

9:00 am –9:45 am

The Branch Worship
in the Family Life Center

10:00 am -10:45 am

Sunday School for all

11:00 am -12:00 pm

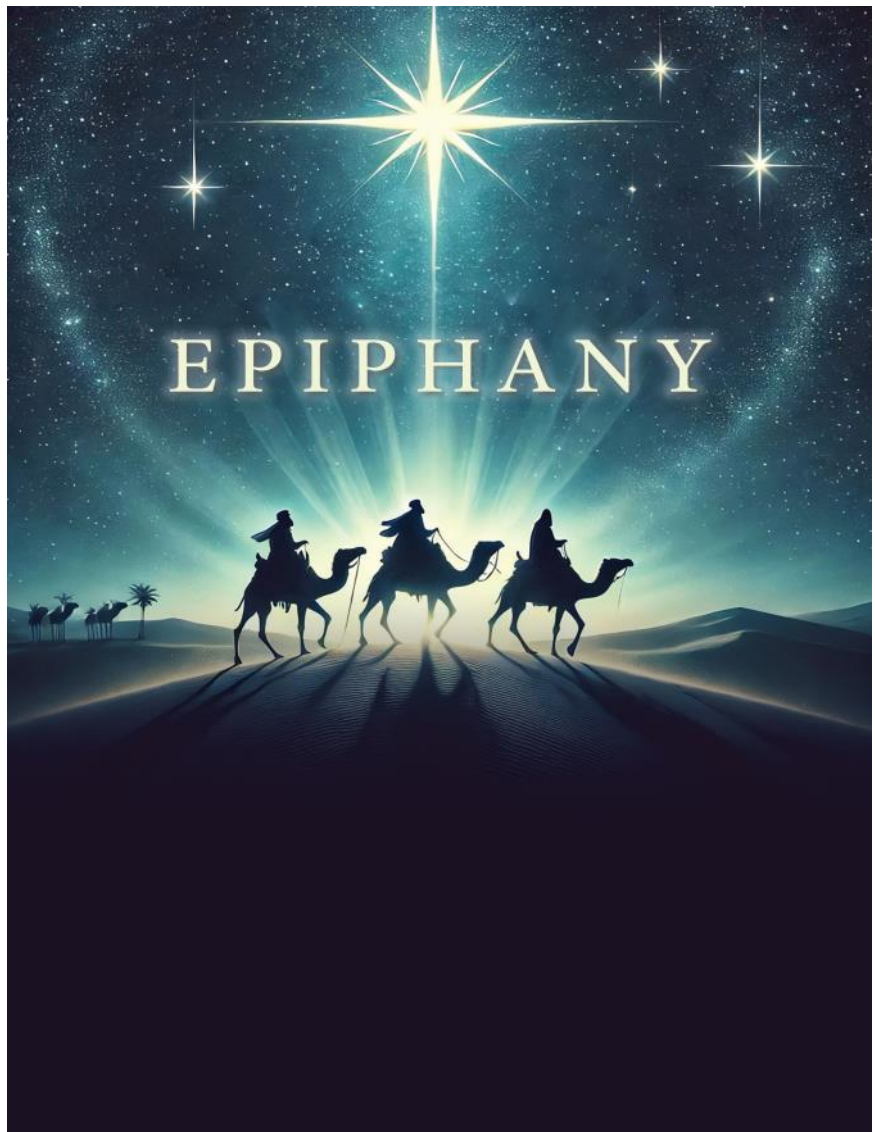
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

We're glad you are worshipping with us. A special welcome to our first time guests. We trust you will feel the presence of God among us and hope you will want to worship with us again soon. For any questions about becoming a part of the life and work of St. Matthew, please speak with one of the pastors. We think you'll find St. Matthew a friendly place to make your church home.

Our Mission

To build life-changing relationships with God, one another, and our community.



January 5, 2025



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

St. Matthew Happenings

SAVE THE DATE

St. Matthew in the mountains

April 11-13, 2025



*Kindness is
in your blood*

Blood Drive

St. Matthew United Methodist Church

Gym
701 Cleveland St
Greenville, SC 29601

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



PRESCHOOL ADMISSION

We will now offer a 3 and 5 day
a week option for the 2025/2026
school year.



