



 **Main Street**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WORSHIPPING



SERVING



BUILDING



WELCOMING

December 20, 2015
Services at 8:30/11:00 am
www.msumc1.org and 92.9FM (WZLA) Sundays at noon

Our Mission: "Following Christ from City Center"

THE SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00am

4th Sunday of Advent

Purple

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided.

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

***“We are the visited planet;
God has come to us in Jesus Christ; all will be well.”***

ENTRANCE

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

TRINITY CHIME

Ella Bassett

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Emily Wallace: Organist

WELCOME AND SILENCE

Anne West: Prayer Sentinel, Phil Thraillkill: Pastor

***GREETING**

Trinitarian Greeting, Psalm 126 (Paraphrase)

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

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

“The Lord has done great things for us!

And we are filled with joy!

Our God has turned our weeping into singing,

our tears into songs of joy!

O Christ of God,

come anew in our hearts this day,

and remain with us for forever.”

***PROCESSION HYMN, No. 234**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Crucifer: Rachel Holder, Acolytes: Hannah Crooks, Libby Hartung

Banner Bearer: Joe Hartung

***COMMON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

1 Timothy 3:14-4:16

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
all that you have made, our bodies and their desires, are good.
We desire someone to love, and so there is marriage.
We are hungry, and so there is food and drink.
We sense your call deep within, and so there is prayer.
But we have been bent out of shape by sin's awful powers.
What was good and innocent has been twisted and broken.
We believe the lie that more is better and become addicted.
We follow our impulses and are led astray.
We neglect to seek you, and wonder why life is so hard.
But you have come close to us in the flesh of Jesus, born of Mary,
and you have defeated the powers that hold us in such tight bonds.
So may the death and blood of Jesus be for us the perfect sacrifice.
And may your Holy Spirit fill us with the gifts of faith and courage,
that we may not surrender to the lies and allurements of this fallen world,
but stand in the truths of the faith and in good doctrine to the end.
Amen. (Silence is kept for confession of sin. Pardon is announced.)

***ACT OF PRAISE, No. 204**

Emmanuel

WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Robert & Kathy Bailey, Haley Pardue

Lighting the four candles

Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

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

Prayer

Hymn No. 211

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Stanza 4 Only

CHILDREN'S TIME

Shell Dula

ANTHEM *All Is Well (arr. Huff)* Chancel Choir
John McFadden: Director, Emily Wallace: Organist
(Ella Bassett, Claire Leuthner-Barrineau: Soloists)

SERMON LESSON *Good Teaching Makes Us Healthy* 1 Timothy 3:14-4:16
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON *True Faith Breeds Holy Toughness* Phil Thraikill: Pastor
(Fourth in an Advent Series on unlikely Christmas texts.)

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

SILENCE AND REFLECTION ON THE WORD READ, A PRAYER OF SURRENDER

“Lord Jesus, as you first came as a little child,
come now as a strong Savior and deliver me, now and forever. Amen.”

***HYMN, No. 190** *Who Is He in Yonder Stall*
(In five stanzas this hymn moves us from Jesus' birth to his enthronement.)

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Silent Night (arr. Roe)* Emily Wallace: Organist

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

***CONFESSING THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH** *The Nicene Creed* *Hymnal: 880*

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN No1 219** *What Child Is This*

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING** Phil Thraikill: Pastor

***CHORAL BENEDICTION, No. 672** *God Be With You...* Chancel Choir

***POSTLUDE** *Come Let Us Adore Him (arr. Martin)* Emily Wallace: Organist

Please join us for prayer in the chapel on Thursdays from 6:30-7:00 pm.
Sermon manuscripts are available on stand up front after the service.

Christmas Eve outreach service at 4:00 pm, Traditional service at 6:00pm