

*Your Friendly
Community Church*



December 24, 2023

***Fourth Sunday
of Advent***

Rev. Laurie Brandes

Pastor

803-312-5083, LGBrandes@umcsc.org

Lady Abigail Imperio

Minister of Music

Elaine Comstock

Administrative Assistant

6911 Two Notch Rd | Columbia SC 29223

803-788-2220

office@umcsc.com

www.umcsc.com

www.facebook.com/RehobothUMCsc

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Rose

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The McGee Family

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are marching to Bethlehem,

People: to ponder the promise of the prophet.

Leader: We are marching to Bethlehem,

People: to sing the carol of the angels.

Leader: We are marching to Bethlehem,

All: to greet the Savior of the world. Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ the newborn king!

***HYMN**

UMH #218

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

***PSALTER**

UMH #199

"Canticle of Mary"

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jane Massey

We invite any children present to participate.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

Choir

"The Beautiful Impossible"

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

O God, show us the way to Bethlehem, that we may witness this thing which has happened.

When all is made known, we shall return to our fields, glorifying and praising you for all we have seen and heard. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***GOSPEL LESSON**

NT #54

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

Rev. Laurie Brandes

"Hopeful Waiting"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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 UMH #238
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Lady Imperio

*DOXOLOGY UMH #95

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH #881
"The Apostles' Creed"

WE GO WITH GOD INTO THE WORLD

*THE SHARING OF THE LIGHT UMH #239
"Silent Night, Holy Night"

*BENEDICTION

*AMEN RESPONSE
"Let the Church Say Amen"

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you to our worship service this morning. If you are visiting, please complete a visitor's card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

We wish everyone a very blessed Christmas! The church office will be closed on Monday, December 25, in observance.

We want to thank L.W. Smith and the UMM for our Christmas dinner last Sunday. In spite of the rain, we had wonderful fellowship and delicious food.

A church conference to vote on separating from The United Methodist Church will be held Tuesday, February 13, at 6 pm in the sanctuary. All members are asked to attend.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, December 25

church office closed

Wednesday, December 27

5:30 Choir Practice – Choir Room

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

You are welcomed to attend one of our Sunday School classes:

Crossroads SS Class meets via Zoom at 9am
Contact L.W. Smith for Zoom invite.

Pathfinder SS Class meets at 9:45 am in the
parlor in the Education Building.

Children's SS Class meets at 9:45 am in the
nursery in the Education building.

HEARING DEVICES

If you would like to use a hearing assistance device, please see an usher for assistance.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the book found on the podium located at the back of the sanctuary before the service begins. Your prayers will be lifted up.

2023 FINANCES

2023 Budget = \$229,008.00

Need to Receive Weekly = \$4,404.00

Received for General Budget on 12/17/23=\$4,736.00

Received Year-To-Date (2023) = \$161,872.00

We are excited to have you in our worship service today. We love that the walls of our building do not limit the impact of our ministry and have a wonderful community joining us today virtually. As such, we would like to remind all in attendance that your presence in our worship service indicates your approval that you and all minors you represent being recorded for our digital usage. This includes, but is not limited to, your image, name, and involvements in today's services.