

WORSHIP	
The color <b>WHITE</b> represents the purity, peace, and innocence of the Christ-child.	
<b>Greeters:</b>	Debra Leeke, David Atkinson, David Virtue, Beth Padgett, Wendy Thrailkill, Tanya Pearson, Courtney and Stella White
<b>Ushers:</b>	Alex Burgin, Steve Thrailkill, David Virtue, Miles Loretta
<b>A/V:</b>	Dottie Pittman
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Evie Virtue
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Celeste Creech
<b>Communion:</b>	John Chambers, Joan Gaulden, Bexx Summey, Julie Summey, Jane Ann Creech
<b>Nursery:</b>	Zahria Stewart, Meredith Robinson

Open Hearts UMC Staff

<b>Rev. Karen Jones</b> , Lead Pastor karen.jones@openheartsumcsc.org	For information regarding Membership, Giving, Realm, Prayer Requests and Congregational Care, please contact these volunteers:
<b>Jana Clack</b> , Director of Discipleship jana.clack@openheartsumcsc.org	<b>Doris Loretta</b> , Website and Realm admin@openheartsumcsc.org
<b>Dr. Tish Oney</b> , Director of Music Ministry tish.oney@openheartsumcsc.org	<b>Sandy MacMillan</b> , CARES Team cares@openheartsumcsc.org
<b>Alex Payne</b> , Maintenance Staff alex.payne@openheartsumcsc.org	<b>Jenna Robinson</b> , Membership Secretary membership@openheartsumcsc.org
<b>Dr. Elliott Smith</b> , Organist and Pianist	<b>Linda Sarratt</b> , Finance Office finance@openheartsumcsc.org
<b>Meredith Robinson, Savannah Spivey &amp; Zahria Stewart</b> Nursery Staff	
<b>Blake Wolfe &amp; Julian Conrad</b> , Campus Police Officers	

2703 Augusta Street  
Greenville, SC 29605  
(864) 233-8114



**OFFICE HOURS:**  
9:00 am—1:00 pm  
Monday—Thursday

**HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
Dec 30 and 31  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Open Hearts United Methodist Church cultivates a welcoming community – united in God’s love, guided by scripture, and empowered by the Holy Spirit – to live out Jesus Christ’s teachings.



Open Hearts United Methodist Church

December 24, 2024 5:00 PM Christmas Eve

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

We are glad you are here! Please register your attendance in the pew pad. Please note that services are live-streamed, recorded, and posted to our YouTube Channel. Nursery is available for ages 0-4; Children’s Worship Activity Boxes are available behind the organist and in the lobby to help your child worship with us.

Electronic giving is received by texting **OPENDOORS** to 73256 or going online to [onrealm.org/openheartsUMC/give](https://onrealm.org/openheartsUMC/give)

(\*) Stand as you are able. (UMH) United Methodist Hymnal

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC	Noel X	D’Aquín
GREETINGS		Rev. Karen Jones
PRELUDE	Ding, Dong, Merrily on High	French carol/Woodward/arr. Wood
*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		
*OPENING HYMN (UMH 238)	Angels We Have Heard on High	French carol/arr. Barnes and Lovelace
*OPENING PRAYER		Celeste Creech
God, we have come together to celebrate the birth of your child, Jesus. You sent Jesus to be born in Bethlehem, on a dark night, full of bright stars. Jesus came so we might know the love, grace, and mercy of you, God. We join with Mary, with the heavenly host, and with millennia of worshipers, proclaiming the wondrous miracle of this moment. As we remember, sing, and cherish the story, reveal your glory once again among us. Amen.		
*GLORIA PATRI	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.	

*OFFERTORY HYMN (UMH 218)	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	Willis/Sears
OFFERTORY PRAYER		Celeste Creech
OFFERTORY	Angels' Carol	Rutter
*DOXOLOGY (UMH 95)		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.*

ANTHEM	At Christmas Time All Christians Sing/O Come All Ye Faithful Congregation sings v. 1 of UMH 234 "O Come All Ye Faithful" on cue	Trad./arr. Liebergen
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SCRIPTURE READING (OT 638)	Isaiah 9:2-7	Rev. Jones
The Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God.		

SERMON	"People Walking in Darkness Have Seen a Great Light" If you have a child in the Nursery and would like for them to participate in Communion and/or the candle lighting, you may get them at the end of the sermon while the Table is being prepared.	Rev. Jones
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SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (UMH 12)		Rev. Jones
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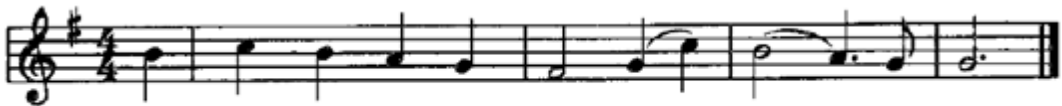
CONGREGATIONAL SINGING DURING COMMUNION

- The First Noel verses 1, 4 (UMH 245)
- O Little Town of Bethlehem (UMH 230)
- What Child Is This (UMH 219)
- Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (UMH 229)
- Love Came Down at Christmas (UMH 242)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH	Gray, Stacey, Ava, Kate, and Lila Kitchens
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Canticle of Light and Darkness R3

John F. Wade



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

**All:** (Musical Response)  
**Reader:** On this long, dark night of the birth of Jesus, we have watched and waited for a sign of the joy to come. We have lit the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love in anticipation of the birth of Jesus.  
**All:** The good news is here. The child has come. A child has been born for us, a son given to us; he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
**Reader:** We light the final candle because the light of the world has come to dwell among us. Behold, Christ is born. (White candle is lit)  
**All:** Welcome, love of Christ, which shows us how to care for each other, sacrifice for one another, and fully embrace ourselves. Expand our capacity to love more like Jesus loved. Amen.  
**All:** (Musical Response)

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Please do not tip lit candles, and exercise caution with fire. We will recess with our candles to the front patio.  
If you have mobility challenges, please use the front narthex doors to remain at the top of the covered porch.  
If you are able-bodied, please use the side narthex doors down to the patio.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN (UMH 239)	Silent Night	Gruber/Mohr/trans. Young
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Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

\*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION	Stille Nacht	Gruber/Mohr
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The flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God by Suzanne Pyle  
in loving memory of Hon. C. Victor Pyle, Jr. on this his 90th birthday.



Join for Sunday Worship at 11 AM  
A Moravian Love Feast will be held this Sunday, December 29th