

*December 1, 2013*

 **Main Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Following Christ from City-Center*

Prelude

Erin Knight, harpist

**\*Call to Worship**

Pastor Phil Thraillkill

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the Christ?

**People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, evergreen.**

Leader: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**People: By hearing again the words of the prophets, through spoken word and song.**

Leader: For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world  
but that the world through him might be saved.

**People: Glory to God in the Highest!**

**\* Processional Carol**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
(verses 1,2,3, and verse 6 at bottom of page 3)

**\* Common Prayer**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us prayer together.

**O God, our heavenly Father, the whole world rejoices at the coming of Your Son.  
Everywhere around us we see signs of His coming.**

**As we gather in this evening hour, as your family, draw us closer to You;  
fill our hearts with anticipation and longing for Your Son's return,  
and make His Spirit very present in our hearts tonight.**

**May the life symbolized in the hanging of these greens tonight,  
be a sign of the greater life we find in Him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Carol**

*Come Now, Savior of the Nations*  
Chancel Choir, harp

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Osoo osoo,  
pyonghwa eui imgum,  
uriga hanmom  
iruge hasoso ◆

Savior of the nations, come.

Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people

◆ Korean

Come now, O God of love, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Promised One, make here your home!  
Marvel now, O heaven and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.

Come hope of unity, make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

\* Please stand as you are able

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 1. *A - des - te, fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes; ve -*  
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal,  
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O  
 \*4. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,

come ye, O come ye, to Beth - le - hem.  
*ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem.*  
 lo, he shuns not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!  
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
*Na - tum vi - de - te Re - gem an - ge - lor - um.*  
 Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;

*Refrain*  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,  
*Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,*

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.  
*ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, Do - mi - num.*

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
 Jesus to thee be all glory given.  
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain.*

## Paraments

**Carol** *All My Heart Again Rejoices* arr. David Lasky

All my heart again rejoices as I hear, far and near, sweetest angel voices;  
"Christ is born," their choirs are singing, till the air everywhere now with joy is ringing.

Hark! A voice from yonder manger, softly thus calls to us, "Flee from woe and danger;  
come and see; from all that grieves you, you are freed; all you need I will surely give you."

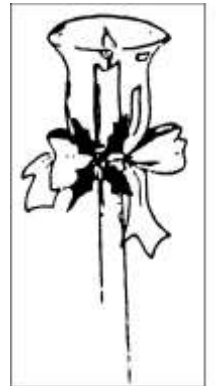
Come, then, let us hasten yonder; here let all, great and small, kneel in awe and wonder;  
love him who with love is yearning; hail the star that from far bright with hope is burning.

## Candles

**Carol** *Morning Star* Moravian Christmas Hymn  
Celebration Singers, Chancel Choir, and organ

Morning Star, O cheering sight! Ere you came how dark earth's night!  
Jesus mine, in me shine; in me shine, Jesus mine,  
fill my heart with light divine.

Morning Star, your glory bright far excels the sun's clear light.  
Jesus be, constantly, constantly Jesus be  
more than thousand suns to me.



## The Advent Wreath

**Carol** *Holy Jesus Child* Mark Patterson  
Celebration Singers and harp



Rest your head, go to sleep, we will worship at your feet.  
Son of God, Prince of peace, holy Jesus child.  
Christ awaits, come and see, come, behold the newborn King.  
Love and joy to all he brings, holy Jesus child.

Angel choirs gladly sing songs of joy to welcome thee,  
watching o'er you while you dream, holy Jesus child.  
Christ awaits, come and see, come, behold the newborn King.  
Love and joy to all he brings, holy Jesus child.

Shepherds come, leave your sheep, all your worldly cares will keep,  
see the babe here fast asleep, holy Jesus child.  
Christ awaits, come and see, come, behold the newborn King.  
Love and joy to all he brings, holy Jesus child.

## Evergreen Wreaths and Poinsettias

### Carol

#### *Sing Noel!*

arr. Mark Schweizer

from Noel "Grand Jeu et Duo"  
by Louis-Claude Daquin  
Chancel Choir and organ

Angels singing o'er the earth, Sweetly tell the story.  
And proclaim the joyous birth, Telling of God's glory.  
"Peace on earth" the angels sing, "and to all, salvation bring."  
Noel, noel, noel, sing glory,  
Tell the angel's story.

Shepherds, hearing of the news, Journeyed to the stable,  
Leaving flocks of lambs and ewes, Went as they were able.  
There they saw the holy child, Christ the Savior, meek and mild.  
Noel, noel, noel, sing glory,  
Tell the shepherd's story.

