



 **Main Street**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WORSHIPPING



SERVING



BUILDING



WELCOMING

Sunday, December 11, 2016
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

3rd Sunday in Advent

Purple

*Stand as able

A nursery is provided

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

**“At turning points in history,
God raises up fresh prophetic voices to redirect us to Jesus Christ.”**

ENTRANCE

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

TRINITY CHIME

Claire Leuthner Barrineau

(Ann West: Prayer Sentinel, Jeff Smith: Sound Operator)

PRELUDE *God Rest You, Merry Gentlemen (arr. Shackley)* Emily Wallace: Piano

WELCOME AND SILENCE

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

***GREETING**

Trinitarian Greeting, Malachi 3:1-3

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.**

The prophet Malachi announced the messenger to come:

"Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me,
and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple;

**the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight,
behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.**

But who can endure the day of his coming,
and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap;

**he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,
and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver,
till they present right offerings to the LORD."**

***PROCESSION HYMN, No. 211**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(Crucifer: Cecilia McGinnis, Acolyte: Daniel Leuthner Barrineau)

***COMMON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Based on Luke 1:5-25

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

**Almighty God our heavenly Father,
your prophets and servants do not drop out of heaven.
They are shaped in families, sculpted by events, and called by You.
We thank you for the parents of John the Baptist who taught him the faith
and then released him into your purposes which led to his martyrdom.
It is so easy, O Lord, for us to shut our ears to your difficult words:
to hear the truth and return to you,
to love with integrity and to show compassion.
to remain teachable and to resist the lures of pride.
In a day of so many competing voices and claims,
tune our hearts and ears to hear the words you send.
And so that we may listen in hope, have mercy upon us,
forgive us all our foolish sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
and strengthen us in all that is good and true, beautiful and noble.
We are counting on your Holy Spirit to shine light and love upon us all.
Amen.** (Silence is kept for confession. Pardon is announced.)

***ACT OF PRAISE, No. 70**

Glory Be to the Father

WELCOME VISITORS, REGISTER ATTENDANCE, CHURCH CONCERNS

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

LIGHTING THE THIRD CANDLE

Sylvia and Calvin Kinard

Invitation and Lighting the Third Candle

A Lesson from Zechariah and Prayer

**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.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation,
And you will say in that day:
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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lisa Smith, Susan Pinckney

ANTHEM

There's A Light A'Comin (Lantz)

Chancel Choir

John McFadden: Director, Emily Wallace: Organist

SERMON LESSON *The Conception and Destiny of John the Baptist* Luke 1:5-25

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

SERMON

How Do You Build A Prophet?

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

Has God given me a Word to speak? How am I being prepared?

RESPONSES TO THE WORD

SILENCE WITH THE WORD AND SPIRIT OF GOD

***HYMN, No. 463**

Lord, Speak to Me

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

O Holy Night

Myra Green: Solo

***DOXOLOGY, NO. 95**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

***A LITANY OF THE PROPHETS, THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

SENDING FORTH

***HYMN, No. 204**

Emmanuel

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Phil Thraikill: Pastor

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Chancel Choir

***POSTLUDE**

Hark! A Thrilling Voice (arr. Archer)

Emily Wallace: Organ

Join us for a half hour of prayer on Thursday evening from 6:30-7:00pm in the Chapel.
(The church office may be reached at 864-229-7551)

Our Christmas Eve service is Saturday, December 24, at 5:00pm.
The Main Street UMC Church Council meets this afternoon at 4:00pm.