

We welcome you to worship the Living and Triune God. Jesus Christ is alive and with us in the power of the Holy Spirit. To schedule an appointment or become a member, speak to Pastor Phil. Prayer and counsel are available after the service. Silence your phones and give yourself to the holy work of worship! You are called to be a follower of the Lord, a member of his people, and a participant in his mission. It's our business as we serve the world from the center of Greenwood, SC. Open your heart to the Holy Spirit.

**Sunday, December 23, 2012**

**Our website is [www.msumc1.org](http://www.msumc1.org)**

**Our Christmas Eve Service Is Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 6:00pm**

# THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00 am

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Color: Purple

\*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

Large print hymnals, bulletins, and hearing devices are available from the ushers.

**"As Christians we delight in the unlikely and hidden ways the Lord gets work done!"**

## ENTRANCE

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

Pray as You Enter; Assume Silence at the Chiming

**TRINITY CHIME**

Schuyler McGinnis

**PRELUDE**

*Lift Up Your Heads (A. Guilmont)* Joyce Nickles: Organist

**WELCOME AND SILENCE**

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Christ Beside Me*

*Tune of Morning Has Broken*

**Christ beside me, Christ before me,**

**Christ behind me, King of my heart;**

**Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me, never to part.**

**Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,**

**Christ all around me, shield in the strife;**

**Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, light of my life.**

**\*GREETING**

Trinitarian Greeting, Zechariah 2:10-13

As the friends of God, let us bless the Lord.

Blessed be God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The prophet Zechariah wrote, "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion; for lo, I come and I will dwell in the midst of you says the Lord.

**And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day,**

**and shall be my people; and I will dwell in the midst of you,**

**and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you.**

And the Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land,

**and will again choose Jerusalem.**

Be silent all flesh, before the Lord;

**for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling."**

**\*PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 220**

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

(Crucifer: Wylan Radcliffe; Acolytes: Madaline Radcliffe, Bennett Charles; Banner: Scurry Charles)

**\*COMMON PRAYER OF PRAISE AND PETITION**

Based on Luke 1:39-56

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

**Holy and Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,  
you are not impressed with the pretensions of our world,  
and you delight to use the humble and ignored to carry out your plans.  
Your patience is stronger than all our hurried dreams.  
You change the earth by bringing forth faithful witnesses and martyrs.  
We thank you for the prophet John and his faithful mother Elizabeth,  
and for our Lord Jesus and his adventuresome mother Mary,  
who quickly obeyed your Word and boldly declared your justice.  
Send upon us now the same Holy Spirit that illumined these holy women  
and stirred their sons even in the womb,  
that as the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed  
we may see your world and ourselves through new eyes,  
eyes that do not look down on others but up to you in awe and reverence.  
And when your good kingdom comes in glory to set all things right again,  
may we be not found among those who are crushed in judgment  
but among those who have lived in love and obedience and service.  
Save us, O Lord, from missing your call in the lives of the poor and lonely.  
Amen. (Silence is kept for prayer.)**

**\*ACT OF PRAISE, NO. 80**

*Canticle of the Holy Trinity*

**WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS  
ON THE WITNESS STAND**

*The Alpha Course*

Debbie Tharpe

**PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE**

**THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Isaiah 9:6-7*

Allie and Glenn Williams

We light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace.  
May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God,  
make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel!**

\*Hymn, No. 211      *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Stanza 4 Only

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kathy Kelly: Program Coordinator

**ANTHEM**     *The Canticle of the Turning (arr. H. Hopson)*     Chancel Choir Women  
Larry Moore: Director

**SERMON LESSON**     *The Meeting of Two Prophetic Women*     Luke 1:39-56  
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**     *An Unlikely Revolution*     Phil Thraikill: Pastor

How am I hiding and insulating myself from the demands of a loving and just God?  
Where am I called to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all their forms?

## RESPONSES TO THE WORD

**\*HYMN ON SOCIAL HOLINESS, NO. 439**     *We Utter Our Cry*

**\*A COMPANION LITANY TO OUR SOCIAL CREED**     Back of Scripture Sheet

**INVITATION, OFFERTORY**     *Christmas Lullaby (John Rutter)*     Chancel Choir  
Larry Moore: Director

**\*DOXOLOGY, NO. 238**     *Angels We Have Heard on High*     Refrain Only

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*CONFESSING THE FAITH**     *The Nicene Creed*     *Hymnal: 880*  
(With the exception of the phrase "and from the Son" (Lt. *filioque*) on which the Eastern and Western churches disagree, this is the church's official statement of its convictions.)

## SENDING FORTH

**\*HYMN, No. 240**     *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

**\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**     Phil Thraikill: Pastor

**\*SUNG RESPONSE, NO. 666**     *Shalom to You*

**\*POSTLUDE, TIME TO GREET A VISITOR!**     Joyce Nickles: Organist