

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 2, 2012**

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

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual *Hanging of the Greens* Service is tonight at 6:30pm**

# THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00 am

1<sup>st</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.

**"Advent is a four Sunday countdown to Christmas. Be prepared for Christ's arrival!"**

## ENTRANCE

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

Pray as You Enter; Assume Silence at the Chiming

**TRINITY CHIME**

Schuyler McGinnis

**PRELUDE**

*Veni Emmanuel*

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, Philippians 4:4-5

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.**

"Rejoice in the Lord always;

**again I will say, Rejoice.**

Let all know your forbearance.

**The Lord is at hand."**

**\*PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 213**

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Crucifer: MaryAshlynn Perkey,

Acolytes: Drew Hinton, Sam Crooks, Advent Banner: Herin Warner

**\*COMMON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Based on Luke 1:1-4

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.  
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father:**

**In your great providence, you arranged for us to hear the great news  
that you had come in person to defeat evil and death,  
to heal the ancient curses of sickness and sin,  
and to open the riches of your kingdom to all peoples of the earth.**

**For those who knew Jesus face to face,**

**and for the apostles and preachers who told and retold the events,  
we thank and honor you for preserving the story of salvation.**

**We especially thank you for St. Luke the physician and gospel writer,  
whose careful study gave us the most beautiful history ever written.**

**Forgive us for paying so little attention to the words and deeds of our Savior.**

**Send your Holy Spirit upon us today,**

**that as the Book is opened for preaching and the Table set for communion,  
our hearts and minds may burn with love for you and one another.**

**And if you are looking for a people in need of help, do not pass us by.**

**Amen.** (All pray in silence. Pardon is announced.)

**\*ACT OF PRAISE, NO. 70**

*Glory Be to the Father*

**WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS**

**PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE**

**ADVENT WREATH**

*Isaiah 60:2-3*

*The Hamp Warner family*

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from  
God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

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

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

Stanza 1 Only

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Shell Dula, Extended session: Zella Moore

**ANTHEM**

*A Place to Keep Your Son (Matthew Corl)*

Chancel Choir

Larry Moore: Director

## UNITED METHODIST TEACHING ON SCRIPTURE

*Book of Discipline 2008: 67*

### **The U.M. Confession Faith, Article IV: The Holy Bible**

“We believe the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, reveals the Word of God so far as it is necessary for our salvation. It is to be received through the Holy Spirit as the true rule and guide for faith and practice. Whatever is not revealed in or established by the Holy Scriptures is not to be made an article of faith nor is it to be taught as essential to salvation.”

#### **SERMON LESSON**

*The Formal Preface to Luke's Gospel*

Luke 1:1-4

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

#### **SERMON**

*An Impressive Start*

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

## **RESPONSES TO THE WORD**

#### **\*HYMN, NO. 600**

*Wonderful Words of Life*

#### **INVITATION, OFFERTORY**

*Lo, How a Rose is Growing*

Joyce Nickles: Organist

#### **\*DOXOLOGY, NO. 95**

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

#### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, LORD'S PRAYER**

Musical Setting B: 18-20

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

**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 (Chuck & Ann Drake, Martha Moore & Pam Faulkner, Shell & Mary Dula, Karl & Debby Kelly)

## **SENDING FORTH**

#### **\*HYMN, No. 206**

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

#### **\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

#### **\*SUNG RESPONSE, NO. 666**

*Shalom to You*

#### **\*POSTLUDE, TIME TO GREET A VISITOR!**

Joyce Nickles: Organist

The flowers are given by Pastor Phil and Lori Thraikill in honor of their first date 40 years ago, December 2, 1972. At the end of the evening he shook her hand at the door. What a guy!