

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025

5:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service

The paraments are white, symbolizing the birth of the Christ child.

**Please stand as you are able.*

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

***GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER** Scott Rankin

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

People: Rejoice! Emmanuel has come!

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world the light of your Son. Let the star of your hope touch the minds of all people with the bright beams of mercy and truth, and so direct our steps that we may ever walk in the way revealed to us, as the shepherds of Bethlehem walked with joy to the manger where he dwelled, who now and ever reigns in our hearts, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

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.**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Cokley Family

Leader: Tonight, we gather to remember with the prophet Isaiah: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this (Isaiah 9:6-7).

All: We gather to once again bask in the glory that visited a stable and a manger, shepherds watching their flocks, and a young couple cradling the newborn Messiah.

Leader: We light the Christ candle as a sign of the glory that came among us in unexpected places and to unexpected people, that we may be people who seek and follow the glory of the Christ child here and now.

SUNG RESPONSE 246 (v. 1) Joy to the World ANTIOCH

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Lord's Prayer (UMH 895): **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

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 251 (refrain) Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bishop Gary Rivas

*HYMN 238

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Scott Rankin

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1–7

Scott Rankin

SERMON

“The Birth of Jesus”

Bishop Gary Rivas

*CANDLELIGHT HYMN 239

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Bishop Gary Rivas

POSTLUDE

Silent Night
Patty Bellus, organ

Franz Grüber
arr. Joyce Jones

Acolytes: Will Haunert & William Horton

Lay Reader: Scott Rankin

Ushers: Ed Garrison, Coke Goodwin, Hank Green, Shannon West, Leon Willson, Greg Younghans

In Our Prayers

Members: Margaret Childs, Mary Clark, Charlotte Evans, Becky Ferguson, Julia Halford, Linda King, Alice Pierce, Paulette Player, Joanne Poe, Judy Smith, Vi Smith, David & Jane Weaver

Military: Hunter Bass, Noah Cheek, Salamnesh Kolb, Ben Watson, Zack Watson, Michael Williams, Tanner Willson

Others: Pete Abene, Jim Anderson, Steve Bradley, Johnny Chavis, Kayela Corbett, Joe Creel, Logan Hunter, Emma Kershaw, **Anna Young Laye**, Jane Moffett, Linda Cooper Mundy, Lisa Osten, Stephen Poe, Liz Smith, Valerie Wagner

This Week's Meetings & Events

LSUMC Walkers (M–F): 7–9:30 a.m. & 4–6:00 p.m.

Wed 12/24 10:00 a.m. Family Nativity Service (FLC)

12:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

5:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight (Sanctuary)

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight (Gym)

Thu 12/25 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service (Sanctuary)

Sun 12/28 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship (Sanctuary)

12/22–1/2 Church Office & LLP closed

Ways to give

Offering: Contribute during worship.

Text to Give: (803) 274-5588 > Text Amount

Online: lsumc.net > Online Giving > Donate

Mobile Giving: Through the **Shelby Next** mobile app

Mail In: Send your tithe/donation to the church office.

RMD (Req. Min. Distribution): Speak to your broker.

Scan to give



LYTTLETON STREET
— UMC —

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (livestream on Facebook & YouTube)
(radio broadcast from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on 102.7 FM WPUB)

11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship (livestream on Facebook & YouTube)
Bishop Gary Rivas, Senior Pastor glrivas@umcsc.org