Wise men, coming from afar, Through the fields and fountains,  
Following the distant star, Over moors and mountains.  
Here at last their gifts they bring, And behold the newborn King.  
Noel, noel, noel, sing glory,  
Tell the ancient story.

Like the blessed ones that night, We shall bow before Him,  
And behold the glorious sight, Worship and adore Him.  
See Him in the manger laid, Christ the Lord, is born today.  
Noel, noel, noel, sing glory,  
Tell the wondrous story.

### Holly & Ivy

### Carol

*Where Shepherds Lately Knelt*  
Chancel Choir, harp, flute

Craig Courtney

Where shepherds lately knelt, and kept the angel's word,  
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;  
but there is room and welcome there for me,  
but there is room and welcome there for me.

In that unlikely place I find Him as they said:  
sweet new-born Babe, how frail and in a manger bed:  
a still small voice to cry one day for me,  
a still small voice to cry one day for me.

How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,  
his prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:  
a Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace for me,  
a Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace for me.

Can I, will I forget how Love was born and burned  
its way into my heart unasked, unforced, unearned,  
to die, to live, and not alone for me?  
to die, to live, and not alone for me.



**Chrismon Tree**

**Carol**

*How Far Is the Star?*  
Chancel Choir, harp

Bradley Ellingboe

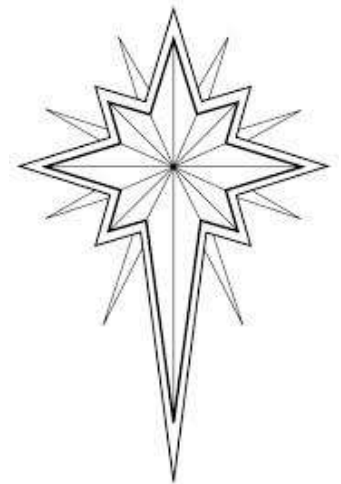
We have seen a star shining in the heavens,  
Shining high above in the sky,  
We have come to see what its brilliance means,  
How it shines so brightly and why.  
Some have said it shines over Bethlehem  
to announce a newborn King.  
How far is the star where bright heavenly choirs sing?

Heaven itself has brought us here,  
Showing us this brilliant star.  
We would worship Him, the tiny infant King.  
We have wandered here from afar.

In the spill of light from Jerusalem  
all we see is tumult and war.  
Is it shining still over Bethlehem's hills?  
Can we catch a glimpse of that star?  
We have heard it shone over Bethlehem  
to announce a newborn King.  
How far is the star? Did angelic choirs sing?

Following the rays of that vaulting star  
shining o'er us in the night  
we have come once more so we can adore  
Jesus Christ, the world's true light.  
We have wandered through darkest night.

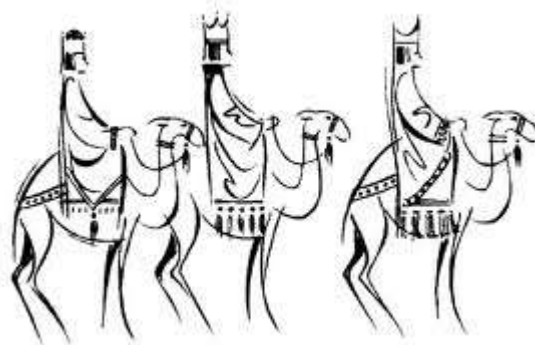
We have seen a star shining in the heavens  
to announce a newborn King.



**Gifts**

**Carol**

*We Three Kings*



## We Three Kings

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise; King and

gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 bring to crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er,  
 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 God and sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia,

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.  
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, scaled in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, sounds through the earth and skies.

*Refrain*

O star of won - der, star of light, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

## The Nativity

Carol

*On This Day Earth Shall Ring*  
Chancel Choir, harp, flute

Neil Harmon

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.  
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came down to earth  
Bethlehem saw his birth; shepherds kneel before him  
praise him and adore him.  
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo

God's bright star, o'er his head, Wise Men three to him led;  
kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts before him,  
praise him and adore him.  
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo

On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring,  
praising Christ, heaven's King; born on earth to save us;  
peace and love he gave us.  
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo

## The Christmas Story from The Gospel according to Luke

Pastor Phil Thrailkill

Carol

*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Chancel Choir, harp, organ, flute

Taylor Davis

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Deo!  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Deo!  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing:  
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

See him in the manger laid, whom the choirs of angles praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Deo!  
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo





Gracious God, Your vision of peace and wholeness comes to us  
in sweeping revelations and in tiny signs of hope.

