

Prelude “Fantasia on TRURO” arr. Roger C. Wilson

Welcome and Announcements Rev. H. Neely Gaston, DD

Lighting the Advent Wreath: The Candle of Joy Rob, Katherine, Natalie, Isabel, and Daniel Dodson

*Trinity Hymnal, 198 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” TRURO

*Invocation

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Trinity Hymnal, 211 “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen” (v. 1, 2) GOD REST YOU MERRY

Psalter Reading Psalm 24 (Trinity Hymnal, page 791-792)

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 Ghost, bom of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; and the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Gloria Patri “Glory Be to the Father” [TH 734] MEINEKE

Children’s Sermon

Prayer Song “Away in a Manger” (v. 3) [All sing once.] CRADLE SONG
*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.*

Silent Prayer

Prayer

Offertory “Gabriel’s Message” arr. Paul Manz
This old Basque carol recalls the Gabriel’s visit to Mary as we read in our scripture today.

*Doxology “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” [TH 731] OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer

Scripture Luke 1:26-38 ESV
²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born^[d] will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

Sermon “The Son of the Most High

Prayer

*Trinity Hymnal, 193 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (v. 1, 2) PICARDY

*Prayer

*Benediction

*Postlude “O, How Joyful” (“O Sanctissima”) arr. Benton Price

Announcements December 14, 2025

What a joy it was to see our children shine in the Christmas Pageant! Thanks to everyone who played a part in bringing this precious story to life. Your willingness to serve and share your gifts made the performance beautiful and heartwarming. Your dedication and hard work shone brightly, bringing the true meaning of Christmas to life. We are so blessed!

Caroling is planned for Sunday, December 21, 2025, at 4:00PM. Dress appropriately for the weather and bring a flashlight as it gets dark quickly. In the case of inclement weather, we will cancel, BUT, the fellowship planned for afterwards will still take place. Plan to join us for a grand time of singing and fellowship together.

Deacons meet today following worship.

The Session meets next Sunday.

Our Women’s Ministry will not meet this month.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 17

6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 21 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

10:00 a.m. – Child/Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Session meets

4:00 – Caroling followed by fellowship

Wednesday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service with Communion

Cookies and Cocoa following our service

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

Sunday, December 28

10:00 a.m. – Child/Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. – Worship

Monday, December 29

Submit Newsletter Information to Nancy

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

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| December 15 – Katherine Dodson | December 29 – Rob & Katherine Dodson |
| December 18 – Ginger Sharpe | December 29 – Jaxston Ferguson |
| December 18 – Kyla Standfield | December 30 – Stephanie Broom |
| December 21 – Tom Morgan | December 31 – Tony & Janet Bradley |
| December 29 – Josh Burch | |

UNION ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Richburg, South Carolina
Est. 1795



The Third Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship
Sunday, December 14, 2025



Welcome in the name of Christ to all who gather for worship at Union Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. As you join us for worship, we hope that you will sense God’s presence, be caught up in joyful praise, be challenged by God’s Word, and leave strengthened to live for Christ in the world. If you do not have a church home in this community, we encourage you to consider uniting with us in our work and worship.