

+ Main Street



211 North Main Street Greenwood, South Carolina 29646 (864) 229-7551 www.msumc1.org

December 24, 2019 Christmas Eve Our Mission: "Following Christ from City Center"

<u>5:00 pm</u>	Christmas Eve Service	December 24, 2019					
Gathering in Worship							
Prelude	-						
Greeting Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. People: And also with you! Leader: The light of Christ is with us. People: Praise the Lord!							
Opening Prayer							
*Opening Hymn No. 249 There's a Song in the Air Crucifer: Ella Bassett, Acolyte: Caroline Leopard Advent Banner: Lucas Bassett							
Sharing the Good News							
Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	A Child Is Born					
Carol No. 218	It Came upon the Midnight Clear	(verses 1 & 4)					
Lesson	Micah 5:2-5	A Ruler from Bethlehem					
Carol No. 230	O Little Town of Bethlehem	(verses 1, 2, and 3)					
Lesson	Luke 1:26-35, 38	Gabriel Visits Mary					
Children's Choir	Light a Candle for Hope						

Advent Candle Lighting

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Winston, Josie, Maggie, Joseph and Christine Shirley

Scripture Reading:

Luke 2:1-7

We light the Advent wreath again tonight as we remember. The first Advent candle is one of Hope, and we begin the wait. This candle reminds us that the prophet Isaiah was longing for God's presence, too. It reminds us that the people in the early church were also longing for God's presence. This candle is a symbol for our own longing for God to be with us. We wait in hope for God to surprise us and break into our lives.

The second candle is one of Peace and reminds us of our dreams for peace in the world and that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, is coming. This candle is a symbol of God's promise of peace, comfort, and strength.

The third candle is for Joy and to remind us that God wants us to rejoice, even when that feels hard to do. This candle is a symbol of the joy that comes when God is with us. The fourth candle is one of Love and the circle is complete. It is a love that has no ending, that lives on in young and old, not just at Christmas, but throughout the year.

All: Our time of waiting is almost over. May we as people of God proclaim God's greatness. May we see God in those who are weak, humble, poor, hungry, who come to God empty-handed and expect to be fed. May we pray for the Light of the World to shine into our lives, and then through our lives, into the darkness of the world. May the Word indeed become flesh and dwell among us. Amen.

Advent Candle HymnA Candle Is Burning(tune of Away in a Manger)We honor Messiah with the Christ-Candle's flame;Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.O come, all ye faithful, rejoice on this night,As God comes among us, the Christian's true Light.						
Lesson		Luke 2:8-16	The Shepherds Se	The Shepherds Seek the Baby		
Carol No. 245		The First Noel	(ve	(verses 1 and 2)		
Lesson		Luke 2:17-20 Shepherds Return with Good News				
Duet		Christ Has Come for , n and Debbie McFa				
Lesson		John 1:1-5	The	Incarnation		
*Carol No. 246		Joy to the World				
Responding to God's Call						
A Service of Word and Table				Page 12		
Holy Communion: The Great Thanksgiving (As you return to your seats, please take a candle.)		ke a candle.)	Page 15			
Departing to Serve						
*Closing Hymn N	lo. 239	Silent Night, Holy Nig	ht			
*Benediction						
• •	, tell it on the n Go, tell it on th	o, Tell It on the Moun nountain, over the hi e mountain, that Jes	lls and everywhere;	(Refrain)		



Main Street United Methodist Church Staff

Pastor James McCoy-Bruce, Senior Pastor Gray Stallworth, Pastor of Discipleship John McFadden, Director of Music Ministries Rodney Cleveland, Organist Josie Shirley, Children's Program Coordinator Preston Goforth, Director of Youth & Student Ministries Allison Wooten, Mud Pies Director

Debbie Tharpe, Administrative Assistant Jo Patterson, Office Assistant Linda Miller, Financial Secretary David Weathers, Building Superintendent Michael Fisher, Building Caretaker