

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. Our two Sunday services are 8:30 & 11:00am.

Sunday, January 6, 2013

Our website is www.msumc1.org

THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00 am **Epiphany/ Covenant Sunday** **Color: White**

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

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

"As we are faithful in our duties, God sends surprising guidance and encouragement."

ENTRANCE

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE Pray as You Enter; Assume Silence at the Chiming
TRINITY CHIME

PRELUDE *Go, Tell It On The Mountain (arr. Callhan)* 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, Galatians 4:4-7

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.

Paul wrote of the benefits of God's coming to us in Jesus this way,

"But when the time had fully come,

God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,

to redeem those who were under the law,

so that we might receive adoption as sons and daughters.

And because you are children,

God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'"

So through God you are no longer a slave but a child,

and if a child then an heir."

***PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 249** *There's a Song in the Air*
(Crucifer: Cecilia McGinnis, Acolytes: Vivi Joy Pinckney, Sam Crooks)

***COMMON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON** Based on Luke 2:22-39
Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, (3 Standards)
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,
who invaded the world in the person of Jesus,
you weave together the events of our lives with wisdom.
Open our eyes to the messengers you send our way,
especially the ones who are odd and interrupt our plans.
Restore to us the conviction that life is a holy adventure of faith.
Speak to us out of Holy Scripture,
that we may obey your commands and find life that is life indeed.
Forgive us for ignoring the messages you send us every day.
Pardon our resistance and break into our hard hearts with new life.
Restore to this church the full array of the Spirit's generous gifts,
that we may be a people full of divine surprises,
and that the world may be drawn to our great Savior, Jesus Christ,
in whose name we make our prayer.
We wait upon your gracious and holy presence, Lord.
Amen.** (Silence is kept for confession. Pardon is announced.)

***ACT OF PRAISE, NO. 80** *Canticle of the Holy Trinity*

WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mary Alexander

ANTHEM

A Covenant Prayer

Chancel Choir

SERMON LESSON

Two Extraordinary Senior Citizens

Luke 2:22-39

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

SERMON

Divine Appointments

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

Am I carrying out the duties of my faith with steadfast commitment and faith?

Am I open to the surprises and gifts of the Holy Spirit through other people?

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

***RENEWING OUR COVENANT WITH GOD FOR 2013**

*Hymn No. 117 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Preface and Invitation to the Covenant

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition, No. 607

INVITATION, OFFERTORY *Meditation (arr. Cherwien)* Joyce Nickles: Organist

***DOXOLOGY, NO. 95** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

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

Musical Setting B: 18-20

***HOLY COMMUNION** In four actions Jesus took, blessed, broke, and gave

Servers: Kit Atkins & Hazel Bennett, Emmie Burns & Lindsay Burns,

Joe & Vickie Chandler, Bob Cureton & Karen Wilson

SENDING FORTH

COMMISSIONING THE 2013 HONDURAS MISSION TEAM

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

(Steve Skinner, Suzanne Nicholson, Kathy & Jim Kelly, Patty Huff, Kit Adkins)

Please keep this bulletin and pray for the team, Jan. 19-27!

***HYMN, No. 569** *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

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

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

Joyce Nickles: Organist

Prayer Ministry Training Tonight, 6-7:15pm in Trinity Class. Open to all.

Wed. Jan. 9 Bible Study: Acts 1:12-26, 6-7:15pm, Trinity Class.

Sermon Text for January 13, Luke 2:40-52. See stained glass window!