

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

New Year's Eve

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

Ryland Brown

#### \*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*HYMN NO. 246 "Joy to the World" ANTIOCH

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP The Ten Commandments

Leader: God spoke these words to the children of Israel:

**People: I am the Lord your God . . .you shall have no other gods before me.**

Leader: I would never worship another god—or would you call it worship if Sunday's big game, or my spouse, or my job is the center of my attention?

**People: You shall not make for yourself an idol . . .you shall not bow down to them or worship them.**

Leader: "Idol" is an old term. It means what holds first place in one's life. Many people consider money an idol. Are all my time and thoughts and energy put into making money? Could that be my idol too?

**People: You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.**

Leader: Surely all those little slips of the tongue don't matter....or do they? How does the constant misuse of God's name sound to those who want to be faithful people of God? How do my words make others feel?

**People: Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.**

Leader: But times have changed: stores are open on Sunday—I need to shop then. My job requires me to work on Sunday. Perhaps I could declare another day for Sabbath rest?

**People: Honor your father and your mother.**

Leader: I do, even though they try my patience. They are aging and seem less competent to me. Am I really listening to their needs and concerns?

**People: You shall not murder.**

Leader: I would never do that! But if I even think hateful of someone . . . is that bad also?

**People: You shall not commit adultery.**

Leader: Unfaithfulness takes many forms today all around us. That's what we see on TV. But that doesn't make it right, does it?

**People: You shall not steal.**

Leader: I don't do that! Stealing is taking things which don't belong to us. Lifting company pens and paper now and then, or not returning incorrect change or a lender's book wouldn't be stealing, would it?

**People: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

Leader: I don't tell lies. I tell "news" as I heard it. But is it the truth? Maybe I should check the facts first or say nothing.

**People: You shall not covet your neighbor's house or anything your neighbor owns.**

Leader: My neighbor has it. The TV says I need it. I envy what my friend has. I really want it. You mean I should be content and thankful for what I have? Or even share what I have with others?

**People: Amen**

#### \*THE GLORIA PATRI NO. 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

#### THE MORNING PRAYER

*(Leader: Lord, in your mercy.*

*People Respond: Hear our prayer.)*

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Covenant Prayer

**I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee, or laid aside by thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father Son and Holy Spirit, thou art mine and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on Earth, let it be ratified in Heaven. Amen**

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

### \*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 ~

**SCRIPTURE READING** Jeremiah 31:31-34 OT PG. 735

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

#### THE MESSAGE

"A New Testament"

Rev. Alex Stevenson

### ~WE GIVE THANKS AND SHARE HOLY COMMUNION~

**INVITATION** (All are welcome)

**CONFESSION AND PARDON NO. 12**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING NO. 17**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*prayed together*)

**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 Grace Divine" arr. Roger Price  
The Chancel Choir

#### GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

If you are not able to come forward, the communion elements will be brought to you where you are seated.

#### COMMUNION HYMNS

*(You are invited to sing these hymns as others are receiving communion.)*

217 "Away in the Manger"

219 "What Child is This?"

249 "There's a Song in the Air"

251 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory in Jesus' name. Amen.

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

\*THE HYMN NO. 593 "Here I am Lord" HERE I AM LORD

## \*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.*

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE TO THE GLORY OF GOD** and in honor of our 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary by Keith & Bonnie Linse.

**TODAY IS OUR LAST SUNDAY WITH LUKE BROWDER.** Please stop by Parker Hall beginning at 9:45 and make sure you give him your well wishes. This drop-in reception will last the entire Sunday school hour so drop by anytime. Refreshments will be provided.

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD SUNDAY**-Next Sunday we will celebrate Baptism of Our Lord Sunday. We will have a Congregational Reaffirmation of our Baptisms as part of the service. We will also dedicate the new Church Officers for 2018. Start off the year right by coming to church on the first Sunday of the New Year!

## PRAYER CONCERNS

As of printing Thursday, December 28, 2017:

**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

**NHC-Boiling Springs:** Barbara Morrow

**Mt. Home Health & Rehab, NC:** Nancy Reitz

**Rolling Green:** Jan Ellington, Wayne Rowan, Wilma Tiedeman

## THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

The Pastor and Staff thank each and every one of you for your thoughtfulness this Christmas season!

Thank you for your contributions to "staff gifts," for the inspiring cards you sent, for sharing your wonderful holiday treats with us, for the special gifts, and most of all for your prayers.

May each of you feel God's blessing during this most wonderful time of the year as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, and Lord Jesus, The Christ. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

December 24, 2017

Sunday School - 106 / Worship 8:45 am - 95

11:00 am Moravian Lovefeast - 345

7:00 pm Candlelight & Communion - 123

Total all 3 Services - 563

## SERVING TODAY

**Communion Helpers:** 8:45 Cookie & Danny Dobbs, Margaret Pickens 11:00 Bill & Susan Smith, Ruth Hughes

**Lay Reader:** 8:45 Adyson Davis 11:00 Tom Angster

**Greeters:** 8:45 Kathie & Bruce Schug

11:00 Maxine & Harry Hardin **Crucifer:** TBD

**Acolytes:** 8:45 William McCauley 11:00 Anna Kate Schemm

**Usher Captains:** 8:45 Austin Watts 11:00 David Rose

**Ushers:** 8:45 Doug Jordan, Phil Martin, Waldo Watts

11:00 Clay Garrison, David Ayer, Cody Owens

## 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/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://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

## ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



The Rev. Alex Stevenson

7 Shannon Drive

Greenville, South Carolina 29615

864-244-1820

[www.aumcsc.org](http://www.aumcsc.org)

WORSHIP SERVICES

8:45 & 11:00 AM

December 31, 2017

Established October 9, 1960

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*