

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

(\*) The asterisk is to indicate that those who are able are invited to stand.

As the prelude begins, please take your seat and center yourself for worship.

\*\*There are large print hymnals available for those who need one.

Please ask an usher to bring you one.

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* R. Powell

## WE PRAISE GOD

### Congregational Call to Worship

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

**Our hearts are filled with the hope that is coming into the world.**

The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God's loving gift to us--the gift of the Christ child.

**Help slow us down, Lord, that we may realize that your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.**

Thanks be to God who again reminds us of God's eternal love.

**Open our hearts, O Lord, to receive your blessed gift. AMEN.**

### Opening Prayer

\*UMH #234 *O Come, All Ye Faithfull* ADESTE FIDELES  
verses 1-3, 6

Lighting of the Advent Wreath The Belman Family

\*Expression of Faith *The Apostle's 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.**

## Bethel Ministers and Church Staff

J.B. Barnett, Custodian  
Rev. Julie Belman, Senior Minister  
Carol Burger, Preschool Director  
Greg Cone, Custodian Assistant  
Sheryl L. Jones, Administrative Assistant  
Rev. Reggie Rowell, Minister of Congregational Care  
Bill Webb, Organist / Choir Director

## Poinsettias

Thank you to everyone who ordered a poinsettia for the sanctuary. The list of contributors will be in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Anyone who contributed a poinsettia is welcome to take it home with them after the Christmas Eve service.

## Visiting Buddies

The Visiting Buddies thank everyone who helped with monetary donations and/or time for their annual Christmas project. This week they assembled and delivered Christmas bags with a poinsettia and goodies to 30 church members.

## Merry Christmas, from our Bethel Choir!

Thank you to our Bethel Choir for their time, energy, and dedication in preparation for today's service. Thanks also to our handbell ringers, flutist, and guest singers who have added a special touch in blessing us today. The new microphones for our choir were made possible through Bethel's Designated Memorials Choir Fund. We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas!

## Donations for the VA

Veterans at the VA need magazines for men and large print books for men. Please leave them at the church office. Thanks for your continued support of our veterans. Dave Barnes

## Serving the Congregation Today

**Greeters:** Tom Elliott and Fred Brown

**Altar Stewards:** Kimberly Wilson, Karen Stewart, and Dave Barnes

**Livestream:** Travis Belman and Karen Furr

**Acolyte:** Skyye Morgan

**Offering Counter:** Kimberly Wilson

## Special Prayers for Bethel Friends and Family (in alphabetical order)

### In Hospitals, Assisted Living, Rehab:

Carolyn Bowers (Watercrest Columbia)

Nancy Burkhalter (Atria)

Connie Fowke (NHC)

Bill and Sylvia Hulbert (Laurel Crest)

Mary Kirby (TerraBella Windsor Lake)

Mac Marshall (NHC)

Frances May (Generations of Irmo)

Mary Ott (Pruitt Ridgeway)

Sarah Parker (Still Hopes)

Carmen Pool (Rice Estates)

Adelyn Price (Still Hopes)

Roberta Yount (Atria)

**At home:** Hannah Andrews (Janet Roberts' great-granddaughter)

Eugene and Joyce Appleman, JB Barnett, Ann Christopher (Julie Narang's mother), Sara Derrick, Jo Dowdey, Margie Jackson, Ronald Jordan, Bonnie Lutz, Margaret Marshall, Rosa Nichols, Brenda Shealy, Sibyl Staples, Verlon Stone, Jean Tolbert, and Brenda Turner

**Out-of-Town:** Irene Boyd, Josh Funderburk (Kathryn Emery's son), Wayne Hairfield (Debbie Carter's relative), Jake Lass (Debbie Carter's relative), Pat and Bethany Naser, Morgan Varn (Debbie Carter's relative), Joshua Furr (Karen Furr's son, deployed to Syria)

**The families of:** JoAnn Reiff, Helen Overstreet, Joyce Varn, Joey Turner, Harry Parker, Russ Pruett, David Hinze, Lucinda Miller, Fran Love, Ronald Gordon, Sandra Wayson, and Margaret Alley McGregor

## Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..." Matthew 19:14

*We welcome all persons in worship and rejoice in the sounds of God's little blessings in our sanctuary! A room is available in the back of the sanctuary for crying babies, nursing or pumping mothers to use at any time.*

**\*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.*

**Children’s Moment**

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Janel Bell

**Offertory**

*O Holy Night*  
Laura Dennison, flute

arr. F. Waring

**\*Doxology**

*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.*

**“The Most Wonderful Birthday of All”**

*Advent Noel* arr. Page/Shafferman  
Ann Garnto, Bonnie Speas, Laura Dennison  
Handbells

*The Most Wonderful Birthday of All* C. Davis  
Ae Byrn, soloist

*Were You There on That Christmas Night?* N. Sleeth

*Mary’s Little Boy Child* J. Hairston  
Laura Adair, soloist

*Away in a Manger* arr. F. Waring  
Brenda Harper, Marian Scullion, Pat Wood  
Trio

*Christmas Lullaby* J. Mattingly

*Sing Gloria* K. Davis

Christmas 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.**

**\*Hymn #240** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** *Joy to the World!* Handel

**Church Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday—9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone number—803-787-3058

**Publication Submission Deadlines**

The deadline for the *Bulletin* is **3:00 pm** on the preceding Tuesday.  
The deadline for the *Messenger* is **9:00 am** on the 3rd Monday of month.  
Please contact the church office as soon as possible to get your upcoming events on the calendar. Rooms are scheduled on a first-come basis.

**Upcoming Events at Bethel**

**Sunday, December 18**  
4th Sunday of Advent

09:45 Children, Youth, and Adult  
Sunday School (EB)

11:00 Christmas Cantata  
(S / livestream on YouTube)

**Saturday, December 24**  
12:00 Christmas Eve Service with  
Communion (S)

06:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Carols (S)

**Sunday, December 25**  
10:00 Christmas Day Worship (S)

**Monday, December 26**  
Church Office Closed for Christmas

**Saturday, December 31**  
10:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

CR - Conference Room  
EB - Education Building  
PAB - Pool Activities Building  
S - Sanctuary

**Ways to Connect**

Website: [www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com](http://www.bethelmethodistcolumbia.com)

Facebook: [bethelmethodistcolumbia](https://www.facebook.com/bethelmethodistcolumbia)

Youtube: [Bethel UMC Columbia](https://www.youtube.com/BethelUMCColumbia)

Instagram: [@wearebethelunited](https://www.instagram.com/wearebethelunited)

Hashtag: [#wearebethelunited](https://www.instagram.com/wearebethelunited)

Email: [office@bethelmethodistcolumbia.com](mailto:office@bethelmethodistcolumbia.com)

Telephone: 803-787-3058



**KNOWING, LOVING, SERVING**  
...so the world will experience Christ’s love!



**Sunday, December 18, 2022**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**The Color is Purple.**

***Welcome!***

*We are so glad you decided to join us for worship.  
Our hope is that you will experience the love of Jesus Christ  
while you are among us and join us in sharing God’s Good  
News with the world. If you do not have  
a church home, we invite you to become part  
of the Bethel Church family.*