



 **Main Street**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WORSHIPPING



SERVING



BUILDING



WELCOMING

Sunday, December 14, 2014
Services at 8:30/11:00am
www.msumc1.org and 92.9FM (WZLA) Sundays at noon

Our Mission: "Following Christ from City Center"

THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00am

3rd Sunday in Advent

Color: Purple

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

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

"With a little help from Mary, God the Son assumed full humanity in Jesus."

ENTRANCE

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

TRINITY CHIME

Richie Pinckney

PRELUDE *Go, Tell It On the Mountain (J. Sanborn)* Josh Harrington: Organist

WELCOME AND SILENCE Glenn Williams: Prayer Sentinel, Phil Thrailkill: Pastor

***GREETING**

Trinitarian Greeting, 1 John 1:1-4

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.

John wrote in his first letter,

"That which was from the beginning,

which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes,

which we have looked upon and touched with our hands,

concerning the word of life-

the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it,

and proclaim to you the eternal life

which was with the Father and was made manifest to us-

that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you,

so that you may have fellowship with us;

and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

And we are writing this that our joy may be complete."

***PROCESSION HYMN, NO. 209**

Blessed Be the God of Israel

(Banner: Joe Hartung, Crucifer: Bennett Charles, Acolytes: Andrew Driver, Ella Bassett)

***COMMON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Based on Luke 1:26-38

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

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
you have revealed your power in the vastness of creation,
you holy ways to the people of Israel,
your moral demands in every human conscience,
and your great salvation in Jesus Christ.
You sent your Son by the Spirit's power into Mary's virginal womb,
and there the humanity of the Savior was formed and born among us.
How wise and wonderful is the way you came among us:
red and wrinkled, naked and needing to be nursed.
In Jesus you have embraced our life, all the way down into death.
Have mercy upon us, for we have worshipped Jesus without following him.
Our well-planned lives too often push him to the edge,
and we miss the adventure of being his agents and ambassadors.
May your holy and loving and powerful presence come upon us now,
that we may tremble before you and be pierced by your love.
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
A SPECIAL UMW PRESENTATION**

Betty Staples

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

(The Burns family: Jimmy, Emmie, Elizabeth, Eric, Drew, Emma, Ruby, Joey, Lindsay)

Let us pray:

**Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid,
for the Lord is my strength and my might.
God has become my salvation.
Rejoice in the Lord, always; again I say, Rejoice!
Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously! Amen.**

Song

A Candle is Burning

To the tune of *Away in a Manger*

**A candle is burning, a candle of JOY,
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
As joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow**

**WHAT THE U.M. CHURCH TEACHES ABOUT CHRISTMAS
CHILDREN'S TIME**

Scripture Sheet
Susan Pinckney

ANTHEM

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child (Ron Davis)
Larry Moore: Director

Chancel Choir

SERMON LESSON

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

Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

God Takes A Dive
What kind of God would take on the humility and pain of human flesh?

Phil Thrailkill: Pastor

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

***HYMN, No. 179**

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *The Shepherds at the Manger (Martin)* Josh Harrington: Organist

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

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

***CONFESSING THE FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

Hymnal: 880

(With the exception of the phrase "and from the Son" (Lt. *filioque*) on which the Eastern and Western churches disagree, this is the church's official statement of its convictions.)

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN, No. 196**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Phil Thrailkill: Pastor

***SUNG RESPONSE, NO. 666**

Shalom to You

**You are invited to join us in the Chapel on Thursdays from 6:30-7:00pm for prayer.
The Chapel is open for prayer before and after the worship service.**

Sunday, December 21

"An Alternate Telling"

Matthew 1:18-25