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

***THE HYMN TFWS 2100**

MARGARET

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: At Aldersgate we are ...

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

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***THE POSTLUDE**

Ryland Brown

**Congregation will please stand as able.*

Our service of worship has ended.

Let our worship through service begin.

AUDREY WIESE ROWAN

AUGUST 18, 1930 ~ DECEMBER 16, 2017

"Blessed Are Those Who Die in the Lord"

THE WHITE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is in memory of
Audrey W. Rowan, who passed away on December 16, 2017.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE - New Year's Eve falls on a
Sunday this year so our Sunday morning services on Dec. 31
will include elements of the Covenant Renewal and
Watchnight traditions. Plan to come to church and bring a
friend to celebrate God's goodness and devote ourselves to
serving God in the new year. Services are at 8:45 & 11 am.

DISCIPLES FAST TRACK, part of the Disciple family of
Bible studies, provides an option for busy people who seek to
gain a better understanding of the bible and want to grow as
disciples. On January 14, 2018, all are welcome to come at
9:45 am in the Library for an overview and class
organization for the 12 week study "*Into the Word, Into the
World: Genesis/Exodus.*" Then, those who wish to attend can
sign up and receive their books. Class begins the following
Sunday, January 21, 2018 in the Library at 9:45am. Contact
Susan Smith at 864-268-6602, or Johannah Myers at 864-
244-1820 ext. 211.

GET READY! It is coming!! We will be having pictures
taken again with Lifetouch photography for a **New Church
Directory!!!** Beginning in January we will be setting up
dates for pictures to be taken. We will have dates beginning
the end of February and some in March. Stay tuned!!

**DEC. 31-WE ARE SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR
Director of Music, Luke Browder.**

We will miss Luke and all that he has brought to Aldersgate with his talent, wit and wonderful voice. We certainly wish him well as he balances his time with his job at North Greenville and home life. We thank you Luke, for a job well done!

PRAYER CONCERNS

As of printing Thursday, December 21, 2017:

St. Francis: Barbara Morrow

Home: Phil & Jennie Ruth Waynick, Fred Copeland, Ralph Bell, Alton Durham, Freida Parker, Beth Rambo, Tom Barnhill, Kim Beam, Larry Stallcup

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

NHC-Mauldin: Atrice Hughey **Rock Hill /Daughter:** Bill Taylor

Mt. Home Health & Rehab, NC: Nancy Reitz

Rolling Green: Jan Ellington, Wayne Rowan, Wilma Tiedeman

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 24, 2017: Christmas Eve

8:45 am Christmas Eve Worship

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Christmas Eve Moravian Lovefeast Worship

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion

Monday, December 25, 2017: Merry Christmas

Church Office/CDC Closed

Tuesday, December 26, 2017:

Church Office/CDC Closed

Sunday, December 31, 2017: New Year's Eve

8:45 am Worship Services

9:45 am Sunday School/Reception for Luke Browder

11:00 am Worship Services

Monday, January 1, 2018: Happy New Year

Church Office/CDC Closed

Tuesday, January 2, 2018:

Church Office/CDC Closed

CONSECRATION SUNDAY REPORT: 143 families have estimated their giving for next year. The new total is \$529,740 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!

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

December 17, 2017

Sunday School - 162 Worship - 284

SERVING TODAY

Lay Reader: 8:45 am Gayle Mason

Greeters: 8:45 am Sandy Sanford/Logan Bagley

Acolytes: 8:45 am Brooks Davis

Usher Captains: 8:45 am Jack Cornell

Ushers: 8:45 am Jim Dansby, Danny Dobbs, Jordan Truesdale, Suzanne Haney

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, Director 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



The Rev. Alex Stevenson

7 Shannon Drive

Greenville, South Carolina 29615

864-244-1820

www.aumcsc.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

8:45 AM

December 24, 2017

Established October 9, 1960

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

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

HAPPY NEW YEAR

*May the spirit of the season of
New year fill your heart
with serenity and peace*