



*Hang*ing
of the
*Green*s

 **Main Street**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 27, 2022

Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Silent Night
Away in a Manger
String Quintet

arr. Michael O. Shaw
arr. Douglas Wattson
arr. Sarah James

Aria - Prepare yourself, Zion
Rodney Cleveland, Organ
Emma Hodge, Oboe
Rhonda McGinnis, Flute

Bach

Introit

Christmas Welcome
Chancel Choir
Rodney Cleveland, Piano

John Ness Beck

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Steve Keck

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!

***Proclamational Carol No. 234** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
(Verses 1, 2, and 3)

Common Prayer

Rev. Steve Keck

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

Amy Young

Anthem

O Come Emanuel
Chancel Choir
Dr. Richard Thomas, Cello
Rodney Cleveland, Piano

Elaine Hagenberg

Paraments

Amy Young

Anthem

The Coming Joy
Chancel Choir
Laura Keck, Soloist
Rodney Cleveland, Organ

Joseph M. Martin

Candles

Amy Young

Anthem

What Child Is This
String Quintet

arr. Tim Cais



The Advent Wreath

Amy Young

Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Chancel Choir
Rodney Cleveland, Organ
Dr. Richard Thomas, Cello

Jay Rouse

Evergreen Wreaths and Poinsettias

Amy Young

Anthem

Brightest and Best
Chancel Choir
Paul Peart II, Violin
DeMaine Cunningham, Bass
Rodney Cleveland, Piano

Shawn Kirchner



Holly and Ivy

Amy Young

Anthem

The Holly and the Ivy
Rodney Cleveland, Organ and Sarah Bowen Hecox, Piano

arr. Lani Smith



Chrismon Tree

Amy Young

Anthem

Angels from the Realms of Glory
Chancel Choir
Paul Peart II, Violin
Johnathan LaGroon, Percussion
Sarah Bowen Hecox and Rodney Cleveland, Piano

arr. Dan Forrest

The Nativity

Amy Young

Anthem

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Chancel Choir
Rodney Cleveland, Piano
String Quintet and Emma Hodge, Oboe

Dan Forrest

The Christmas Story from The Gospel according to Luke

Rev. Steve Keck

Anthem

Sussex Carol
Chancel Choir
String Quintet
Rodney Cleveland, Piano
Rhonda McGinnis, Flute
Emma Hodge, Oboe

Elaine Hagenberg

Collect For Advent (Unison)

Rev. Steve Keck

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**

Rev. Steve Keck

***Postlude**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Rodney Cleveland, Organ

Neil Harmon

***Please stand as you are able**

Acknowledgements

Tonight marks the thirty-fifth 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 Director, Judy Roberts, and Lindsay Burns.

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

Susan and Brian Albon, Martha and William Culbertson,
Jo and Gary Patterson, Susan and John Thompson

Poinsettias

The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Anne Drake by her children.

Reception Following the Service

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

The Hangers of The Greens

Joshua Albon	Ella Bassett
Nash Bowen	Hannah Crooks
Andrew Driver	Spence Hagood
Addison Leopard	Sanders Rogers
William Rowland	Jarratt Smith
Olivia Sprouse	

The Children

Crawford Burns	Annabelle Chappell	Cole D'Alessandro
Cori D'Alessandro	Leena Fields	Ben Funderburk
Abbott Hall	Parker Key	Ryder Larkins
Caroline Leopard	Zach Leopard	Quinn Marino
Easton Scott	Emma Grace Scott	Maggie Shirley
Rosemary Skinner	Campbell Smith	Benjo Smith
Tracee Stewart	Walker Thompson	

Instrumentalists

DeMaine Cunningham, bass	Rebekah Logan, viola
Paul Peart II, violin 1	Dr. Richard Thomas, cello
Jarvernique Tinsley, violin 2	
Rodney Cleveland, organ/piano	Sarah Bowen Hecox, piano
Emma Hodge, oboe	Johnathan LaGroon, percussion
Rhonda McGinnis, flute	

