

We welcome you to worship the Living and Triune God. Christ is alive and with us in the power of the Spirit. Prayer and counsel are available after the service. You are called to be a follower of the Lord Jesus, a member of his people, and a participant in his mission to spread his kingdom and all its benefits. It's our main business as we serve the world from the center of Greenwood, SC.

Sunday, December 22, 2013

Services at 8:30/11:00am

www.msumc1.org and 92.9FM (WZLA) Sundays at noon

Our Mission: "Following Christ from City Center"

Join us on Christmas Eve at 6:30pm!

THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00am

4th Sunday of Advent

Color: Purple

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

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

“If you want to know who God is at ground level, then study the life of Jesus!”

ENTRANCE

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE Pray as you enter; assume silence at the chiming

TRINITY CHIME Schuyler McGinnis

PRELUDE *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (F. Gramann)* Chancel Bells

WELCOME AND SILENCE Phil Thraikill: Pastor, Allie Williams: Prayer Sentinel

***JAZZ CALL TO WORSHIP** *God's Love Made Visible (Dave Brubeck)* See Insert

***GREETING** Trinitarian Acclamation, Hebrews 1:1-3

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

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

“In many and various ways

God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets;

but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son,

whom he appointed the heir of all things,

through whom also he created the world.

He reflects the glory of God

and bears the very stamp of his nature,

upholding the universe by his word of power.”

***PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 234** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* Stanzas 1-5

Crucifer: Keaton Alexander,

Acolytes: Sam Crooks, Madaline Radcliffe

Advent Banner: Joe Hartung

***MUTUAL BLESSING, COMMON PRAYER**

Based on John 1:1-18

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

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
you have not abandoned your good creation
to the forces of destruction and death
that we foolish humans and the evil angels have let loose.
You have left a light on in this world of darkness
that we might begin to see our way home.
That our Savior Jesus was formed in the womb just like us is a wonder.
That he had a human mother whose name we know and love
is a sign that no child is ever an accident or dispensable.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
open our eyes to the glory and hope of Christmas,
and then, by the power of the same Spirit,
let us enter each new day seeing all things and every one
through the merciful and truthful gaze of Jesus Christ,
in whose holy and mighty and glorious name we make our prayer.
Amen. (Silence is kept for prayer.)**

***ACT OF PRAISE, No. 83**

Canticle of the Holy Trinity

WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

THE ADVENT WREATH

Lincoln, Rhonda, Schuyler, Cecilia McGinnis

Let us pray together:

**God of hope, God of peace, God of joy, and God of love,
teach us how to love one another
as reflection of your light in the world.
God of promise, God of love, into your darkness come. Amen.**

A Candle is Burning, stanza 4:

To the tune of *Away in a Manger*

**A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE,
a candle to point us to heaven above.
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to the earth.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mary Alexander

A READING OF UNITED METHODIST DOCTRINE

Scripture Sheet

SOLO

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt (Courtney)
Larry Moore: Director

Chancel Choir

SERMON LESSON

And The Word Was Made Flesh
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

John 1:1-18

SERMON

It Matters Who He Is
Have I received new life in Jesus Christ?
Does it show?

Phil Thrailkill: Pastor

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

***HYMN, No. 242**

Love Came Down at Christmas

***A LITANY ON THE INCARNATION**

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

***CONFESSING THE FAITH, No. 880**

The Nicene Creed

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter

Chancel Bells

***DOXOLOGY, Chorus of No. 238**

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

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

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN, No. 217**

Away in a Manger

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Phil Thrailkill: Pastor

***SUNG RESPONSE, NO. 251**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain only

***POSTLUDE, GREETING EACH OTHER AFTER THE SERVICE**

PRAYERS AT THE ALTAR FOR YOUR NEEDS

Sermon manuscripts are available after the service and at msumc1.org

No prayer meeting this Thursday, December 26.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion is Dec. 24 at 6:30pm