

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.

Monday, December 24, 2012
Our website is www.msumc1.org

A WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

6:00pm

The Nativity of the Lord

Color: White

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

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

"We believe and confess that God the Son truly assumed full humanity in Jesus Christ."

ENTRANCE

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Pray as You Enter; Assume Silence at the Chiming

TRINITY CHIME

PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze (Bach)

Joyce Nickles: Organ, Rhonda McGinnis: Flute

WELCOME AND SILENCE

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

***GREETING**

Trinitarian Greeting, Luke 2:11-12

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.

"Be not afraid," said the angel to the shepherds,
for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy
which will come to all the people;

**for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is Christ the Lord."**

***PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 238**

Angels We Have Heard on High

(Crucifer: Schuyler McGinnis; Acolytes: Olivia Rowland, Libby Hartung; Banner: Joe Hartung)

***BIDDING PRAYER AND COMMON PRAYER**

The U.M. Book of Worship: 285

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

**Send, O God, into the darkness of this troubled world,
the light of your Son.**

**Let the star of hope touch the minds of all people
with the bright beams of mercy and truth.**

**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 of Christ Jesus,
who now reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE ADVENT WREATH

Susan, Richard, Joy, Ryan, Kimberly, Benjamin Pinckney

Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

We stand tonight on the verge of another Christmas day
and the remembrance of our Savior's birth as a helpless newborn.
And so we shall until he comes again, not in weakness but in glory.

Thanks be to God for his appearing. Amen.

ANTHEM

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella (arr. Robert Hobby) Chancel Choir

Larry Moore: Director

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

OLD TESTAMENT

The Serpent's Head Shall Be Bruised

Genesis 3:8-15

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(Bayard Lindell: Lay Reader)

***PSALM 96**

O Sing To The Lord A New Song

Hymnal: 815-816

ANTHEM

O Holy Night

Granger & Mary Lyle Smith

SERMON LESSON

The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1-21

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Finding Your Place

Phil Thraillkill: Pastor

RESPONSES AND OFFERINGS

***HYMN, No. 230**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

INVITATION TO A CHRISTMAS EVE MISSIONS OFFERING

OFFERTORY *All My Heart Again Rejoices (arr. D. Lasky)* Chancel Choir

Larry Moore: Director

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

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, LORD'S PRAYER** Musical Setting B: 18-20

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.

***HOLY COMMUNION** In four actions Jesus took, blessed, broke, and gave
(Karl & Debbie Kelly, Richard & Susan Pinckney, Glenn & Allie Williams, Marilyn Murphy & Mary Lynn Polk)

Carols sung by all during communion: *Hymnal 250, 229, 240, 245*

CANDLE LIGHTING

DARKENING THE CHURCH, LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE Phil Thraikill: Pastor

HYMN AS THE LIGHT SPREADS, No. 239 *Silent Night*

***LITANY OF THE LIGHT** Romans 13:12, I Corinthians 4:6, I Peter 2:9

Let us cast off the works of darkness,

and let us put on the armor of light.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of the darkness,

has shined in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

That we should show forth the praises of Him,

who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.

***HYMN, No. 246** *Joy to the World* (Stanzas 1, 4 Only)

(Lift your candles on stanza 4 and ring your bell as a sign of your intention to carry Christ's light into 2013.)

SENDING FORTH

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Phil Thraikill: Pastor
Joyce Nickles: Organist