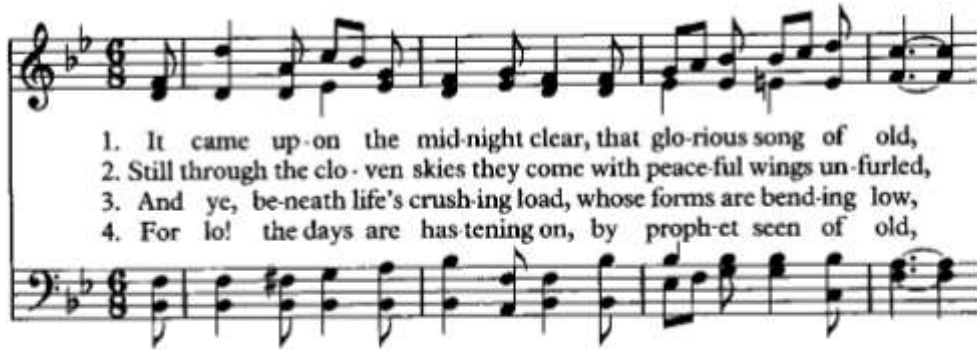
Kindle our hearts that we may be a hopeful people.

Keep us from growing weary of waiting lest we miss the glory of your appearing.

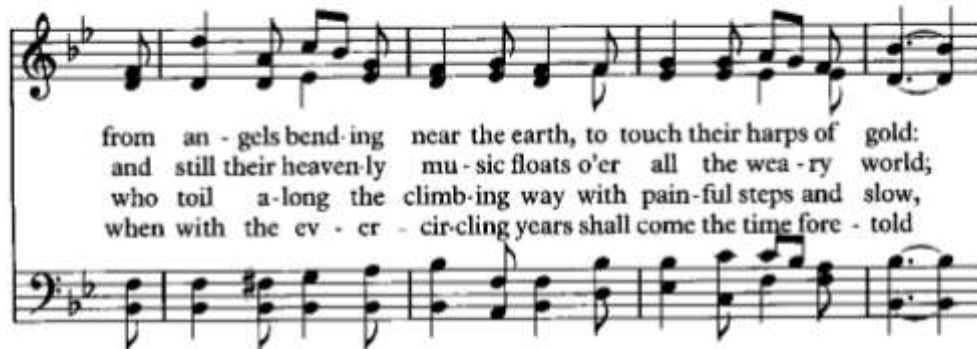
Even so, come quickly, O God. Amen.

## \*Carol

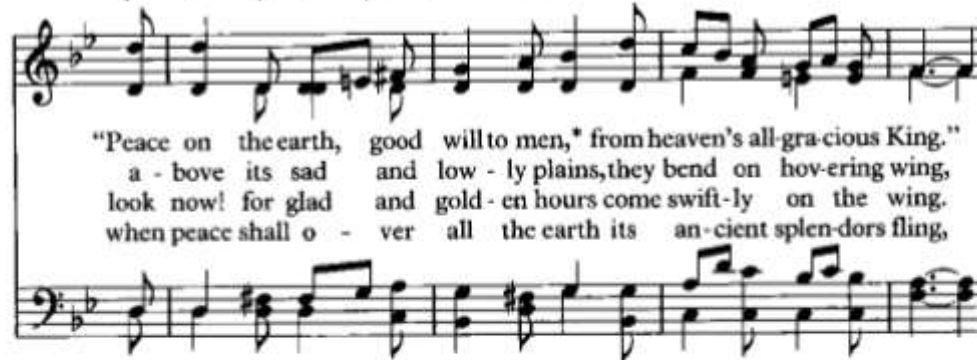
## It Came upon the Midnight Clear 218



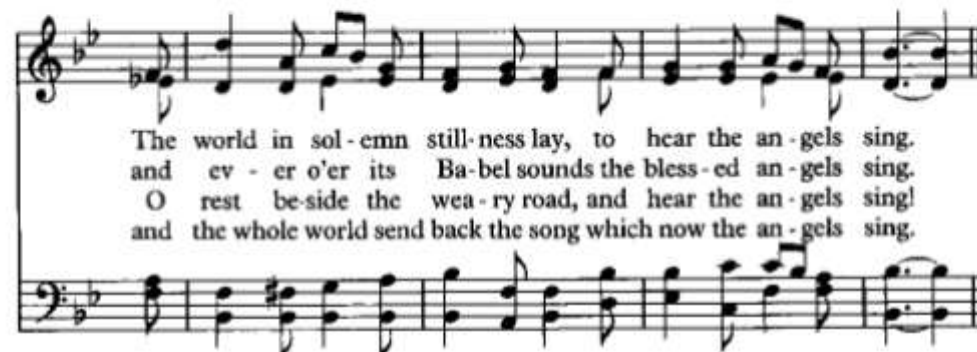
1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,  
2. Still through the clo-ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un-furled,  
3. And ye, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,  
4. For lo! the days are has-tening on, by proph-et seen of old,



from an-gels bend-ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heaven-ly mu-sic floats o'er all the wea-ry world;  
who toil a-long the climb-ing way with pain-ful steps and slow,  
when with the ev-er-cir-cle years shall come the time fore-told



