Church Family News

Epiphany Sunday

January 7, 2023

Prelude

Keith Maxey, organist

Chiming of the Trinity

* Call to Worship Victoria Smathers The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you. The risen Christ is with us. Praise the Lord!

* Processional Hymn No. 254

* Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon Victoria Smathers Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. All pray in silence. Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus

We Three Kings

Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

* Sharing the Peace

Joys & Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Kids' Time O Come, Little Children O come, little children, come one, and come all; O come to the manger in Bethlehem's stall. And see what our Father in heaven above has sent to us all on this earth with his love.

> Children ages 3 years to 1st grade are dismissed to Kids Connect-Worship. Parents may pick up their children in the Children's Education Building after the worship service.

Scripture	Matthew 2: 1-12 Pew Bible, NT page 2	name
Anthem	<i>Beautiful Star of Bethlehem</i> Chancel Choir; Keith Maxey, piano; Nancy Blakemore, direc	arr. Fettke
Homily	"The Real Gift"	Phil Kuntz
* Hymn No. 221	In the Bleak Midwinter	CRANHAM
-	<i>The First Noel</i> I blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Al aise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts! Praise the Spirit, Ho	-

We Three Kings



Victoria Smathers

10:55 am

Traditional Worship Service

Howland,(C) 2021 David Howland

Victoria Smathers

Mike Gehring

Victoria Smathers

KINGS OF ORIENT

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Mike Gehring and Phil Kuntz

(Phil) The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. (Mike) On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Music for Meditation, Keith Maxey

In the United Methodist Church, the Lord's Table is open to everyone who seeks the grace of God in Christ. Because of our conviction that God's grace is extended to people of all ages, children are welcome at the communion table. You will stand to receive the elements and then kneel to pray at the communion rail if you choose. As a sign of your openness to receive the sacrament, stretch out your hands to receive the bread. The pastors will place a piece of bread in your hand and you will be offered the cup. By faith, this will be for you a sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ. The ushers will guide your coming to and going from the Lord's Table. If you are unable to come to the front to receive communion, just let one of the ushers know and the pastors will serve you in your seat. You are welcome to leave an offering to the poor on the communion rail. Pre-packaged Communion elements are available upon request from the basket at the communion rail.

Prayer after Communion	

* Hymn No. 245

The First Noel, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

Mike Gehring and Phil Kuntz

* Reception of New Members

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to this congregation of The United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that, surrounded by steadfast love, you may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

* Benediction		Phil Kuntz
* Chiming of the Trinity and Postlude	Toccata on "Good King Wenceslas"	Young,(C) 1984 Harold Flammer, Inc.

* please stand as you are able

Mike Gehring

THE FIRST NOEL

Welcome to worship at Main Street United Methodist Church!

When Christians worship, we step into an alternative world. Liturgy and ritual, hymns and prayers invite us into another landscape. Jesus' words and the experience of his presence peel back the rhetoric that pummels our eardrums so that we are able to hear him say to us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27, NRSV)

Thank you for worshiping with us today at Main Street UMC!

If you are a visitor, please sign the attendance pad in the pew so that we can contact you at a later date in order to discuss the ministries of Main Street UMC.

Restrooms are located in the back left corner of the Narthex.

Should you need to step out during worship, you can go to the Parlor and still view and hear the worship service. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

Main Street UMC's Sanctuary is an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Camera angles may capture your image as you worship. Our weekly services are routinely shared with others via livestream and DVD. If you would like a DVD of today's 10:55 service, please contact Kathryn at 993-3411 in the church office.

Confidential prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 336-993-3411 or by clicking the "contact" tab on mainstreetumc.org.

Children's Ministry: We are so happy to share God's love with our children! Main Street is a Safe Sanctuary Congregation.

- *Nursery* (8:30-noon) is available for infants-3 year olds in the Education Building. The nursery is staffed with experienced caregivers and lay volunteers.
- *Kids Connect* is our Sunday School (9:45-10:45am) program for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade in the Education building. Kids Connect offers a large group Bible lesson, worship, and small group activities.
- *Kids Connect-Worship* is offered during the 10:55am service for wiggly kids ages 3 years to 1st grade who can't quite remain in worship the entire time. Kids of all ages are invited to the front for *Moments with Children* before the younger children are dismissed to the Education Building for *Kids Connect-Worship* activities.

Let's Worship Together!