Main Street UMC Chancel Choir

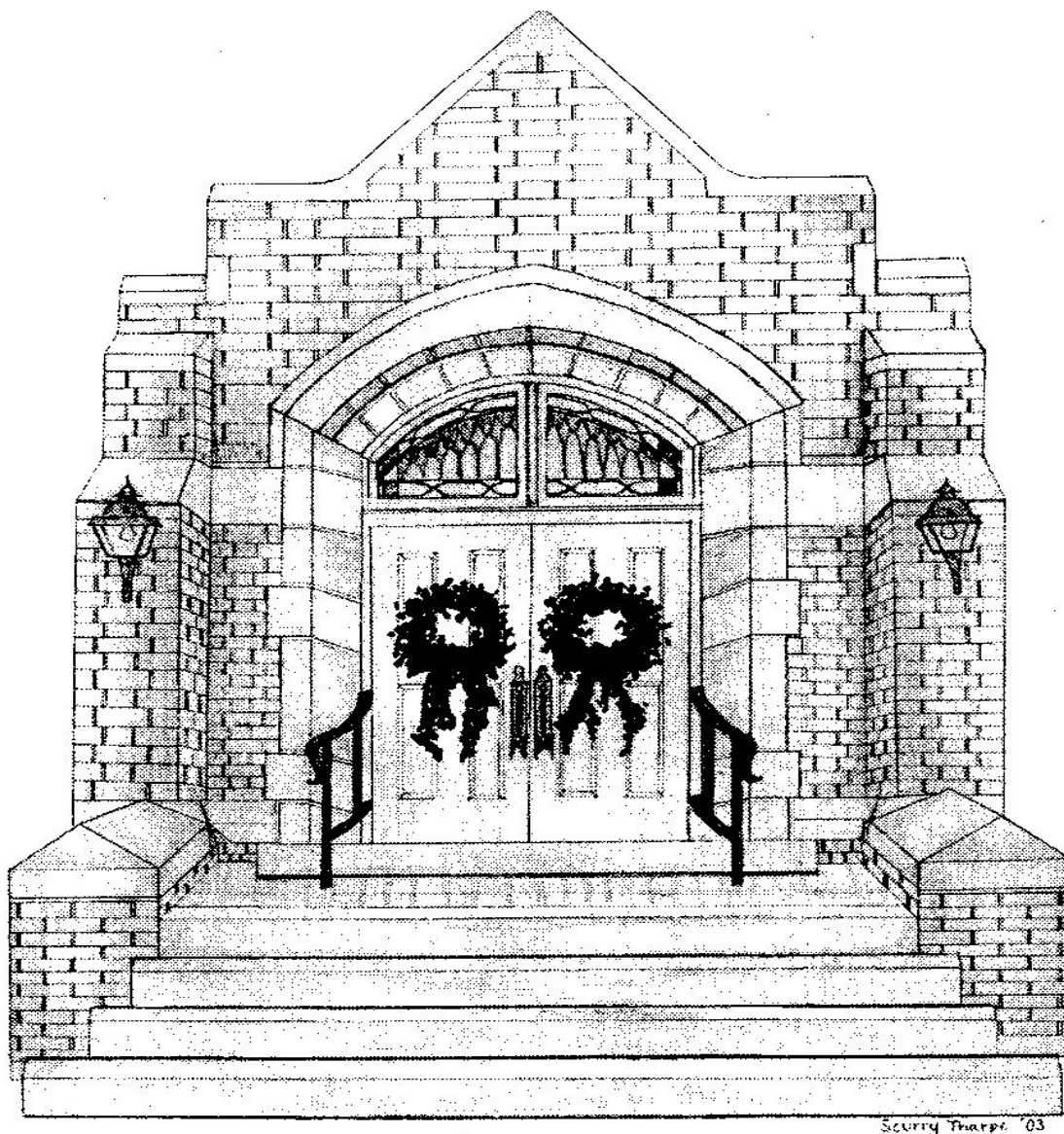
Gina Jolly, Director of Music Ministries

Ben Bagwell	Kathy Bailey	Dixie Barnes
Kayla Beard	Cody Beard	Brab Crooks
Anne Farquhar	Pam Faulkner	Taylor Baxley
Brittany Fields	Gary Funderburk	Andrew Goforth
Myra Greene	Rachel Jolly	Laura Keck
Kayla Key	Ann Landis	Rhonda McGinnis
Zoe Moore	Gavin Moore	Marilyn Murphy
Cathy Painter	Shirley Pate	Joey Plyler
Tommy Rambo	Caroline Smith	Lisa Smith
DeWitt Smith	David Westberry	

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 the tone of your own personal worship and celebrations.





Main Street United Methodist Church Staff

Reverend Steve Keck

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Preston Goforth, Director of Youth & Student Ministries
Melissa Scott, Children's Ministries Coordinator
David Weathers, Building Superintendent
Allison Wooten, Mud Pies Director

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