"Peace on the earth, good will to men,\* from heaven's all-gracious King."  
a-bove its sad and low-ly plains, they bend on hov-ering wing,  
look now! for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing.  
when peace shall o-ver all the earth its an-cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay, to hear the an-gels sing.  
and ev-er o'er its Ba-bel sounds the bless-ed an-gels sing.  
O rest be-side the wea-ry road, and hear the an-gels sing!  
and the whole world send back the song which now the an-gels sing.

## \*Blessing and Dismissal

## \*Postlude

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Tonight marks the twenty-sixth Hanging of the Greens Service. Many people have contributed to the beauty of this service tonight and in the past. Main Street United Methodist Church is blessed by friends who lovingly share their gifts. From the beautifully handcrafted pew end candleholders to the graceful needlework and the delicately-crafted Chrismons, for the gifts of time and talent shared, we are thankful.

### Greeters

Shell and Mary Dula, David and Jeanie Patterson,  
Gary and Jo Patterson, John and Susan Thompson

Reader: Kim Clark

### The Hangers of The Greens

Julia Baker  
Ashley Barnhart

Abbey Dent  
Joe Hartung

Jay Logan  
Schuyler McGinnis

Carly Rogers  
Haley Rogers

Jacob Stockman  
Herin Warner

### Poinsettias

The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Mrs. Pauline Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Connell by Frank and Judy Connell and family and in loving memory of Gack, Libby Johnson and Grandpa Lyle, Lyle Hartung by Andy, Sarah, Joe, and Libby Hartung

### The Children

◆ ☩ Ann Baker  
◆ ☩ Haley Barnhart  
◆ Reeves Barrineau  
◆ ☩ Ella Bassett  
◆ Anderson Behrman

◆ Wakefield Behrman  
☩ Jon Trent Cason  
◆ ☩ Hannah Crooks  
◆ ☩ Sam Crooks  
☩ Andrew Driver

◆ Emma Pearl Gentry  
◆ ☩ Spence Hagood  
◆ ☩ Libby Hartung  
◆ ☩ Rachael Holder  
◆ ☩ Claire Leuthner

◆ Daniel Leuthner  
◆ ☩ Rebekah Lomax  
◆ Julia Meredith  
◆ Teague Meredith  
◆ ☩ Trace Meredith

◆ ☩ Tucker Meredith  
◆ ☩ Richie Pinckney  
◆ ☩ Vivi Joy Pinckney  
◆ ☩ Jarrett Smith  
◆ ☩ William Rowland

◆ Celebration Singers

☩ Nativity Scene

### **Instrumentalists**

Erin Knight, harp  
Rhonda McGinnis, flute  
Joyce Nickles, organ

### **Chancel Choir**

**Larry Moore, Director**

Tiffany Atkinson	Keith Dover	Patricia Lindell	Joyce Nickles	Lee Robirds
Carol Blosser	Pam Faulkner	Jane Marshall	Ann Pendergrass	Lisa Smith
Dick Blosser	Myra Greene	Rhonda McGinnis	Pat Poole	Gladys Turner
Emmie Burns	Kathryn Knauer	Dennis Moore	Pamela Poulin	Lou Walters
Brab Crooks	Bayard Lindell	Martha Moore	Tommy Rambo	David Westberry
Jack Cauley				Barry Wilson

### **Reception Following the Service**

All are invited for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

### **THE HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE**

Through the centuries, Christians have observed a time of waiting and expectation before celebrating the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The celebration of Christmas for Christians is such an important part of the church calendar that it is easy to assume it has always been. But the major Christian festival for the early church was Easter. Around the fourth century, Christmas became part of the Christian calendar and by the year 336, December 25 was generally established as the date of Jesus' birth. Soon afterwards, church leaders began to feel the need for a period of preparation leading up to the actual celebration of the Christ Child's birth - thus we have the Advent season. The Advent season is a time for reflection and preparation, but its mood is joyful. One of the ways we mark the start of Advent and the new church year is with the Hanging of the Greens service.

The observance of the Hanging of the Greens is an old English custom of decorating one's home with evergreens and other festive trappings for Advent and Christmas. Many of the decorations and customs are derived from ancient customs and legends. It is the hope that putting these customs in the context of a worship service on the first Sunday in Advent will help set the tone of your own personal worship and celebrations.



 **Main Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Greenwood, SC

*Following Christ from City-Center*