

WE GATHER TO 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

*(*As we stand to praise God, please do so as you are able.
Congregational responses are in **BOLD** type.)*

Prelude *Two Carols* arr. Willcocks
*(Use this time to make the transition between "getting here" and "being here."
Let it be a silent, prayerful preparation for worship.)*

WE PRAISE GOD

Lighting of the Advent Wreath The Carter and Burnette Family

*Call to Worship #220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

*Opening Prayer
O God our Father, you have brought us again to this glad season when we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that his Spirit may be born anew in our hearts this day and that we may joyfully welcome him to reign over us. Open our ears that we may hear again the angelic chorus of old. Open our lips that we, too, may sing with uplifted hearts. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise #224 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

Children's Moment Rev. Julie Belman

Offertory *See Amid the Winter's Snow* Caswell/Goss

*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.***

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Gospel Lesson Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Eve Homily

*Song of Response *Song of Mary* B. Red
Marian Scullion, soloist

The Invitation

A Prayer of Confession and Renewal
Faithful God, we rejoice that you have sent your promised Christ. And yet, O God, we confess that we are still not ready for Christ's coming; we are reluctant to live as if the whole earth were your domain. We know the story - the star, the shepherds, the angels - but we don't fully understand. Awaken us to your Spirit, let Christ's birth make a difference in our lives, and grant us your peace, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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 in the Sanctuary

Thank you to the following for providing poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary.
Please feel free to take your poinsettia with you after the service today.

Jean and Luby Pulley - Given in honor of our children

Nola Armstrong and Hall Gladden - Given in loving memory of Todd Armstrong
and in loving honor of Carolyn Armstrong

Kathryn Emery - Given in honor of Joshua N. Funderburk and Heath Scott
Bartlett

Charles and Ae Byrn - Given to the glory of God

Carrie McDonald - Given in memory of Gerald McDonald and Peggy Rice
Poppiti

Margie Jackson - Given in memory of Horace Jackson and Todd Armstrong

Fred and Kate Brown - Given in memory of Sandra Wayson and in honor of
Velma Neeley

Bill and Gail Lucas - Given in memory of Hugh and Virginia Edwards, and John
and Gloria Lucas; and in honor of Bill and Gail Lucas

Janis Lawther - Given in memory of Bill Lawther

Sue and Peggy Grant - Given in memory of Lib and Jim Grant (parents), and
Bill Grant (brother)

Anna Cope - Given in honor of God and in memory of Larry Cope

Ron and Arnette Jordan - Given in honor of Velma Neeley and our Bethel
friends

Tammy Caruk - Given in memory of Lucinda Miller

Carolyn Armstrong - Given in memory of Sandra Wayson and in honor of
Margie Jackson

Lucy, Margaret and Ronald Gordon - Given in memory of Ronald L. Gordon

Verta and Doug Ingbreetsen - Given in memory of Greg Ingbreetsen

Iva Dell Griffin - Given to the glory of God and in memory of my parents

Frank and Sally Hafner - Given in memory of Joey Turner, and in honor of Tripp
and Laurie, Jonathan and Mathew, Brian and Brenda

Laura Wood and Family - Given in memory of Ovella Clark Genoble

Velma H. Neeley - Given in honor of Kate and Fred Brown

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

Offering Counters: Dianna Elliott and 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), Elliott Lakin (Irene Boyd's great-grandson)

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

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.*

The Great Thanksgiving for Christmas Eve

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. ...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. ...

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. ...

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Receiving

We give you thanks, O God that you have come to us through Jesus Christ, both in the midst of time and history in the city of Bethlehem, and in the time-less presence of Christ's Spirit as we receive the gracious gifts of bread and cup. Send us out into the world rejoicing, ready to share your love with the people we meet; through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

*Hymn of Dedication #230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Brooks/Redner

*Benediction

*Postlude *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* arr. W.F. Smith

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

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)

Sunday, January 1

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

11:00 Traditional Worship Service with Communion (S / livestream on YouTube)

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed for New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 4

Preschool Returns from Winter Break
09:30 Preschool Chapel (S)

Saturday, January 7

10:30 Choir Rehearsal (CR)

CR - Conference Room
EB - Education Building
PAB - Pool Activities Building
S - Sanctuary
BPL - Back Parking Lot

Ways to Connect

Website: 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

Telephone: 803-787-3058



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



Saturday, December 24, 2022, at noon
The Color is White.

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.