Sundays

8:30am less-formal Traditional service in the Sanctuary 8:45am Jubilee Contemporary service in the Chapel 10:55am Traditional Worship service in the Sanctuary

Wednesdays (September-May) 5:30pm Oasis Mid-week Service in the Sanctuary

Thursdays

7:00pm NOW: Night of Worship contemporary service in the Chapel (1st & 3rd Thursdays)

Main Street UMC Staff

Mike Gehring, Senior Pastor Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor Al Ward, Minister of Visitation Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries Victoria Smathers, Director of Children's Ministries Nancy Blakemore, Director of Music Ministries Keith Maxey, Organist Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director Tina Crew, Business Manager Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant Anthony Simmonds, Custodian Willie Craven, Custodian Theo Dunlap, Custodian Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess Katherine Goad, Nursery Supervisor

Announcements

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: A brief meeting of the 2024 Church Council will occur after the 10:55 service (approx. 12:10pm) **TODAY** in the Sanctuary. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on SPRC's motion to give Pastor Mike a 6-week renewal leave. All 2024 Church Council members are encouraged to attend.

OASIS WORSHIP SERVICE: Come to the Sanctuary at 5:30pm on Wednesdays for an intimate 30-minute service with Holy Communion and prayer led by one of our pastors, with music by Chuck Foster, and a short devotion by a member of our congregation. Our Oasis service is meant to be a time of refreshment and encouragement in the middle of a busy week. *Oasis will meet only on weeks that we have the Wednesday Night Connect Dinner.*

THE WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER on <u>Jan. 10</u> is Chinese Pepper Steak and Rice (gluten-free entrée is available upon request). Dinner is served at **5:30pm**. Reservations can be made by: signing a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate; emailing Kathryn (kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org); calling the church office at 336-993-3411; visiting our website or clicking the link in the Thursday Connections email each week. Reservations must be made by <u>Monday at noon</u>. The suggested donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child (10 & under). Seafarers SS class serving.

OUR PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY will NOT meet on January 11. Enjoy the holidays and we will resume meeting on January 18.

UMM CHICKEN PIES: it's time to place your order for frozen chicken pies again! You can order frozen 9 inch Moravian Chicken Pie, Baked Spaghetti, and/or Brownies for \$15 each, or mix and match 3 for \$42.00. 4 pack 5-inch individual frozen Moravian Chicken Pies are available for \$17.00 and NOT in the mix and match deal mentioned above. Orders can be placed with any UMM member or you can email Frank Robbins (contact church office for email/phone) with your order request, name, and phone number. The last day to order will be February 18. You should plan to pick up your order between 9am and noon on February 24. If you are unable to pickup your items on **February 24**, please make arrangements with the person you ordered your items from to meet you or deliver the items to you or please send someone else to pick up your items on Feb. 24; the office may not be available at your convenience to assist during the week.

THE HERITAGE CLUB will meet for breakfast at the Olympic Restaurant in Kernersville on <u>January 9</u> at 9:00am. Pay for your own meal from the menu.

OUR COMMUNITY MLK SERVICE will be on <u>January 14</u> at 5:00pm in our Sanctuary. Join the Kernersville Christian Ministers Fellowship and friends from other churches in our community as we come together to celebrate the Life and Ministry of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our Guest Speaker will be Corey D. B. Walker, Dean of the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. A reception will follow the service in our Commons area.

SING WITH THE LENTEN CHOIR on March 17, The Music of Ireland. Rehearsals start the second week of January.

INVITATION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT, a short-term Disciple Bible Study will be offered on Wednesdays at 6:30pm starting February 28 and ending on May 1. Buck Murchison will facilitate this Bible Study. This class will meet in Room 320, which is the upstairs classroom in the Commons area (elevator access is available). The participant book is \$18.50 and will be available for purchase through the church office. Register for the class at www.mainstreetumc.org and click on the red "signups" tab. Class size will be limited to 12 participants.

THE YOUTH CHILI COOK-OFF will be a night of great food and great fun! Help the youth raise money for their summer mission trips by making a donation when you attend the chili cook-off. There will be prizes awarded for the best chili. Contact Wayne Purdy at 336-993-3411 for more information about entering the contest. Even if you don't cook any chili, we invite you to come out and enjoy sampling the great variety of chilis on **January 21** at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

THE MAIN STREET BOOK CLUB will meet at noon in Room 310 on <u>January 25</u>. Everyone is invited to read James Baldwin's book, <u>Go Tell It on the Mountain</u>, in advance and join us for the discussion.

JOB OPENINGS: We would like to hire a Church Organist, Chancel Chorale Accompanist/Pianist, and a Technology Ministries Director. The complete job descriptions for these positions can be found under "NEWS" at mainstreetumc.org or you can contact Tina Crew in the church office for more details (*336-993-3411*).

CRISIS CONTROL Collection boxes are in the new main entrance for donations to Crisis Control's Item of the Month. January's item is Canned Stews; other non-perishable food items can be donated as well. Items may be dropped off at any time during office hours (8:30-4:00 Monday-Thursday and 8:30-noon on Friday).

Lyrics

WE THREE KINGS

- 1. We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.
- 2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.
- 3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.
- 4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

5. Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss.4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

THE FIRST NOEL

1. The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

5. Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee, and offered there, in his presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.