**ENROLLMENT
STARTS THE END
OF JANUARY**



Email Christina Via
cvia@stmatthewumc.net





9:00 am Order of Worship

January 5, 2025

Announcements

Rev. Janice Hughey

Greeting Time

Opening Worship Songs

Prayers

To ensure your prayer requests are received accurately, please text joys or concerns to (864)643-9968

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.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

"Go and Search"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

Holy Communion

Closing Worship Song

Dismissal & Blessing

The Branch is a family-friendly service. Children's packets are available at the welcome table. All papers, stickers & pipe cleaners may be taken home. Please return the folders to the table at the end of the service. A nursery for infants-K4 is available starting at 8:45 am on Sunday mornings.

Offering boxes are on the welcome table.

11:00 am Order of Worship

*Congregation stands, as able

Prelude

“We Three Kings”

Paul Manz

Greetings & Announcements

Rev. Janice Hughey

***Passing of the Peace**

***Chiming of the Hour**

***Processional Hymn**

“The First Noel”

UMH 245

***Call to Worship**

Bartley Sides

Children of God, we enter the new year as we ended the last: gathered together for worship!

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

The prophet Isaiah calls to us from deep in the past: “Arise, shine; for your light has come.”

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

The magi followed a star to find a small child who is the Light of the world.

We gather to seek, find, and follow the Light.

So, let us receive the call of Isaiah and follow the example of the magi as we begin this new year turning our faces to God whose glory shows up among us as a vulnerable child, a poor carpenter, and a foot-washing servant who is the salvation of the world.

***Gloria Patri**

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 shall ever be,

world without end. Amen. Amen.

Children’s Moment

After the children’s moment, children ages K4-2nd grade may go to Children’s church. Younger children may be taken to the nursery.

Special Music

“Remember Me”

Chancel Choir

***Psalter**

Psalms 72:1-17

UMH 795

***Affirmation of Faith**

“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

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Text joys and concerns by 10:10 am (864) 643-9968

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

Rev. Kurt McPherson

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.

The Offering (other options to give: text the word GIVE to 864-659-1812, or online at StMatthewUMC.net)

Offertory

"He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising"

Paul Manz

*The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Preparation

"What Child Is This"

UMH 219

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Bartley Sides

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

"Go and Search"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

Observance of Holy Communion

UMH 12

*Closing Hymn

"We Three Kings"

UMH 254

*Benediction

* Postlude

"Fanfare Toccata on Dix"

David Lasky

The Worship is Over— Let the Service Begin!

Organist: Charlie Jones

Ushers: Anna Cobb, Mike Shull, Bartley Sides, Don Smith

Liturgist: Bartley Sides

Greeters: Aldersgate Class

Acolyte:

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

Visitors from the East

² Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men^[a] from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ² “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose,^[b] and we have come to worship him.”

³ King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. ⁴ He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶ ‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
are not least among the ruling cities^[c] of Judah,
for a ruler will come from you
who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’^[d]”

⁷ Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸ Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”

⁹ After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹ They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹² When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

St. Matthew Happenings

SAVE THE DATE

St. Matthew *in the mountains*

April 11-13, 2025



Walking Group

Looking to get some steps in? Join our walking group every Monday at 10 am. Meet us at the Cady Shelter as we walk the Swamp Rabbit Trail together.



PickleBall

ST. MATTHEW



Mondays from 1:15-3 pm

Wednesdays from 2-4 pm



Sign up to serve for Acolyte
And Crucifer

Church Calendar

Find the calendar link at the bottom of the homepage:
stmatthewumc.net

Weekly Email

Sign up for weekly updates to stay informed. (Call the church office to receive a paper copy.)
stmatthewumc.net

Giving

Set up one-time or automatic giving for your tithes and offerings:
stmatthewumc.net/give

Contact Us

St. Matthew UMC
701 Cleveland Street
Greenville, SC 29601
864-242-1966
stmatthewumc.net

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kurt McPherson
kmcpherson@stmatthewumc.net

Director of Christian Education

Rev. Janice Hughey
JHughey@stmatthewumc.net

Youth Directors

Jessica Young & Bridgette Bagwell
youth@stmatthewumc.net

Music Ministry Leader

Amy King
akingsings88@gmail.com

Church Office Administrator

Leah Einhorn
officeadmin@stmatthewumc.net

Find the full staff directory on our website at stmatthewumc.net/



[stmatthewumcgreenville](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewumcgreenville)



[stmatthewumc](https://www.instagram.com/stmatthewumc)

St. Matthew Happenings

SAVE THE DATES!

Red Cross Blood Drive– January 29
St. Matthew In The Mountains– April 11-13

PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Hilda Collier
- Pat Wood
- Lois Reid
- Bob Davis
- Carol Lauvray
- Maya Powers
- Susan White's father
- Prayers for our nation
- Prayers for unrest in the world