

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

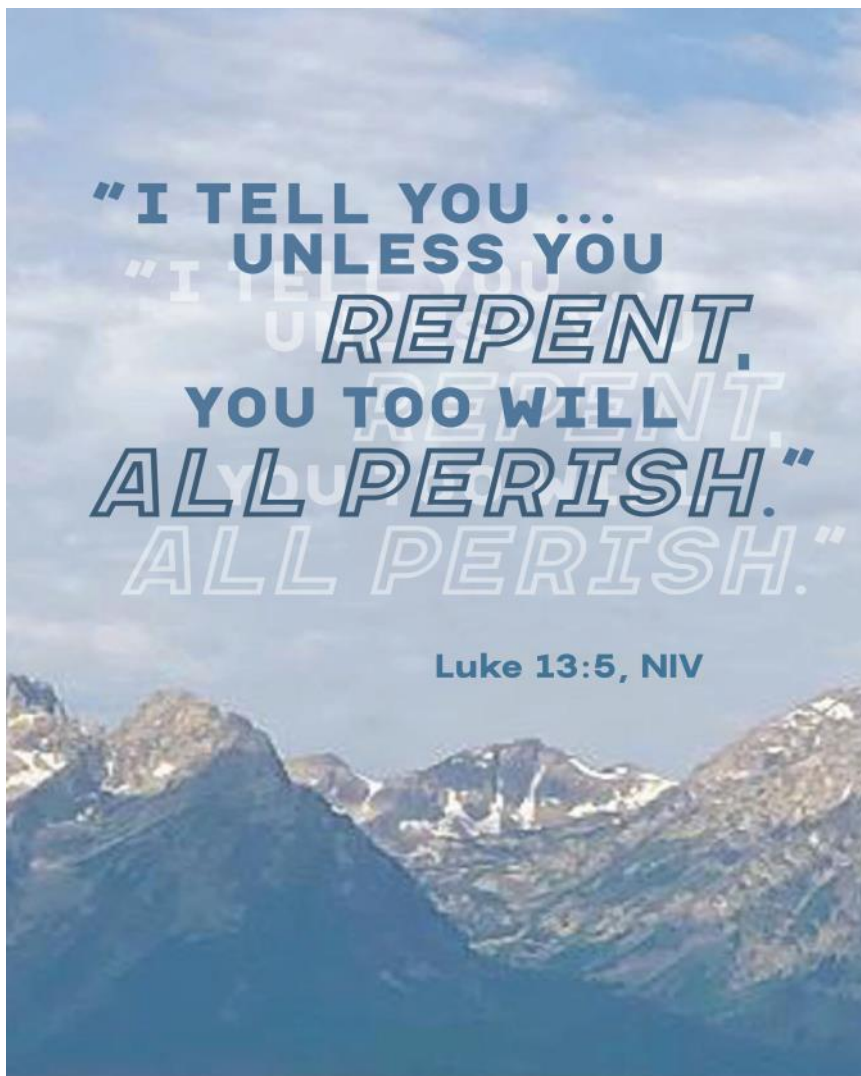
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

We're glad you are worshiping 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.



March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

St. Matthew Happenings



We are collecting filled eggs for our
St. Matthew Easter Egg Hunt.
Please drop off your prefilled eggs at the office
or in the Narthex anytime until April 16.
Thank you!



St. Matthew
in the mountains



Scan Me!



Sign up for St. Matthew in the Mountains have begun!

The event will be April 11-13. Scan the QR code to sign
up today!



Please join us as we serve meals Saturday March
29. Volunteers may show up at 11:20 am to begin
serving plates for some of Greenville's less
fortunate.



Women's
Bible
Study

Sowing Peace
Digging into Lenten Themes
of Lament, Repent & Forgive

Begins March 9 through April 13, 4-5 PM. in the Conference Room.

**Are you overwhelmed by what's happening in
the news, and you're not sure what to do?**

Join us for our Lenten series, **Sowing Peace: Digging
into Lenten Themes of Lament, Repent, and Forgive**,
which will create a space to process our fear, sadness,
and anger, as well as guide us in discerning how to
respond to the injustices we're seeing.

Facilitated by Janice Hughey, Susan White, Judi Misner
and Donna Brown.



