

FOURTH 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 INTROIT "O Come, O Come" by Millard
Ryland Brown, Grant Knox, Rick Lankford

***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"

Sung: O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

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.

Sung: O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

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.

Sung: O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

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.

Sung: O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

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 "We Have a Saviour" by Morgan and Glover
The Praise Band

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious and Giving God, we once again prepare
for the birth of your chosen Son. Through the
voices of prophets and preachers, you have been
heard in the driest deserts and the steepest
valleys. Unfurl our hearts and open our minds so
that we may hear your salvation story anew.
Giving this money is a worshipful gesture of our
unending alleluias to you. We dedicate this
offering to your Kingdom work. Amen.

THE GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR
OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"
by Manheim Steamroller
Ryland Brown, piano
Josh Consalvo, saxophone

***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 ~

***HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 203**

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

THE CHILDREN'S TIME Rev. Alex Stevenson

SCRIPTURE READING Zephaniah 3:14-20 OT-877
¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

RESPONSIVE READING NO. 199 Canticle of Mary

THE MESSAGE Rev. Alex Stevenson

"Remember the Joy!"

~ WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD ~

***THE HYMN NO. 238** "Angels We Have Heard On High"

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: At Aldersgate we are ...

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

***THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

***THE POSTLUDE**

**Congregation will please stand as able.*

Our service of worship has ended.

Let our worship through service begin.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - We will have two
Christmas Eve Services this year. The **Moravian Lovefest** is
at 5:00 pm. This traditional Moravian service uses Christmas
songs and the breaking of bread together to celebrate the gift
of Peace and Joy through Christmas. The **Candlelight**
Communion service will be at 9:00 pm. This is a special
service including Holy Communion and candlelight to
celebrate the birth of Jesus and coming of God's light into
the darkness of our world. Please plan to attend one or both
of these moving services celebrating the coming of God's
Son into the world!



PASTOR ALEX WILL BE ON VACATION from
Wednesday, December 26 to Sunday, December 30. If you
have need for a pastor during this time, please contact the
church office.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

December 24 – Office closes at 12:00 noon, Services tonight
December 25 & 26 – Office Closed
December 31 – Office Closed
January 1 – Office Closed
January 21 – Office Closed, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

FOR THOSE MAILING/HANDING IN DONATIONS

Please make sure that if you are handing in or mailing your donation to the church for the year 2018, it must be into handed in or postmarked no later than December 31, 2018 in order for you to get credit for the year **2018**.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY REPORT

151 families have estimated their giving for next year!

The new total is:

\$515,716 So Far!

Continue to keep this campaign in your prayers!

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

ATTENDANCE - DECEMBER 16

Sunday School 133

Worship 8:45 am 148 / 11:00 am 260

Total Worship 408

OUR RECORD

2018 Average Weekly Budgeted Giving	\$ 15,498.09
2018 Average Weekly Actual Giving	\$ 13,749.52
2018 Avg. General Fund Wkly Expenses	\$ 13,218.80
Previous Week's General Fund Giving	\$ 26,767.50
Sanctuary Media Project--raised to date	\$ 43,977.21

**PRIME TIMER EVENT
JANUARY 7, 2019**

Grace Team Ministries from NC is coming to share God's word with us through their *Comedy Illusion Team*. The program is at 11:00 am and lunch is at 12:00 noon. Make your reservations by Wednesday, January 2, through one of the following methods: use a reservation card (found in the pews) and write "Prime Timer Luncheon," call Ruth Hughes at the church office, ext. 204, add your name to the Questers or Christian Fellowship Sunday school classroom sheets or respond to our calling team. The cost is \$7.00 per person.

PRAYER CONCERNS

As of printing Thursday, December 19, 2018

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

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

Candle Lighting: 8:45 am The Watts Family

11:00 am Dave & Betty Herndon

Readers: 8:45 Annie Garrett 11:00 am Melissa Stevenson

Greeters: 8:45 am Phil & Carol Martin

11:00 am Mary Thomas

Acolytes: 8:45 am Bobby Keith 11:00 am Anna Hoffman

Crucifer: 11:00 am Reid Schemm

Usher Captains: 8:45 am Jack Cornell 11:00 am Hunt Redfern

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

11:00 am Terry Tallon, Steve Graves, Joel Vanderwood, Bruce Royal

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 23, 2018

Established October 9, 1960

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

A Stephen Ministry Congregation