



Madison Street

United Methodist Church

Service for the Lord's Day ~ January 4, 2026 ~ 10:15 a.m.
Epiphany Sunday

A professionally staffed **nursery** is located through the double doors on the west side (front left) of the sanctuary. Our nursery is available for children and infants through age 3. **Restrooms** are also located through the double doors on the west side (front left) of the sanctuary.

ENTRANCE

The Chiming of the Hour

The Words of Gathering & Invitation to Worship

The Rev. Harriet Bryan

The Prelude

“Meditation on Crusader Hymn”
Gordon Young

Jeffrey Thomas, Organist

The Introit

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”

SIYAHAMBA
Madison Street Choir

+The Call to Worship (+Indicates stand as you are able)

Rev. Bryan

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Let us seek Christ together.

People: Let us follow where God's light leads.

+The Processional Hymn No. 249 “There's a Song in the Air”

CHRISTMAS SONG

The cross leads the procession as a reminder that Jesus Christ, the Word of God and savior of humanity, is at the center of our worship.

The acolytes light two candles on the altar to symbolize the dual nature of Jesus, fully human and fully divine.

The Act of Praise

“We Three Kings”

Madison Street Choir

arr. Tom Trenney

Words may be found on Hymn No. 254.

+The Opening Prayer of Confession

Rev. Bryan

O God of holy light,
who shines into the ordinary places of our lives
and calls us to follow,
forgive us when we choose comfort over courage and fear over faith.
Lead us as you led the magi and steady our steps,
so that we may walk in your vision
and respond with joy and generosity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+The Words of Assurance

Rev. Bryan

Leader: Hear the good news: God's light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, freed, and made new.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 27 (paraphrased)
arr. Hal Hopson

Madison Street Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 60:1–6

The Rev. Dr. Tim Sharp

+The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:1–12

Rev. Sharp

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

During the next hymn, children ages Pre-K through Kindergarten will be dismissed to Kids Core to worship in an exciting, child-oriented way!

*At the conclusion of worship, dismissal locations are: Pre-K: Rm. 305, Kindergarten: Rm. 308
Pre-K – Kindergarten Topic: Escape to Egypt Grades 1 – 5: Remain in Worship*

+Hymn No. 206

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

The Sermon

“Imagine Together: A Light for the World”

Rev. Bryan

Questions to Consider

Where do I see God shining light or clarity in my life right now?

Where do we see signs of God’s light breaking into our community?

What gifts is God inviting us to offer as we follow God’s light?

+The Affirmation of Faith No. 881

“The Apostles’ Creed”

The Rev. Dr. Tim Sharp

The Prayers of the People

Rev. Sharp

If you have a prayer request to share with our pastors, please email us at prayer@madisonstreetumc.org or fill out a prayer card found in the R.O.W. books and place in the offering plate.

The Offering of Our Gifts to God

Rev. Bryan

Your generosity enables us to make a difference in our community and world.

To give online, go to madisonstreetumc.org/giving or scan the QR code located on the green online giving card.

To give from your phone, text GIVE2MSUMC to 73256.

The Offertory

“This Is My Father’s World”

arr. Cindy Berry

Jeffery Thomas, Organist

+The Doxology No. 94

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Bryan

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.

The pastor gives thanks, remembering God's acts of salvation.

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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The prayer continues, and the institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.

In union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

The pastor invokes the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity.

The people respond; Amen.

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Our ushers will direct you to come down the center aisle and return to your seat by the outer aisles.

Gluten free elements are available at the station in the center. Waste stations are located at the base of the columns.

If you would like to be served where you are seated, please let an usher know as they pass by.

Today's communion offering supports the United Methodist Church's Human Relations Day, a special Sunday across our denomination, focused on fostering better relationships and supporting community and youth outreach. As we remember and give thanks for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we take up a special offering to help bring his vision of a "beloved community" to life. Your gifts support important programs like Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services, and Youth Offender Rehabilitation.

