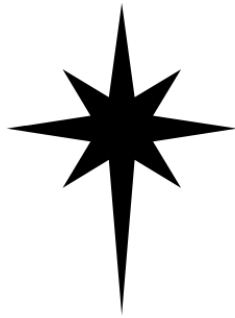


Duncan Memorial Methodist Church



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025

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+Congregation standing, if able. Congregation responses in **BOLD**.

We are so glad that you are with us this evening to celebrate the birth of a King, our savior, Jesus Christ! This service is open to children of all ages. Our nursery is unstaffed this evening, however if needed, you can find it in the hallway through the doors behind the organ and piano.

GATHERING

Quiet conversation among congregants is encouraged.

PRELUDE

Please observe a moment of prayerful silence as we enter our worship time.

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Rev. Ragsdale

OPENING PRAYER

KassiJo Lloyd

Leader: Lord, open our minds and hearts.

Congregation: Open our minds and hearts by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may hear and rejoice in the gospel of our Savior's birth, told in story and song this night.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-5

Katie Damon

HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie:
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:6-7

Rev. Ragsdale

HYMN

“Away In A Manger”

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-16

KassiJo Lloyd

HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:17-20

Katie Damon

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Holy Night”

Kevin Jayroe

COMMUNION

Rev. Ragsdale

Communion will be shared by intinction, which means you will receive a piece of bread and gently dip it into the cup before partaking. Ushers will guide worshippers to the altar at the proper time. Please let your usher know if you would like to be served at your seat.

We will sing “Silent Night” softly during Communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Silent Night”

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Repeat as needed.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Leader: Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

The Whole Congregation: We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ, our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.

KassiJo Lloyd: Rejoice, a Savior is born.

The Whole Congregation: A savior is born, indeed. Joy to the world!

HYMN

“Joy To The World”

Joy to the world; the Lord is come!
Let Earth receive her King;
Let every heart pre-pare him room,
And heaven and nature sing.
And heaven and nature sing.
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.
Far as the curse is found.
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love.
And wonders of his love.
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaiah 9: 2 - 7

² 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.

³ You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

Duncan Memorial Methodist Church
901 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, South Carolina 29440
843.546.5647
www.duncanmemorialchurch.com