9:00 am Order of Worship

March 23, 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

Luke 13:1-9

Sermon

"More Sinful"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

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

“God So Loved the World”

Stainer/Whitworth

Greetings & Announcements

Rev. Janice Hughey

***Passing of the Peace**

***Chiming of the Hour**

***Processional Hymn**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

UMH 127

***Call to Worship**

Bartley Sides

Children of God, what has God done for you?

God saves, provides, and holds us in God’s steadfast love.

Consider and remember: in the joyful times and in the sorrowful times, what has God done for you?

God covers us and lifts us up, protecting and empowering us with steadfast love.

When you have been like the fig tree in Jesus’ story that seems unable to produce and that everyone has given up on, what has God done for you?

God tends the soil and waters the ground, nurturing us into life with steadfast love.

Children of God, come, let us worship God who never gives up on us!

We come to worship and cling to God, for God’s steadfast love never fails!

***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

Rev. Janice Hughey

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

“How Great Thou Art”

Jody Webb

***Psalter**

Psalms 63

UMH 788

***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

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 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” David Cherwien

***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** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ” UMH 381

Scripture Reading Luke 13:1-9 Bartley Sides

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon “More Sinful” Rev. Kurt McPherson

***Closing Hymn** “Just as I Am, Without One Plea” UMH 357

***Benediction**

*** Postlude** “Preamble” Girolamo Fescobaldi

The Worship is Over— Let the Service Begin!

- Organist: Charlie Jones
- Ushers: Jake Fine, Lee Geddie, Jason Lynch,
- Liturgist: Bartley Sides
- Marc Murphy
- Acolyte: Lowry & Emery Sides
- Greeters: Faithful Followers Sunday School Class
- Crucifer:

Scripture

Luke 13:1-9

13 There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had ^[a]mingled with their sacrifices. ² And Jesus answered and said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all *other* Galileans, because they suffered such things? ³ I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all *other* men who dwelt in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

⁶ He also spoke this parable: "A certain *man* had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it ^[b]use up the ground?' ⁸ But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize *it*. ⁹ ^[c]*And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.*' "

St. Matthew Happenings



Sign up and help with current acolyte and crucifer openings .

PickleBall

ST. MATTHEW

COME JOIN US FOR PICKLEBALL!

Pickleball group meets in the gym every
Monday from 1:15pm—3pm

And Wednesdays from 2pm—4pm




**PRESCHOOL
ADMISSION**

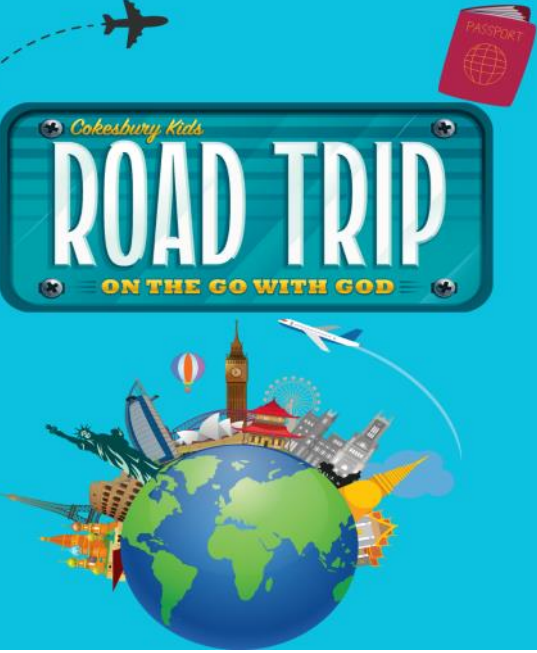
We will now offer a 3 and 5 day a week option for the 2025/2026 school year.

**ENROLL
NOW**

Email Christina Via
cvia@stmatthewumc.net



ROAD TRIP
ON THE GO WITH GOD



Save the date! VBS will be June 23-26

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!

Women's Lenten Bible Study—

Sundays through April 13

5th Saturday meal at Triune Mercy Center—
March 29

Oyster Roast— March 29

St. Matthew In The Mountains — April 11-13

Vacation Bible School— June 23-26

PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Pat Wood
- Larry Carter, Don & Beth Shoemaker's son-in-law
- Jody Webb's father
- Ethel Sherrill
- Amy King
- Eric Mitchell's father
- Paul Thorn's mother
- Nancy Field
- Lois Reid
- Bob Davis
- Prayers for our nation
- Prayers for unrest in the world