

9:00am–9:45am

The Branch Worship
in the Family Life Center

10:00am–10:45am

Sunday School for all

11:00am–12:00pm

Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

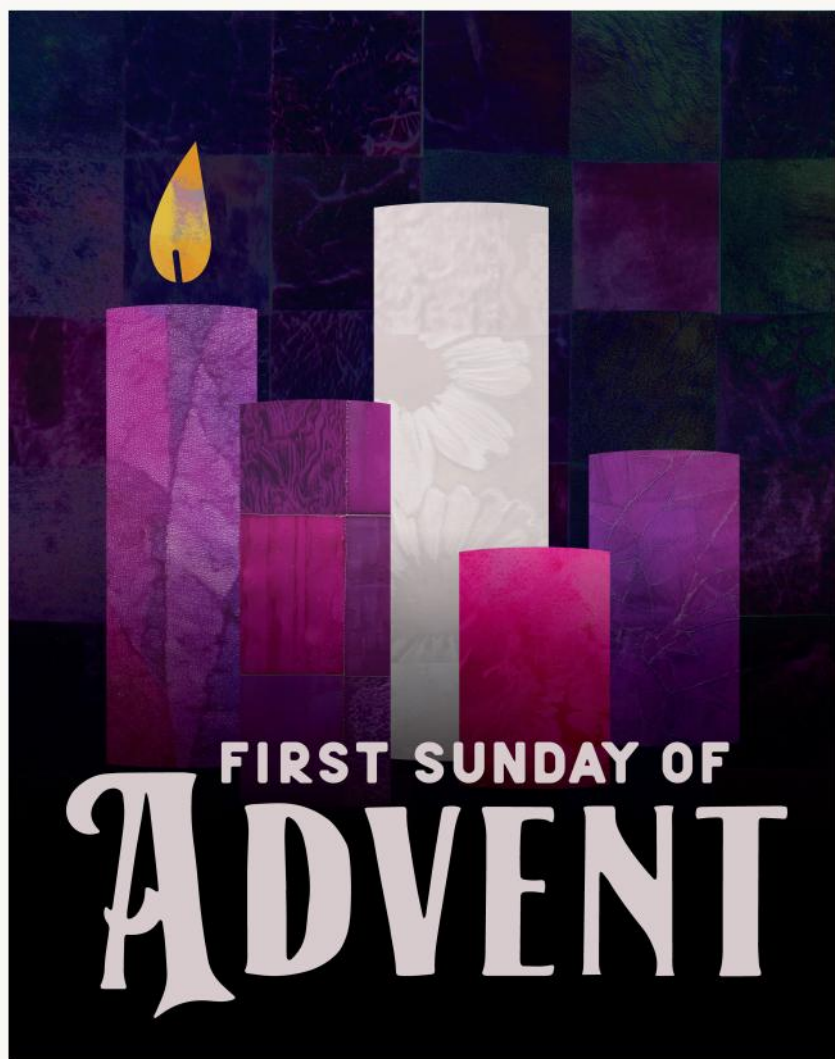
We're glad you are
worshiping with us, and a
special welcome to our
guests.

We trust you will feel the
presence of God among
us and hope you will want
to worship with us again.

For any questions about
becoming a part of the
life of St. Matthew UMC,
please speak with our
pastor or ministry staff.
We believe you will find
St. Matthew a wonderful
place to call your church
home.

Our Mission

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



November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

St. Matthew Happenings



Advent Study
Sundays @ 6pm | Wednesdays @ 10am

Amid the holiday hustle, what does your heart truly long for? In "What Do You Want For Christmas? (2nd Edition), Rev. James W. Moore guides you through an enriching study focused on the gifts Christ brings into our lives.

This four-week Advent Study led by Pastor Kurt will meet in the Conference Room beginning this week - *no book required!*

WOW!



A Christmas Nativity

Children's Pageant

December 7 at 10:15am (Sanctuary)
light refreshments to follow



A Christmas LOVE OFFERING for Our Staff

SPRC is collecting a Love Offering to give as Christmas bonuses to our wonderful staff. Please consider donating to help show our staff how much we love them at Christmas and the whole year through.

Please mark your donation as "love offering" and send to the office or place in the offering plate. Deadline for contributions is December 14. Thank you!



