

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Lessons & Carols

#### 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 "Traditions of Christmas"

by Chip Davis arr. By Paul McKlveen  
The Cathedral Handbells

#### \*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

#### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 250

"Once in Royal David's City"

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

8:45 am Reader & Lighter- Nina & Henry Scoggins

11:00 am Reader- Brenda Callicutt

Lighter- Wanda Randle

"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 BIDDING 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.**

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

**THE OFFERTORY** "What Child is This" by Jefferey Hall  
The Cathedral Handbells, Danny Durham on cello

#### \*THE DOXOLOGY NO. 94 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts;**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### ~ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD ~

#### LESSONS AND CAROLS

#### FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Adam and Eve rebel against God.

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Jean Phillippe Rameau  
Micah Arms, tenor and Logan Campbell, oboe

#### SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18

God promises faithful Abraham that his descendants will be a blessing to all nations of the earth.

"O Come, Emmanuel" by Peter Paul Olejar  
The Chancel Choir and Cathedral Handbells

#### THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Christ's birth and rule of peace and justice are foretold by Isaiah.

"The People Who Walk in Darkness" by Pepper Choplin  
The Chancel Choir

#### \*HYMN NO. 216 "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"

#### FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-4. 6-9

The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all God's creation.

"A Shoot Shall Come Forth" by Richard Horn  
The Chancel Choir

#### FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus.

"Mary's Song (Breath of Heaven)" by Chris Eaton  
Danielle Knox, soprano

#### SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" arr. Earlene Rentz  
The Chancel Choir

#### \*HYMN NO. 254 "The First Noel" verse 1

#### SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to Bethlehem.

Recite from balcony: "There were shepherds..." by G.F. Handel  
Kirby Burgess, soprano  
"Medieval Gloria" by Vijah Singh  
Chancel Women

#### \*HYMN TFWS 2096 "Rise up, shepherd and follow"

#### EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

#### \*HYMN NO. 254 "We Three Kings"

#### NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.  
"The Word Was God" by Rosephanye Powell  
The Chancel Choir

#### ~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

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

#### \*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.*

#### CONSECRATION SUNDAY REPORT

**146 families** have estimated their giving for next year!

The new total is:

**\$ 491,816 So Far!**

Continue to keep this campaign in your prayers!

If you haven't turned in your Estimate of Giving Card,  
please do so.

**ADVENT STUDY** Have you stopped to wonder on a star? What is awe inspiring of that name? A Manger? "The Wonder of Christmas," is designed to inspire you to look at and experience Christmas a new. All are welcome to come participate in these last two classes. It is held in the church library. Contact Susan Smith (268-6602) or Johannah Myers (288-1820).

**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 19**, 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 including communion and prayers for healing.

**MESSY CHRISTMAS IS TODAY** with activities for all ages beginning at 3:30 pm. Come celebrate the coming of Jesus in a delightful, messy way. Worship begins at 4:30 pm with dinner to follow.

**2018 GIVING STATEMENTS**-Just a reminder that in order to have your contributions recorded as a gift in 2018 they must be received at the church or postmarked by December 31, 2018.

**DECEMBER 9** - No Attendance – Snow & Ice

**Total Worship -0-**

**OUR RECORD**

2018 Average Weekly Budgeted Giving	\$ 15,498.09
2018 Average Weekly Actual Giving (mailed)	\$ 13,483.85
2018 Avg. General Fund Wkly Expenses	\$ 13,514.22
Previous Week's General Fund Giving	\$ 27,506.21
<i>Sanctuary Media Project--raised to date</i>	\$ 43,727.21 ★
Nov. 2018 YTD General Fund Budget	\$ 738,742.51
Nov. 2018 YTD General Fund Giving	\$ 619,685.29
Nov. 2018 YTD General Fund Expenses	\$ 648,782.06
<b>Nov. 2018 YTD General Fund Deficit</b>	<b>— \$ 29,096.77</b>

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all those who have participated in this service. The folks who are reading the lessons, lighting the Advent wreath and participating in other ways.

Thank you to the Cathedral Handbell Choir who ring so beautifully under the direction of Justin Hadel.

Thank you to Tyler King and Christian Walters, our percussionists, and the others listed who are helping with the music.

A **BIG** thank you to the Chancel Choir. How wonderful they sound each week! Also, a thank you to those who have special parts in this service. Thank you for working with Dr. Grant Knox and Ryland Brown to make this a very special service for us all.

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

As of printing **Thursday, December 13, 2018**

**Home:** Beth & Warren Rambo, Freida Parker, Pete & Martha Hendrix, John & Mary Holmstrand, Ann Armstrong, Jan Alderman, Robert Gettys, Kim Beam

**The Cottages:** Kay Culbertson

**NHC Mauldin:** Atrice Hughey **Rosecrest:** Jennie Ruth Waynick

**Cascades:** Patti Whelchel **Mt. Pleasant, SC:** Florence Hale

**The Woodlands:** Annette McDuffee, Peggy Miller

**Haywood Estates:** Ann Linse **Mt. Home Health, NC:** Nancy Reitz

**Brookdale @ Hawthorne:** Nita Bearden

**Rock Hill /Daughter:** Bill Taylor **Myrtle Beach, SC:** Randy Hale

**Westminster Senior Living/Augusta Place:** Melba Poole

**Rolling Green:** Wayne Rowan, Ralph Bell

**SERVING TODAY**

**Readers:** 8:45 am Wendy Davis, Pam Martin, Gayle Mason, Johannah Myers, Mary Ann Repaire, Bill Smith, Susan Smith, Melissa Stevenson

11:00 am Sherri Allred, Lyndon Ashworth, Susan Hamilton, Karis King, Rachel Lawrence, Ruth McAllister, Johannah Myers, Melissa Stevenson

**Greeters:** 8:45 am Nancy & Mike Burton

11:00 am Jerry Smith and Chris Spellman

**Acolytes:** 8:45 am Brooks Davis 11:00 am Trace King

**Crucifer:** 11:00 am Laura MacGregor

**Usher Captains:** 8:45 am David McAvoy 11:00 am Frank Mathis

**Ushers:** 8:45 am Eddie Beam, Suzanne Haney, Tim Davis  
11:00 am Jim Cox, Bonnie Lampe, Trey Covington, Coley Altman, III, Paul Sleight

**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)

Dr. Grant Knox, Dir. of Music (ext. 208)

Ryland Brown, Musician

Jennifer Nelson, Director, Child Development Center (ext. 301)

Josh Consalvo, Director of Youth (ext. 209)

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

**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.

*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**

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

**8:45 AM & 11:00 AM**

**December 16, 2018**

**Established October 9, 1960**

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*