



MAIN STREET

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

10:55am
Traditional Worship Service

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Wayne Purdy

WE APPROACH GOD

PRELUDE

An Advent Prelude for Flute and Organ, Op. 62, No. 1
Kate Dietrich, flute; Jill Gardner, organ

Charles Callahan

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Victoria Smathers

Come, let's go together to God's mountain--**a mountain of God's glory and peace.**

Let's prepare for Christ's arrival--**the birth of the prince of peace.**

Come, let's worship the Spirit of love. **Clothed in Christ's love, we are ready to worship and pray.**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 249 *There's a Song in the Air*

CHRISTMAS SONG

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH No. 886

Victoria Smathers

The World Methodist Social Affirmation

We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

We believe; God, help our unbelief.

We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom: in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

Glory be to God on high; and on earth, peace.

We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference; through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come.

Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

* SHARING THE PEACE

Victoria Smathers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Foster Family

Advent Candle Lighting Song, sung by Harper and Jude Foster

Reading from Isaiah 2:4

Congregational Response: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Lighting of the Hope candle.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

Sarah McIntosh

WE HEAR FROM GOD

KIDS' TIME

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Victoria Smathers

**Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world; every color, shape, and size,
They are precious in his eyes. Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

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.

ANTHEM

For Unto Us

John Randall Dennis

Adult Chancel Choir: Adam Register, Brenda Montague, Carolyn Simmons, Elaine Fotia, Eric Manten, Gail Tozer, Janet Lancaster, Jim Chesson, Joy Malit, Lou Martin, Mac Clement, Melissa Dreshfield, Nancy Blakemore, Rich Blakemore, Sally Brown, Sarah McCullough, Sharyn Turner, Shaw Kenion, Wes O'Brien;
Kate Dietrich, flute; Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139: 1-24

Lanny Lancaster

Pew Bible, OT page 577

SERMON

"Known"

Lanny Lancaster

WE RESPOND TO GOD

* HYMN No. 209

Blessed Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

OFFERING INVITATION

Wayne Purdy

OFFERTORY *Air No. 20: He Shall Fed His Flock Like A Shepherd* from Messiah G.F.Handel

Kate Dietrich, flute

* DOXOLOGY No. 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sarah McIntosh

* HYMN No. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

* BENEDICTION

Lanny Lancaster

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE

Alleluia from Exultate, Jubilate

W.A. Mozart/arr. C. David

Katie Dietrich, flute

The Postlude is the final Alleluia of our worship; you are invited to remain seated for a time of joyful prayer.

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.

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 336-994-3411 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 Kids' Time before the younger children are dismissed to the Education Building for Kids Connect-Worship activities.
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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)

5:00pm Oasis Mid-week Service in the Sanctuary

Main Street UMC Staff

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor
Sarah McIntosh, Associate Pastor
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Jill Gardner, Director of Music Ministries
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director

Tina Crew, Business Manager
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess

Main Street United Methodist Church

306 S. Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284 336-993-3411 www.mainstreetumc.org

ROSEBUDS

The white rosebuds on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in memory of: Van Sherrill (Sanctuary), Tanya Brumfield (Sanctuary) and Wilma Rogers, Mike Witt's mother (Chapel).

POINSETTIAS AND STOCKING FUND DONATIONS DUE TODAY

A poinsettia may be placed in the church in honor or memory of a friend or loved one. These poinsettias can be ordered for \$10.00 each. Orders are due no later than **TODAY**. To place an order or make a donation, you can write a note on an offering envelope and place your payment in the offering plate. If you would rather make a memorial donation instead of purchasing a poinsettia, please note that you are making an Honorarium/Memorial contribution to the Kernersville Christmas Stocking Fund. Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary and Chapel in early December and we will list the gifts (both poinsettias and stocking fund memorials) in the December 16 newsletter.

CALLED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

All Church Council members are requested to meet at 12:15 **TODAY** in the Sanctuary for a brief meeting

UPCOMING SERVICE

A Celebration of Life service for MSUMC member Tanya Brumfield will be held at 2:00pm on **December 2** in our Sanctuary.

CHAPEL CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

United Women in Faith Circle #5 is selling beautiful MSUMC ornaments again this year. These ornaments are made of solid pewter and are made in the USA. We see this year's ornament featuring the "Chapel in the Snow" as a beautiful companion to last year's Sanctuary Ornament! We will again ask for a suggested donation of \$25 each. Proceeds from this sale will go to missions of the church and our community. We will take pre-orders in the Commons Area on Sundays. We will ask for payment at the time of pre-order.

WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER

The entrée on **December 3** is Pork Loin (*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 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. Cornerstone SS class serving.

HELP NEEDED FOR CHURCH LOCKUP

We're currently seeking a reliable individual to take on the responsibility of securing our facilities each evening. This would also include unlocking and relocking all buildings on Sundays. This role involves ensuring all doors are properly locked and the premises are safe before departure. Attention to detail and a strong sense of accountability are essential, as this task plays a critical role in maintaining the safety and integrity of our operations. This is a paid position. If you or someone you know is dependable and takes pride in keeping things secure, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Tina Crew in the church office at 336-993-3411 for further details.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR HOME FRIENDS

Let's continue the wonderful Main Street tradition of showing love and care for each other with Christmas Cards for our Home Friends and Members over the age of 90. A list of names is available in the November newsletter and at the Member Pick-up Station. Please return cards to the box in the Narthex by **December 14**.

HERITAGE CLUB

Everyone is invited to the next event hosted by MSUMC's Heritage Club on **December 5** for 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--deadline to signup is December 3, contact Debbie Smith (336-671-1215).

SHOEBOXES

Bring your filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child to MSUMC by NOON on **December 7**.

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. Grief, sadness, tiredness, and anxiety are a few words that may describe the feelings you are experiencing. You may feel the need for gentle instead of jolly. Please join us for a *Service of Hope and Healing* on Tuesday, **December 9**, at 7:00pm 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.

LOVE OFFERING

After twelve years of work as one of our custodians, Willie Craven is retiring. If you would like to express your appreciation to Willie upon his retirement, we will collect a love offering to offer him a token of our gratitude for his service to our church. Donations can be made directly to the church office with a note to add to the "Love Offering for Willie Craven". Due date is **December 14**.

BELONG—A CONVERSATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP AT MSUMC

Have you been curious about becoming a member at Main Street? Do you have questions about what membership is all about? Ready to Join and want to know next Steps? No matter where you are on that continuum, if you want to come find out more about membership here at Main St, join Pastor Sarah in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, **December 14** at 10:00am to learn more!

THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky! There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry! And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing, for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!
2. There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth, for the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth. Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing, for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!
3. In the light of that star lie the ages impearled; and that song from afar has swept over the world. Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing in the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!
4. We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng. Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring, and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!

BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL

1. Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free, who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.
2. Now from the house of David a child of grace is given; a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven. Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.
3. On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes, to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

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.