Christmas Cantata

December 14 | 11am | Sanctuary



Join us during Traditional Worship as our chancel choir, guest musicians, and narrators present *Night of Wonder, Night of Joy!* This special worship service celebrates the wondrous miracles surrounding the birth of our Savior.

Invite family and friends to enjoy this beautiful music that is certain to fill the hearts of all believers with a sense of wonder and joy in God's presence this Christmas season.



9:00am Order of Worship

November 30, 2025

Announcements

Greeting Time

Opening Worship Songs

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Clemmons Family

Prayer

Please text prayers and praises by 9:10am to (864) 643-9968

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

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 24:36-44

Sermon

"The Coming Days"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

Closing Worship Song

Dismissal & Blessing

The Branch is a family-friendly service. Children's worship packets are available at the welcome table. Please return folders to the table at the end of the service.

A nursery for newborns through 24 months and preschool class for ages 2 through K4 is available starting at 8:45am on the first floor of the Education Building.

Offering boxes are on the Welcome Table.

11:00 am Order of Worship

*Congregation stands, as able

Prelude

"Gabriel's Message"

Paul Manz

Greetings & Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

*Chiming of the Hour

*Processional Hymn

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

UMH 213

*Call to Worship

Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

that the King of glory may come in.

*Gloria Patri (*Unison*)

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.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Carrington Family

Children's Moment

After, children ages K4-5th may go to Children's Church. Younger children may be taken to nursery or preschool.

Special Music

"Carol for Advent"

Chancel Choir

*Psalter

Psalms 14

UMH 746

*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*) "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

Please text joys and concerns by 11:10am to (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

You may give your offering in one of three ways: place check or cash in the offering plate, text the word "GIVE" to 864-659-1812, or give online at stmatthewumc.net

Offertory

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

John Ferguson

*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

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

UMH 206

Scripture Reading

Matthew 24:36-44

Lindsay Carrington

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"The Coming Days"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

*Closing Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

UMH 211

*Benediction

* Postlude

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Franklin Ashdown

The Worship is Over– Let the Service Begin!

Liturgist: Lindsay Carrington

Ushers: Tom Anderson, Jason Cormey, Jason
Lynch, Tom McIntyre

Scripture

Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶ "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, ^[a] but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day ^[b] your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

St. Matthew Happenings

CAROLS *on cleveland*

DECEMBER 17 | 6-7 PM

an evening of carols, cookies, crafts,
& hot cocoa on our front lawn

all are welcome!



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

701 Cleveland St., Greenville, SC 29601
stmattthewumc.net

bring a coat
to donate to
Safe Harbor
& be entered
to win a raffle
prize!

Blue Christmas

December 21 | 5pm | Sanctuary

The beauty of the Christmas season sometimes reminds us of the people we have lost or the losses we have suffered.

Blue Christmas is a gentle, reflective service for anyone carrying grief, stress, or heaviness with them this Christmas season.

get involved!

VOLUNTEER

bake cookies, greet visitors, help with crafts, bring a fire pit or tent, setup or cleanup, donate a coat



SPREAD THE WORD

carols on cleveland is a free community event - invite your friends, neighbors, and coworkers!

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service | 5pm

Reception to follow. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share and enjoy the holiday cheer!

Contact Us

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

Stay In Touch

Find the calendar link at the bottom of our website homepage.

Sign up for our weekly e-blast for the latest updates. Call the office to receive a paper copy.

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kurt McPherson
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St. Matthew Happenings

Walking Group - Mondays @ 10am

Pickleball - Mondays @ 1-3pm & Wednesdays @ 2-4pm

Women's Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 5:45pm

Advent Study - Sundays @ 6pm

& Wednesdays @ 10 am

Children's Christmas Pageant - December 7

Christmas Cantata - December 14 @11am

Carols on Cleveland - December 17

Blue Christmas Service - December 21 @ 5pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Reception -
December 24 @ 5pm

Combined Worship - December 28 @ 5pm

Prayer & Praise

Pat Wood

Ethel Sherrill

Stacey Thomas

Bob Davis

Steve Quam

Sue Dempsey

Doyle Yates

Nancy Leach

Don Shoemaker

Ann Cunningham, Ellen

Jordan's sister

Sue Edmonds

Elinor DeYoung

Ann Osborne

Lois Reid

Hall Turner, Sarah Smith's
brother

Kim Geddie

Amy King's mom