



December 1, 2024
10:55am Worship Service
Main Street United Methodist Church

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS (10:55am)

Wayne Purdy

PRELUDE

Fanfare on ELLACOMBE
Jill Gardner, organist

Vicki Collinsworth

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. 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELLACOMBE

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 881

The Apostles' Creed

Victoria Smathers

*** SHARING THE PEACE**

Victoria Smathers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Sullivan Family

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us, "The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah" (Jeremiah 33:14). Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land; the longing of the sun, moon, and stars; the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace will receive their fulfillment.

While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—the days when God's kin-dom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

BLESSING OF SHOEBOXES

Wayne Purdy

PASTORAL PRAYER

Wayne Purdy

KIDS' TIME

O Come, Little Children

Victoria Smathers

**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

Luke 1: 26-38
Pew Bible, NT page 56

Lanny Lancaster

ANTHEM

Love Came Down at Christmas
 Chancel Choir; Jill Gardner, pianist; Nancy Blakemore, director

Joel Raney

SERMON

"Christmas Spirit: Let It Be"

Lanny Lancaster

*** HYMN** No. 216*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ES IST EIN ROS

OFFERING INVITATION

Wayne Purdy

Offertory

Lo, How A Rose

Jean Pasquet

*Offertory Response *Father, We Have Heard You Calling*

HYFRYDOL

Praise we bring to God the Father, praise we bring to God the Son,**Praise to God the Holy Spirit, praise to you, the three in one.****Trinity of love inspire us, may we always strive to be one in love and one in worship—children of eternity.****PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Wayne Purdy

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH page 12

Lanny Lancaster and Wayne Purdy

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, Jill Gardner

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 (unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*** HYMN** No. 196*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

*** BENEDICTION**

Lanny Lancaster

*** CHIMING OF THE TRINITY****POSTLUDE***Postlude on HYFRYDOL*

Charles Callahan

* please stand as you are able

Today's Communion Assistants: Ann Ballard, Tina Crew, Susan Furmage

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 worshipping 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

6:30pm NOW: Night of Worship contemporary service in the Chapel (1st & 3rd Thursdays)

Main Street UMC Staff

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor
Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries
Victoria Smathers, Director of Children's Min.
Nancy Blakemore, Director of Music Ministries
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director
Jill Gardner, Organist/Pianist
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

Main Street United Methodist Church

306 S. Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284

336-993-3411

www.mainstreetumc.org

Announcements

THE WHITE ROSEBUD on the altar in the Sanctuary is given to the Glory of God and in memory of Theo Dunlap.

SILENT AUCTION to benefit Western NC Disaster Relief is set up in the Commons **TODAY** and will end at **12:30pm on December 8**. The Christian Fellowship Sunday School class is sponsoring this fundraiser. Stop by the Commons and check out the nice items!

TAKE A HIKE: We will walk/hike on Tuesday, **December 3**. This will be our last hike of 2024. We will resume hiking in March as the weather warms. Meet in the church parking lot at 9 AM.

THE WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER on **December 4** is Oven-Fried Chicken (*gluten-free entrée is available upon request*). Dinner is served at **5:30pm**. Dining together is a great fellowship opportunity, but if you need to get your meal “to-go”, then we can do that, too! We have disposable takeout containers but we encourage you to bring your own re-usable containers for “to-go” meals. Reservations can be made by: signing a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate; calling the church office at 336-993-3411; emailing Kathryn (kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org); visiting our website or clicking the link in the Thursday Connections email each week. Reservations for dining in-person or “to-go” must be made by **Monday at noon**. The suggested donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child (10 & under). We accept cash, check, or cards. Christian Fellowship and Rise SS classes serving.

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 & encouragement in the middle of a busy week.

JOIN US FOR our Night of Worship (NOW) service at 6:30pm on **December 5** in the Chapel.

HERITAGE CLUB upcoming activities, contact Debbie Smith for reservations:

- **December 6** Dinner at Cody Creek, Seating is at 6:00. Bus will leave the church at 4:30. Cost to ride the bus will be \$5.00. Reservations are required.
- **December 17** High Point University Christmas Lights and Dinner. Van will leave the church at 4:30, we will drive through the HPU campus and enjoy their holiday lights before having a buffet dinner at Spiro's Family Restaurant. Pay for your own meal. Reservations required by December 10.

HANGING OF THE GREENS—Everyone is invited to join the Altar Guild on Saturday, **December 7** starting at 9:00am as we come together to decorate our church Sanctuary and Narthex for the holiday season.

CANTATA SUNDAY, December 8 at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary, the Music Ministry presents Joel Raney's “A Thrill of Hope”...a weary world rejoices! Presented by the Main Street Christmas Choir; Jill Gardner, organ; Jenny Lail, piano; the Main Street Handbell Choir; and Chamber Orchestra will shine in one combined, glorious service. In a world weary of many things, we find our greatest hope in Jesus Christ! Invite your family and friends to come celebrate the birth of Jesus in song at our ONE SERVICE on December 8 at 10:30 am.

SERVICE OF HOPE AND HEALING—The holidays are approaching and for some of us they may look different this year. The loss of a loved one, a diagnosis, divorce, loss of a job, or other major life event may have changed our lives. Please join us for a *Service of Hope and Healing* at 7:00pm on **December 10** in the Sanctuary. Come hear the music, a message of hope, receive Communion, and have the opportunity for prayer and lighting a candle for loved ones, for a gentle entry into the holidays.

PRAYER SHAWL Holiday Party at 9:30am on **December 12** in the Church Library. Bring Brunch goodies to celebrate another successful Prayer Shawl year. Contact Patty Rapp for more information.

CHRISTMAS CARDS for our Home Friends and Members over the age of 90 are due by **December 13**. A list of names is available in the Narthex and in the Commons at the Member Pickup Station.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY will be presented by the Kid's Connect Choir in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm on **December 13**. This evening promises to be “merry and bright” while touching the very heart of Christmas!

Lyrics

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.
3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth; love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
4. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end. The tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.
2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.
3. O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.