Please pick up a star word from the altar rail before returning to your seat. Selecting a star word for the coming year is a way to celebrate Epiphany. The idea is that this word might function as a sign for us, if we will allow ourselves to be guided by this word, just as the Magi were guided by the star.

Prayer During Communion (a contemporary interpretation of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer by The Rev. Jeremy Smith)

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being.

In truth, O God, I am Yours.

Make me into what You will.

Make me a neighbor with those whom You will.

Guide me on the easy path for You.

Guide me on the rocky road for You.

Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You;

Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You;
Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing;
I give all that I have and all that I am for You.
So be it.
And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

+The Invitation to Christian Discipleship		Rev. Bryan
+The Hymn No. 585	“This Little Light of Mine”	LATTIMER
+The Benediction		Rev. Bryan
+The Postlude	“Noël, from Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus” Oliver Messiaen	Jeffrey Thomas, Organist

*The acolytes lead us into the world carrying the light of Christ as a reminder
that God sends each of us into the world to share Christ's light with others.*

To donate flowers in January contact Lyn Patrick; (931) 237-3311 or uplandhall@aol.com.

Worship Leaders in Today's Service:

The Rev. Harriet Bryan ~ Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Tim Sharp ~ Pastoral Associate for the Arts
Lucretia Campbell ~ Congregational Care
Ashley Menard & Bruce Anderson ~ Technical Team
John Blevins & AJ Fish ~ Acolytes
Jeffrey Thomas ~ Organist
Madison Street Choir

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To contact a staff member, please email firstname@madisonstreetumc.org
(ex. adri@madisonstreetumc.org)



This Week at
Madison Street

Sunday, January 4

8:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Nursery/Childcare Available (2nd Floor Sanctuary Hall)
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Choir Makeup Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Groups (Various Locations)
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Beyond Limits (Rm. 215 – Sanctuary Hall)
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Streaming)

Wednesday, January 7

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, January 8

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Group (Library)

Sunday, January 11

8:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Nursery/Childcare Available (2nd Floor Sanctuary Hall)
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Choir Makeup Rehearsal (Choir Room)
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Small Groups (Various Locations)
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Beyond Limits (Rm. 215 – Sanctuary Hall)
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Streaming)

A Prayer for the New Year

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth.
We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears,
new decisions and old controversies,
new dreams and old weaknesses.
Because you are a God of hope,
we know that you create all the possibilities of the future.
Because you are a God of love,
we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past.
Because you are the God of our faith,
we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise,
we come into your presence with gladness and a joyful noise,
and we serve and bless you. Amen.

— Maren C. Tirabassi

Raise Your Voice! Children's Choirs at Madison Street

Madison Street United Methodist Church is thrilled to launch an exciting new **Children's Choir Program** for our church and wider community! Beginning **Wednesday, January 21**, children will gather weekly from **6:00–6:45 pm** to sing, learn, and grow through music in a joyful, nurturing environment led by **professionally trained musicians and music educators**.

Our choirs are designed for children at every stage, including **Preschool (age 3)** through **Grade 1**, **Grades 2–5**, and **Grades 6–8**. Through age-appropriate rehearsals, children will develop healthy vocal skills, musical literacy, confidence, teamwork, and a love for worship and the arts.

Each Wednesday evening begins with a free dinner for participating children at 5:30 pm, with a low-cost dinner option available for adults. While children rehearse, adults may participate in church activities or enjoy a quiet space to work or wait.

The children's choir program is directed by **Melody Fish, Tim Sharp, Conrad Edington**, with additional leadership and coordination provided by **Music Academy Director Robbin Johnston**.

Parents who would like to **enroll or re-enroll their children** are invited to scan the QR code below to complete a quick interest survey. Additional details will be shared in January.

We invite you to help your child discover the joy of singing, belonging, and praising God together—**come raise your voice with us!**



Scan the QR code to complete a short interest survey.



Scan the QR code to register.

