

 **Main Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**December 2, 2018**

**Prelude**

*I Wonder As I Wander* arr. King  
Violin and cello

*Toccata on "Veni Emmanuel"* Carter  
Rodney Cleveland

*For Unto Us* Handel arr. Frost  
Instrumental ensemble

**\*Call to Worship**

Pastor James McCoy-Bruce

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, ever-green.**

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 be a sign of the greater life we find in Him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Preparation** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *Advent Grace* arr. Larson  
Chancel Choir and piano  
Rhonda McGinnis, flute

**Paraments** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *O Come Divine Messiah* arr. Helvey  
Chancel Choir and organ



**Candles** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *For Unto Us* Dennis and Nan Allen  
Celebration Singers and piano

**The Advent Wreath** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *Air for Advent* arr. Fettke  
Chancel Choir, strings, and organ

**Evergreen Wreaths and Poinsettias** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *Messiah Comes, Emmanuel* Gilbert Martin  
Chancel Choir and organ



**Holly and Ivy** Kim Clark

**Anthem** *The Holly and the Ivy* arr. Robinson  
Chancel Choir and organ

**Chrismon Tree**

Kim Clark

**Anthem**

*An Advent Reflection*  
Chancel Choir, piano, flute, and cello

Ruth Elaine Schram

**The Nativity**

Kim Clark

**Anthem**

*Advent Proclamation*  
Chancel Choir and organ

**The Christmas Story from The Gospel according to Luke**

Pastor James McCoy-Bruce

**Anthem**

*Fear Not*  
Chancel Choir, piano, strings, oboe, clarinet and trumpet

McDonald

**\*Collect For Advent (Unison)**

Pastor James McCoy-Bruce

**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. 223**

*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

**\*Blessing**

Pastor James McCoy-Bruce

**\*Postlude**

*Toccata on Savior of the Nations, Come*

arr. Distler

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

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### **Reception Following the Service**

All are invited for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

## **Acknowledgements**

Tonight marks the thirty-first 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 delicately-crafted Chrismons, and for the gifts of time and talent shared, we are thankful. Additional thanks to Debbie Tharpe, Hanging of the Greens Chairperson.

## **Offering**

A special offering will not be taken, but collection plates will be placed at the exits of the Sanctuary for donations to help defray the cost of the service.

## **Greeters**

Brenda and Ed Munnerlyn, William and Martha Culbertson,  
Buck and Jean Griffin, David and Jeanne Patterson,  
and Bill Tunstall

## **Poinsettias**

The poinsettias are given to the glory of God by the Moore family in loving honor of Wygenia Moore and in memory of Bennie Moore.

## **The Hangers of The Greens**

Keaton Alexander	Marler Askew
Lucas Bassett	Ann Baker
Bennett Charles	Ella Bassett
Layton Logan	Claire Leuthner-Barrineau
Josh Sluder	Viviana Joy Pinckney
Ryan Sprouse	Olivia Rowland

## **The Children**

Gibson Askew*	Miles Barrineau*	Annabelle Chappell*+
Campbell Driver*	Bradley Funderburk*	Katherine Funderburk*
Peyton Larkins*+	Addison Leopard*+	Caroline Leopard*+
Daniel Leuthner-Barrineau*+	Coleson Marino*	Quinn Marino*
Skyler Paris*+	Mary Margaret Skinner*+	Rosemary Skinner*
Benjo Smith*+	Witt Smith*+	Hudson Smith*
Anna Kate Stabler+	Holden Styron*	Grayson Tharpe*
Cheryl Washington*	Alice Wooten*+	
Nativity Scene*	Celebration Singers+	

## **Instrumentalists**

Collin McKinnon, cello	Demaine Cunningham, bass
Sarah House, viola	Thomas McCoy-Bruce, clarinet
Rhonda McGinnis, flute	Paul Peart, II, violin
Elizabeth Smith, oboe	Jarvernique Tinsley, violin
Barry Wilson, trumpet	

