

 **Main Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 29, 2015

*Following Christ from City Center*

**Prelude**

*Coventry Carol*  
*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*  
*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella*  
Instrumental ensemble

*The Wexford Carol*  
Josh Harrington

*In the Bleak Midwinter*  
Jessica Hrivnak, Sarah Dean, and Emily Wallace

**\*Call to Worship**

Pastor Phil Thrailkill

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 No. 234**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
(Verses 1, 2, 3, and 6)

**\* 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.**

**Preparation**

Kim Clark

**Anthem**

*Messiah Comes, Emmanuel*  
Chancel Choir and organ

Gilbert Martin

## Paraments

### Anthem

*All My Heart Again Rejoices*  
Chancel Choir and organ

arr. David Lasky



## Candles

### Anthem

*Unto Us*  
Celebration Singers and piano

Elizabeth Gage

## The Advent Wreath

### Anthem

*People Look East*  
Chancel Choir, oboe, and piano

Zebulon Highben

## Evergreen Wreaths and Poinsettias

### Anthem

*Waiting for Bethlehem's Light*  
Chancel Choir, piano, and flute

Dale Peterson



## Holly & Ivy

### Anthem

*The Holly and the Ivy*  
Chancel Choir, piano, handbells

Anna Laura Page

## Chrismon Tree

### Anthem

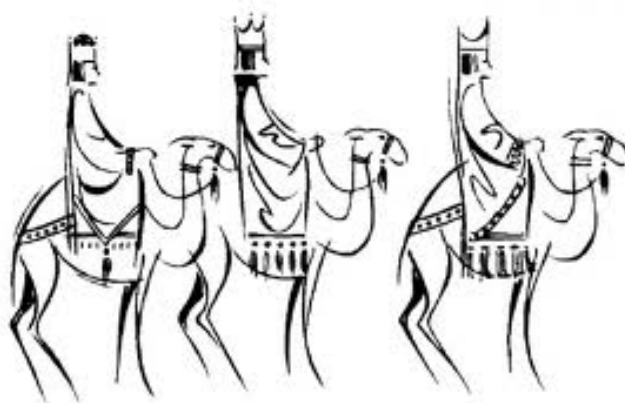
*The Shepherds' Lamb*  
Chancel Choir, piano, flute, and oboe

Tom Porter

### Gifts

### Carol No. 254

*We Three Kings*



## The Nativity

### Anthem

*Carols of the Night*  
Chancel Choir, piano, organ, strings, flute

Craig Courtney

Choir and congregation:

***Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glory streams from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"  
Christ, the Savior is born, Christ, the Savior is born.***

***Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus Lord at Thy birth.***

*Choir only*  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.  
O Holy night.

**Anthem**

*All Is Well*

Smith arr. Huff

Ella Bassett, Claire Leuthner Barrineau  
Chancel Choir, organ, piano, strings, oboe

**Collect For Advent (Unison)**

Pastor Phil Thraikill

**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 No. 218**

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

**\*Blessing**

Pastor Phil Thraikill

**\*Postlude**

**\*Please stand as you are able**

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**Poinsettias**

The poinsettias in the chancel area given to the glory of God in loving memory of **Sonny Hines** on his birthday, November 29, by the Harmon family.

**Acknowledgements**

Tonight marks the twenty-eighth 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. Additional thanks to this year's Hanging of the Greens Chairperson, Debbie Tharpe.

**Reader:** Kim Clark

## **The Hangers of The Greens**

Keaton Alexander	Rachel Holder
Ben Harley	Emily Camp
Joe Hartung	Julia Baker
Jay Logan	Ann Baker
Schuyler McGinnis	Olivia Rowland
Josh Sluder	Sydney Sluder

## **The Children**

Lillie Askew	Hannah Crooks	William Rowland
Ella Bassett	Spence Hagood	Jarratt Smith
Claire Luethner Barrineau	John Lawrence	Witt Smith
Daniel Leuthner Barrineau	Richie Pinckney	
Reeves Barrineau	Sanders Rogers	

## **Celebration Singers**

Ella Bassett	Richie Pinckney
Hannah Crooks	Jarrett Smith
Peyton Larkins	Witt Smith
Claire Luethner Barrineau	Chelsea Washington
Daniel Leuthner Barrineau	Aleah Washington

## **Instrumentalists**

Rhonda McGinnis, flute	Hannah Garber, violin	Lori Thrailkill, handbells
Elizabeth Smith, oboe	Sarah Dean, cello	Emily Wallace, organ
Jessica Hrivnak, violin	Tamia Hayes, viola	
	Josh Harrington, piano, organ, handbells	

## **Main Street UMC Chancel Choir** **John McFadden, Director of Music Ministries** **Emily Wallace, Organist**

Kathy Bailey	Myra Greene	David McFadden	Tommy Rambo
Emmie Burns	Josh Harrington	Debbie McFadden	Lee Robirds
Lynn Cothran	Ann Landis	Rhonda McGinnis	Lisa Smith
Amy Cromer	Bayard Lindell	Dennis Moore	Gladys Turner
Brab Crooks	Patricia Lindell	Woody Nivens	Lou Walters
Pam Faulkner	Carolyn Lumley	MaryAshlynn Perkey	
Anne Farquhar	Jane Marshall	Pamela Poulin	

## **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 help the tone of your own personal worship and celebrations.



**Main Street United Methodist Church Staff**

**Pastor Phil Thraikill, Senior Minister**

John McFadden, Director of Music Ministries

Emily Wallace, Organist

Kathy Kelly, Adult Program Coordinator

Lee Robirds, RN, Congregational Nurse

Phil Saunders, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Hannah Thompson, Children's Program Co-Coordinator

Heidi Saunders, Children's Program Co-Coordinator

Linda Miller, Financial Secretary

Emmie Burns, Administrative Assistant

Jo Patterson, Office Assistant

Scott Parham, Building Superintendent

Michael Fisher, Building Caretaker

Rico Settles, Building Caretaker

Allison Wooten, Mud Pies Director

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