*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Bethany staff and the many dear friends I have made throughout my 22 years at Bethany. With love, Ann Gill



Volunteers Needed

Sign up today!





Ways to Give
Scan this QR Code for PushPay online or text 833.245.8417 to give from your phone!

Welcome!

If you are visiting or attend here regularly, we would love to get to know you! Help us connect with you by signing the hospitality pad located in your pew or by scanning the QR code.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Liturgist: Rick Rogers-Berry

Greeters: Wayne & Tina Waters

Ushers: Gillis McAllister, Al Lyman, Betsy Myers, Berlin Myers, Dennis Kaltenbach, Toby Spahr, Andrew Sansone

PASTORS

Rev. Michael Ritter, Senior Pastor

Rev. Isaac Dusenbury, Associate Pastor

STAFF

Reagan Lord, Director of Music

Michael Lopez, Organist

Emily Vick, Director of Christian Education

Nikki Brantley, Director of Children's Ministries

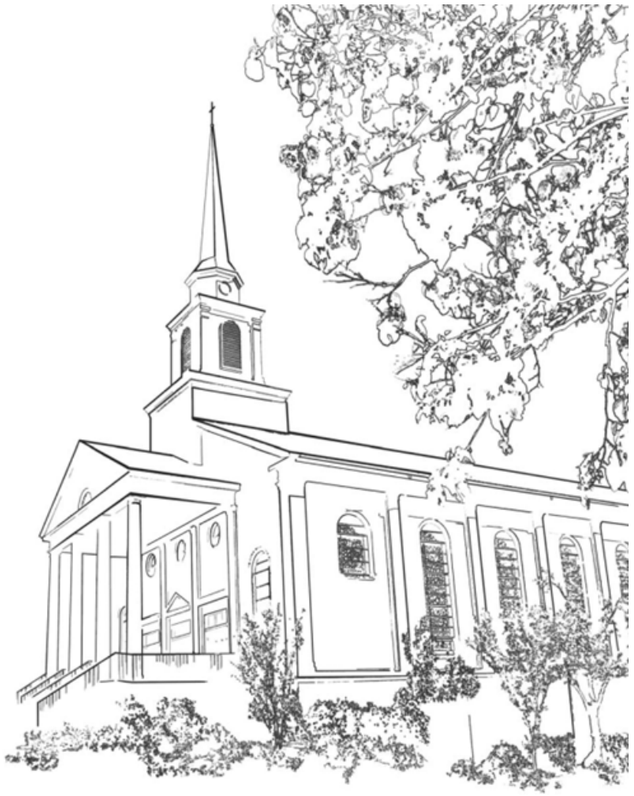
Kyle Boczkowski, Director of Youth and Recreation Ministries

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

For congregational care needs or to request a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. Isaac Dusenbury at 843.873.1230 or idusbury@bethany-umc.com.
For after-hours emergencies, call 843.425.1069.

Bethany United Methodist Church

Summerville, South Carolina



An Order of Sunday Worship

1st Sunday of Advent

The liturgical color for the season of Advent is pruple, representing the impending birth of Jesus yet also foreshadowing his death.

Sunday, November 29, 2026

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the Transformation of the World.

CALL TO WORSHIP

please stand in body or spirit

GATHERING

Please take a moment and greet the people sitting around you.
"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unaware." Hebrews 13:2 (KJV)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*HYMN OF PRAISE — UMH 213
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates — TRURO

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH — GRAFFIS FAMILY

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

This is the first week of Advent. Advent means "coming," and in this season we prepare for the coming of the presence of Jesus Christ. One of the ways we prepare our hearts for his coming is by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles. This reminds us of some of the gifts Jesus brings to the world— hope, peace, joy, love and salvation.

The Advent wreath itself is in the shape of a circle. A circle has no beginning and no end. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no end to God and that God's love and caring are forever. The light from the candles, which grows stronger each week in Advent, reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Today we light the candle of Hope. A hope is different from a wish. Wishes may or may not "come true," but real hope in Christ is sure and certain. Whatever God promises, He will do. The people of Israel hoped in God's promises and were not disappointed. Again and again God delivered Israel from its enemies. We too have the same experience of salvation. Even when things do not go as we would like, we can remember that His ways are not our ways, and His timing is not like ours, but it is perfect and we can hope in Him. God promises to send Jesus to us once again as perfect judge of the world and to make everything right when he establishes his kingdom forever upon the earth.

God of hope, we light this candle as we prepare for the coming of your Son. Awaken our hearts to you this Advent season, so that when Christ arrives, we are ready to receive him with all our hearts, all our minds, and all our strength. Amen.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE — UMH 211
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — VENI EMMANUEL
verse 1

O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — UMH 881
The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI — UMH 70
Glory Be to the Father — MEINEKE

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 FIRST LESSON — ISAIAH 64: 1-9, OT 694 — RICK ROGERS-BERRY

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

CALL TO PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER — CHANCEL CHOIR
Prepare the Way of the Lord — TAIZE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

DEDICATION

OFFERTORY — CHANCEL CHOIR
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence — ROBERT HOOBY

*DOXOLOGY — GREENSLEEVES
What Child Is This — UMH 219
verse 3

(Children are invited to come forward during the singing of the Doxology for Children's Moment)

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angel sing,
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT — JENN HORRES

(Children ages K5 thru 2nd grade are dismissed for Children's Church in Room 214. Please remember to attach a Children's Church sticker to your child and pick them up ASAP.)

*THE SECOND LESSON — MARK 13: 24-37, NT 50 — REV. MICHAEL RITTER

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON — *Watch Out* — REV. MICHAEL RITTER

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF INVITATION — UMH 202
People Look East — BESANCON

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE — UMH 431
Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.