## **Main Street UMC Chancel Choir**

**John McFadden, Director of Music Ministries**

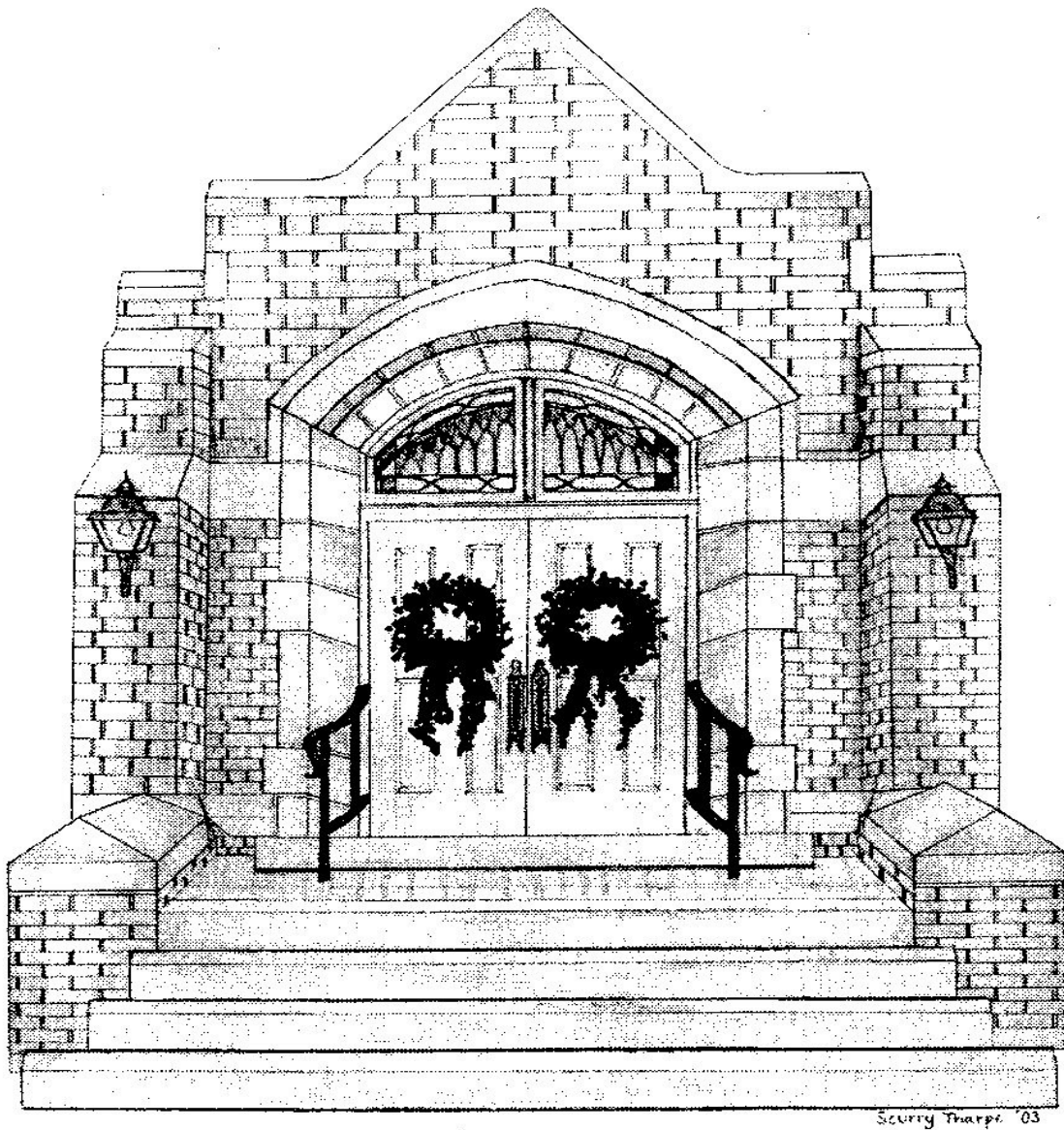
**Rodney Cleveland, Organist and Pianist**

Cynthia Blakely	Emmie Burns	Brab Crooks
Pam Faulkner	Anne Farquhar	Gary Funderburk
Myra Greene	Bill Klauber	Ann Landis
Carolyn Lumley	David McFadden	Debbie McFadden
Rhonda McGinnis	Dennis Moore	Woody Nivens
Joey Plyler	Tommy Rambo	Lee Robirds
Lisa Smith	Gladys Turner	Lou Walters
Steve Wilkie		

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.

*Following Christ from City Center*



## **Main Street United Methodist Church Staff**

### **Reverend James McCoy-Bruce, Senior Pastor**

John McFadden, Director of Music Ministries  
Rodney Cleveland, Organist  
Gray Stallworth, Engagement Coordinator  
Lee Robirds, RN, Congregational Nurse  
Lisa Smith, Children's Coordinator  
Sharon Britz, Director of Youth and Student Ministries  
Allison Wooten, Mud Pies Director

Linda Miller, Financial Secretary  
Debbie Tharpe, Administrative Assistant  
Jo Patterson, Office Assistant  
Scott Parham, Building Superintendent  
Michael Fisher, Building Caretaker  
Melvin Boyd, Building Caretaker

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