	Christmas Eve December 24, 2023		Anthem	For Unto Us A Child is Born H. Wesley, Melody and Cherub Choirs	andel, adapted by L. Farnel
	Order of Worship		~		
Prelude	Go Tell it on the Mountain Wesley, Melody and Cherub Choirs	American Traditional	Sermon The Sacra	"Glory to God in the Highest" ment of Holy Communion	Rev. Mark Barnes
Welcome				-	
↓11		UNCHERROR 1 No. 246	Prayer of Thanksgiving after Receiving		
*Hymn	Joy to the World	UM Hymnal, No. 246	Lighting of the Christ Candle		
 Prayer for Christmas (unison) Gracious God, we pray this night for all who have come with us to Bethlehem. We pray for those who are poor and cold and hungry like the shepherds, that they may hear the good news. We pray for those who are wandering and searching like the magi, that they may find the place to leave their gifts and their burdens. We pray for those who are busy, hurried and preoccupied like the innkeeper, that they may know the peace that comes from a genuine act of hospitality. We pray for ourselves – we who each need comfort and peace, even joy, in this starlit season and all the 			Leader:	The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.	
			People:	And also with you.	
			Leader:	Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born this night.	
			People:	God's word has been made flesh among us.	
			Leader:	The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.	
*11	<i>days of our lives. Amen.</i>		People:	Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them a light has shined.	
*Hymn	(vs. 1-4, 6)		Leader:	You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,	
Pastoral Pray	yer and the Lord's Prayer	1 .1		and the government shall be upon his should	
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Cine us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our tresposes			People:	His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.	
	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,		Leader:	He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.	
			Unison Prayer		
	forever. Amen.		Leader:	Let us Pray	
Offertory	Veni Veni Emmanuel Bethany Youth Choir	John Michael Trotta	People:	<i>Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace,</i>	
*Doxology	ogy UM Hymnal, No. 95			the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night	
*Hymn	Angels We Have Heard on High	UM Hymnal, No. 238		fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ,	
	on ne word of God for the people of God. <i>hanks be to God</i> .	Luke 2:1-20		even as he humbled himself to share our hu	imanity. Amen.

*Hymns

Silent Night, Holy Night Hark! The Herald Angels Sing UM Hymnal, No. 239 UM Hymnal, No. 240

*Blessing and Dismissal

***Postlude** It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

arr. Willis/Johnson

*Congregation stands

Candlelight Service

A small candle or glow stick will be given to each person as you enter. *After the singing of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" – please extinguish your candle.* After the service, as you exit, please place your candles in the boxes provided. Children may keep their glow sticks.

The altar greens are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Julie Nicole Jett by Bob, Pat and Brad Jett.



Rev. Michael Ritter, Senior Pastor Rev. Mark Barnes, Minister of Congregational Care Rev. James Alewine, Pastor Emeritus Dr. Robert Taylor, Director of Music Ministries Mr. Michael Lopez, Organist Bethany United Methodist Church 118 West Third Street Summerville, SC 29483



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:14, KJV

December 24, 2023 5:00 PM