



## Central United Methodist Church

Our Mission:

To make disciples of Christ who WORSHIP God,  
GROW in their faith and SERVE in the church and world.

Rev. Mark L. Barden, Pastor  
Rev. Fawn Mikel, Director of Discipleship and Outreach  
Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries  
Nick Richart, Director of Youth Ministries

200 East Marion Street  
Shelby, NC 28150  
704-487-6336

<http://cumcshelby.org>

# The Worship of God

December 3, 2017

10:00 am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Fawn Mikel

Lighting of the Candles

Prelude

*A Friend to You*  
Butterfly Choir

Le Doux

## Call to Worship

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.**

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.**

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.**

For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**Glory to God in the highest!**

## Wreaths

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Hymn #206 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (st. 1&2)*

Wreaths Interpreted

Finn Parker

## Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

### **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love,  
that the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin,

### **That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ,**

That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
First Sunday of Advent

Chad Spurling Family

## **Evergreens**

Anthem

*Advent Celebration*  
Sonshine Choir

Patterson

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:5-6

Evergreens Interpreted

Alan Hughes

## **Poinsettias**

Hymn #216

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (st. 1&3)*

Scripture: Revelation 22:13,16

Rev. Mark Barden

Children's Time

Lori Wilson

## Holly and Ivy

Hymn

*The Holly and the Ivy*

**The holly and the ivy, when they are both full-grown,  
of all the trees that are in the wood,  
the holly bears the crown.**

**Chorus – The rising of the sun and the running of the deer  
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.**

**The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Savior.**

**Chorus**

**The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.**

**Chorus**

Scripture: Isaiah 53:1-6

Holly and Ivy Interpreted

Rayney Maxwell

## Chrismon Tree

Hymn #202

*People Look East (st. 1&2)*

Scripture: John 1:1-5, 9-14

Chrismon Tree Interpreted

Blessing of the Chrismon Tree – In Unison

**Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of  
your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by  
making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree,  
arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross  
of Christ that we may always rejoice in the new life  
that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Response – Refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High* (#238)  
**Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Lighting of the Chrismon Tree

**Proclamation and Response**

Proclamation of The Christmas Story      *Mary, Joseph and the Baby*  
Sonshine Choir

Offertory      *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*      arr. Varner  
Libby Alexander, organ

\*Doxology #95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication      Rev. Fawn Mikel

\*Closing Hymn #246      *Joy to the World*  
St. 1 – Sonshine Choir  
St. 2 & 4 - All

\*Benediction      Nick Richart

Congregational Response #206      *I Want to Walk as a Child of the  
Light (st. 3)*

\*Postlude      *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*      arr. Burkhardt  
Libby Alexander, organ

\*Please stand as you are able.

Central UMC is a *Safe Sanctuaries* church. Please be sure that your children are accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver.

***ADVENTure to Christmas***

Join us this evening at 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus by creating an Advent wreath, nativity set, Chrismon and more!  
Dinner will be served (salad, spaghetti, bread and cupcakes).

## **Poinsettias and Christmas Wreaths**

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia or wreath in honor or in memory of someone you love, order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary. Please fill out the order form and with your check or money folded inside, place in the offering plate. Or you may drop it by the church office or mail it to 200 E, Marion Street, Shelby, NC 28150. A special bulletin insert will list all memorial and honoraria on Sunday, December 17. **Last day for orders is Tuesday, December 12.** Poinsettias are \$15 each and wreaths are \$22 each.

## **Lunch with Susan**

Susan Bell's Bible Study this month will be Christmas through Artists' Eyes. Please join her on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

We hope that you and your family will spend



*December 8<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm – Uptown Shelby Holiday Celebration – Crossfire Choir sings at the Earl Scruggs Center*

*December 9<sup>th</sup>, 9 am – Women's Christmas Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall— tickets are \$15 and available in the office.*

*December 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am -- Second Sunday of Advent: Crossfire Choir Christmas Program*

*December 14<sup>th</sup>, noon - Kid's Place Christmas Program*

*December 15<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm – Uptown Shelby Holiday Celebration – Sing Christmas carols on the square and discover the Chrison tree in the Sanctuary.*

*December 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – Third Sunday of Advent: Christmas Cantata*

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – Fourth Sunday of Advent Service*

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm – Christmas Eve Family Service*

*December 24<sup>th</sup>, 11 pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

*December 31<sup>st</sup>, 10 am – Lessons and Carols will be shared as we celebrate Christmas!*



### **Butterfly Choir**

Zoe Alexander  
Holland Champney  
Lowrey Dellinger  
Adelyn Eckenrode  
Lex Hamrick  
Lindsey Grace Hamrick  
Samuel Sprinkle  
Max Spurling  
Mark Talbert

### **Sonshine Choir**

Cy Cook  
Leanna Eckenrode  
Hattie Hamrick  
Olivia Hamrick  
River Harrill  
Celia Hensley  
LeeAnne McDowell  
Steven Morgan  
Zella Rempson  
Zoe Rempson  
Avalina Richardson  
Gavin Richardson  
Liam Richardson  
Edmund Sprinkle  
Sam Spurling  
Micah Talbert

Morgen Champney – Butterfly Choir Director  
Marilyn Jack - Butterfly Choir Accompanist  
Libby Alexander – Sonshine Choir Accompanist  
Rhonda Keeley – Sonshine Choir Assistant  
Debbie Powell – Sonshine Choir Assistant

