

9:00am-9:45am

The Branch Contemporary
Worship in the Family Life
Center (Gym)

10:00am-10:45am

Sunday School for All

11:00am-12:00pm

Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

We are so 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.



April 26, 2026
Youth Sunday



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church



Blessing of the Animals

May 3 | 2-3pm | Front Lawn
Animals of all kinds welcome!



mission opportunity

Help us provide lunch for 50 youth and staff at Greenville Juvenile Detention Center (GJDC) on Friday, May 8 from 10:30am-12:30pm.

Food will need to be delivered to Betsy Boaze by 9:30am or to GJDC at 10:30am on May 8. Anything not requiring refrigeration can be delivered to the church office by 3:30pm on May 7.



Sign up to donate food!



Faith & Immigration Justice

"What We Learned"
Scripture & Facts from Small Group Participants

Due to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), all refugees, who by definition were legally admitted into the US, were rendered ineligible for SNAP benefits.
– Church World Service

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." – Matthew 25:35

Shared by Blake Brookshire

Questions? Want to learn more or join our fall study? Reach out to Beckie Cormey, Church & Society Chair.



Recognizing food as a constant need, our recent Faith & Immigration Justice small group sought organizations serving the migrant community directly – leading us to support Loaves & Fishes Global Food Drive. Thank you so much to everyone who donated!



9:00am Order of Worship

**Congregation stands, as able*

Announcements

Noah Clemmons

***Greeting**

***Opening Worship Songs**

Band & Holden Lee

Prayer

Andrew Clemmons

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 6:1-4 & 22:34-40

Noah Clemmons

Sermon

"Why I Am a Christian"

Hamilton Shew

***Closing Worship Song**

***Blessing**

Andrew Clemmons

*Children's worship packets and offering boxes can be found on the welcome table.
Please return worship packets at the end of the service.*

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

11:00am Order of Worship

**Congregation stands, as able*

Prelude "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" J. Wayne Kerr

Announcements & *Passing of the Peace Carley Fine

***Chiming of the Hour**

***Processional Hymn** "For the Beauty of the Earth" UMH 92

***Call to Worship**

Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the cadence of the Shepherd's voice.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.

We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice. Amen.

***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 ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Children's Moment Lowry Sides

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

Special Music "How Great Thou Art" Cate Cormey, Charlotte Shew, Lowry Sides

***Psalter** Psalm 42 UMH 777

***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 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.

Prayer

Charlotte Shew

Please text prayers and praises by 11:10am 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.

Offering

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

Offertory

"A Quiet Moment"

Gilbert Martin

*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

"He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought"

UMH 128

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:1-4 & 22:34-40

Tyson Fine

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Why I Am a Christian"

Hamilton Shew

*Closing Hymn

"Lord of the Dance"

UMH 261

*Benediction

Jacob Powers

*Postlude

"Toccatà on Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

J. Wayne Kerr

Assistive listening devices are available for anyone who may benefit from hearing assistance during the service. Please see an Usher in the Narthex to receive one.

Acolytes: Marie Brookshire, Cate Cormey **Crucifer:** Adam Brookshire

Ushers: Chase Fine, Bennett Lynch, Charlie & John Webb

Greeters: Frances Carrington, Grayson Thomas **Sound:** Ben Cormey

Scripture

Matthew 6:1-4 & 22:34-40

Matthew 6:1-4

“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

A Note of Thanks

On this special Youth Sunday I want to thank you, our congregation, for giving our youth the opportunity to lead worship. As you will see today, St. Matthew is truly blessed with an incredible group of young people. They are kind, thoughtful, hardworking, and full of life, and they continually show us what faith looks like in action. I am so proud of them.

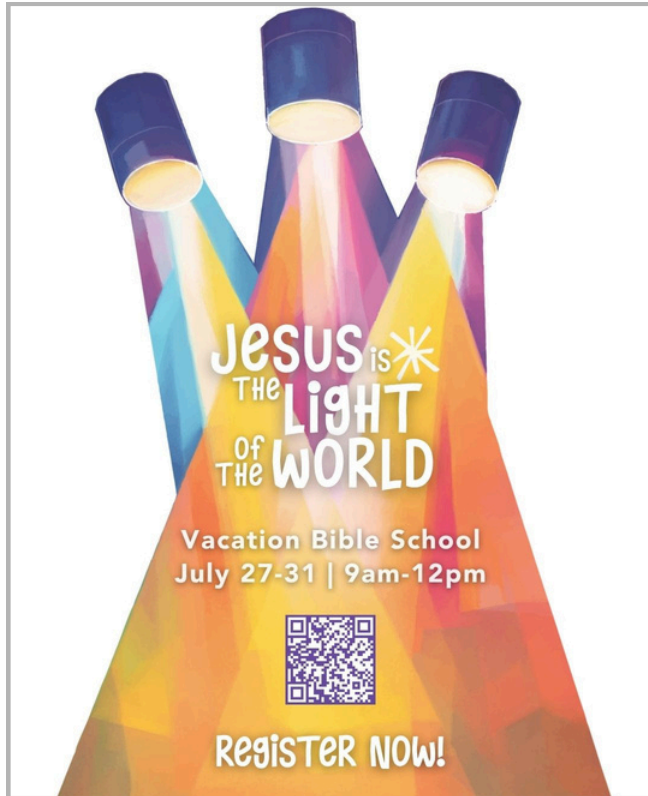
Watching our youth grow, serve, and step into leadership fills me with so much hope. They are bright and beautiful lights in our sometimes dark and uncertain world, and it is an honor to walk alongside them as they discover who God is calling them to be. Our future is bright with them.


Thank you for the unwavering love, encouragement, and support you show our youth and our youth ministry. It means more than you know, to me and to them.

*Gratefully,
Jessica Young*



Acolyte & Crucifer



JESUS is 
THE LIGHT
of THE WORLD

Vacation Bible School
July 27-31 | 9am-12pm



REGISTER NOW!



Enroll NOW for 2026-2027!

Spots still available in 2K & 3K classes! 4K is on a waitlist.



Summer Worship

**One Combined Service
10am in the Sanctuary
May 24 - August 2**

Our summer combined services will intentionally weave together the unique elements of The Branch and Traditional Worship. Whether you prefer the stir of contemporary praise or the grounding beauty of liturgy and hymns, you'll find a home in this unified hour of worship.

Join us as we celebrate our shared faith and enjoy being together all summer long!



St. Matthew Happenings

Contact Us

St. Matthew UMC
701 Cleveland Street
Greenville, SC 29601
864-424-1966
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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Director of Children and Church Ministries

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Director of Youth and Church Ministries

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Organist

Charlie Jones
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Office Administrator

Leah Einhorn
officeadmin@stmatthewumc.net

 stmatthewumcgreenville

 stmatthewumc

Walking Group – 10am Mondays

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

Faith & Florals – Today

United Ministries Luncheon – April 29

Blessing of the Animals – May 3

GJDC Lunch – May 8

Confirmation & Graduation Sunday – May 10

Meanderers Lunch – May 21

Summer Combined Worship – May 24 through August 2

Salkehatchie Summer Service – June & July

VBS – July 27-31

Prayers & Praises

Don and Beth Shoemaker's
daughter-in-law, Nha

Quam Family

Tom McIntyre

Carol Lauvray

Sarah Jane Tollison's mom, Jane

Don Cochran

Ann Osborne

Brian & Nancy Leach

Sue Edmonds

Ethel Sherrill

Elinor DeYoung

Bob Davis