

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE LEE TURNER

Irish Blessing

**May the road rise to meet you, May the wind blow at your back,
May the sun shine warmly on your face; May the rain fall softly on your
field; And until we meet again, until we meet again, May God hold you in
the palm of his hand. Amen.**

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE

*The altar greens today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of
Lelon and Karen Fleischauer’s 45th wedding anniversary,
with love from Tripp, Allison, and Raegan Clayton.*

Stewardship is being loyal to your commitment through prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Attendance
Worship 386, Online Worship 42, Sunday School 244

Gifts (*Figures for November 23, 2025. These figures are unverified.)

*Operating Contributions Last Week.....	\$19,122.23
*Operating Contributions Year to Date.....	\$944,582.33
*Operating Expense Funding YTD-Deficit(-)/Surplus(+)	-\$99,488.67
	-9.53%

Capital Campaign (Figures for November 23, 2025)

*Building Contributions Last Week.....	\$5,380.00
*Building Contributions Year to Date	\$93,430.35

Designated Mission and Ministry Gifts – YTD (Non-Budgeted)..... 242,788.53



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

Church Contact Information

(843) 873-1230

118 W 3rd South Street
Summerville, SC, 29483

After Hours Emergency
(843) 425-1069

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Website!

Welcome!

*We are pleased you joined us in worship.
If you are looking for a church home,
please speak with a member of our clergy or staff.*

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE

- Liturgist:** Katy Noviski
- Greeters:** Wayne and Tina Waters
- Ushers:** Gillis McAllister, Al Lyman,
Betsy Myers, Berlin Myers, Dennis Kaltenbach



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
- Kyle Boczkowski, Director of Youth and Recreation Ministries

Our Care Team is here to support our congregation!
If you know of a congregational care need that requires our attention,
please let us know. Sunday School Classes and Bethany members are
encouraged to reach out. Contact the church office 843.873.1230
or the after hours emergency phone at 843.425.1069.

Bethany United Methodist Church

Summerville, South Carolina



An Order of Sunday Worship

1st Sunday in Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025

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

CALL TO WORSHIP		
The liturgical color for Advent in purple, preparing for the birth of Christ.		
*please stand in body or spirit		
GATHERING		
CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	REV. MICHAEL RITTER	
PRELUDE		
*HYMN OF PRAISE	Hail to the Lord's Anointed	ELLACOMBE UMH 203
*THE APOSTLES' CREED	UMH 881	
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	Glory Be to the Father	MEINEKE UMH 70
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.		
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH	HEPP FAMILY	
The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In commemoration of that coming, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. It is significant that the church has always used that language--the coming of Christ--because it speaks to a deep truth. Christ IS coming. Christ IS ALWAYS coming, always entering a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so, we light the first candle, the candle of HOPE, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing and the well-being of all creation.		

Loving God, as we enter this Advent season we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the power of *HOPE*. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ.

Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection, for the light of God's love is discernible everywhere. Welcome Christ into your heart this season and go forth with the knowledge that Christ is coming and is our Hope.

RESPONSE	<i>I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light</i>	UMH, 206 HOUSTON
I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.		
In Him there is no darkness at all, The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.		
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON	ISAIAH 2: 1-5	OT 631 KATY NOVISKI
This is the word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.		
PRAYER AND PRAISE		
CALL TO PRAYER	KATY NOVISKI	
The Lord be with you. And also with you.		
CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER	PAUL MANZ <i>E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come</i> CHANCEL CHOIR	
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	<i>Lost in the Night</i> CHANCEL CHOIR	KYLE HAUGEN
Lost in the night do the people yet languish Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish, Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon? Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let us borrow, Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon? Sorrowing wand’rers, in darkness yet dwelling, Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling, Death’s dreaded darkness forever dispelling. Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!		
*DOXOLOGY	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	LASST UNS ERFREUEN UMH 94
<i>(Children are invited to come forward during the singing of the Doxology for Children’s Moment)</i>		
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!		
PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD		
CHILDREN’S MOMENT	EMILY VICK	
<i>(Children ages K5 thru 2nd grade are dismissed to Children’s Church in Room 214. Remember to attach a Children’s Church sticker to your child and pick them up following worship.)</i>		
*GOSPEL LESSON	MATTHEW 24: 36-44	NT 27 REV. MICHAEL RITTER
This is the word of God, for the people of God. Thanks be to God.		
SERMON	<i>The Light in a Time of Darkness</i>	REV. MICHAEL RITTER
SENDING FORTH		
*HYMN OF INVITATION	<i>Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	HYFRYDOL UMH 196