



MAIN STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 28 , 2025  
First Sunday after Christmas

10:55am  
Traditional Worship Service

**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Wayne Purdy

**WE APPROACH GOD**

**PRELUDE**

*In the Bleak Midwinter*  
Jill Gardner, organ

Allen Orion Gibbs

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Victoria Smathers

Praise the God of mercy and love.

**Praise God with angels in the highest heavens.**

Praise Christ, who came as a child.

**Praise Christ with all God's children, young and old alike.**

Praise the Holy Spirit, who calls us here.

**Praise the Spirit from the depths of our souls.**

**\* OPENING HYMN** No. 221

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

CRANHAM

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 880 The Nicene Creed

Victoria Smathers

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic\* and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*\*universal*

**\* SHARING THE PEACE**

Victoria Smathers

**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.

**PSALTER READING** UMH page 818 (with sung refrain) Psalm 98

Susan Lapping

### SOLO

*The Work of Christmas*

arr. Dan Forrest

Eric Powell, soloist; Jill Gardner, accompanist

### SCRIPTURE

Malachi 3:1

Lanny Lancaster

Pew Bible, OT page 889

### SERMON

"The Time of Transition"

Lanny Lancaster

## WE RESPOND TO GOD

\* **HYMN** No. 245

*The First Noel*

THE FIRST NOEL

### OFFERING INVITATION

Sarah McIntosh

### OFFERTORY

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* Melodia Sacra, G.F. Handel

David Culler, pianist

\* **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

Wayne Purdy

\* **HYMN** No. 224

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBILO

\* **BENEDICTION**

Lanny Lancaster

\* **CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

### POSTLUDE

*In Dulci Jubilo*

Noel Goemanne

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

\* please stand as you are able

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## 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)*

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### 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](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.mainstreetumc.org)

## **UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONAL BOOKS**

The new issues for January/February have arrived! Pick up your copy in the Sanctuary Narthex, at the “Member Pick-up Station” inside the Main Entrance to the Connections Building, or in the Chapel Narthex.

## **HOLIDAY CALENDAR CHANGES**

Due to the New Year’s Holiday, we will NOT have our Oasis Service or our Wednesday Connect Dinner on **December 31**. We will NOT have Men’s Breakfast on **January 1**. The Church Office will be CLOSED on **January 1**.

## **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.

## **PASTOR LANNY’S BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Lanny will start his “Becoming Disciples” Bible Study back up after the holiday break on **January 7** in the Chapel at 11:00am and 6:30pm on Wednesdays. The study will focus on the New Testament from January 7 through March 25. This is a great time for some new folks to join the class!

## **GET READY FOR CHILI!**

Our annual Chili Cookoff to raise funds for Youth Mission Trips this summer will be at 5:30pm on **January 25**. Make up a pot of your favorite chili and enter it into our contest (there will be prizes!). Even if you don’t want to make chili for the contest, we still need people to eat all the chili, so come on out! Admission is free but donations will be gratefully accepted for Youth Missions.

## **PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

*Main Street Connections Email* requests are due to the church office by 4:00pm on Tuesdays; Bulletin Announcements are due to the church office by noon on Tuesdays; and Newsletter Articles are due by noon on the FIRST Friday of every month.

## **COLLECTION BOXES**

A collection box for RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG plastic film recycling is located at the Member Pickup Station in the Commons, Fellowship Hall, and Preschool. We also have collection boxes in the Main Entrance to the Commons for: GOT SNEAKERS—donate used sneakers to be repurposed; HOPE CENTER—donate empty egg cartons, clothing, groceries; BOOKSAPALOOZA—donate new or used books; and CRISIS CONTROL—donate non-perishable food, each month has an item to focus on, January’s item is canned beef stew.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Let us know how we can pray for you! You can submit your prayer request by calling the church office at 336-993-3411 or by contacting one of the pastors. There is also a “button” on your weekly Connections email that is sent every Thursday, so that makes it easy!

## **CHURCH KEYS**

If you have borrowed a key to the church and are no longer using it, please return the key to Tina Crew in the church office.

## **BETHANY CAFÉ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Bethany Café provides a free meal to anyone in our community and is hosted each Saturday at local churches. Main Street UMC hosts Bethany Cafe on the 3rd Saturday of every month and lots of help is needed! Job descriptions and a sign-up form are available at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) (look for the “sign-ups” tab on the red stripe).

## **VOLUNTEER SOUND TECHS**

We still need sound tech help with all of our worship services, as well as assistance with the ProPresenter slides and livestream. No experience is required and training is available. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

## **NAMETAGS**

Wearing nametags is an act of hospitality—please remember to wear your nametags when you come to church and contact the church office if you need a new one!

## 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.
3. And by the light of that same star three Wise Men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. 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.

## GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: News, news! Jesus Christ is born today! Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today, Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath opened heaven's door, and yet are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: News, news! Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!