



## 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

Savanna Craig, Coordinator of Children's Ministries

200 East Marion Street

Shelby, NC 28150

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<http://cumcshelby.org>

# The Worship of God

Christmas Eve 2018

11:00pm

Prelude

Lighting the Altar Candles

Welcome

\*Call to Worship

On this holiest of nights,

**We come, joining the shepherds  
who are stunned by wonder.**

On this most silent night,

**We come, our hopes and dreams  
joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

On this night of carols and candlelight,

**We come, our glad songs joining  
with the choirs of angels over us.**

Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:

**Christ the Lord!**

\*Processional - #234

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
st. 1, 2, & 3

Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Hymn - #217

*Away In A Manger"*  
st. 1, 2

Sermon

"Let There Be Light"  
Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Mark Barden

Prayer of Confession – In Unison

**Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who nurtured the growing child, that he might know love and safety. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize in our actions or in our inactions, our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Offertory

\*Doxology (Tune: Greensleeves)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.**

Great Thanksgiving (sung responses #2257 b, c, & d)

The Lord's Prayer – In Unison

Holy Communion

Lighting of the Christ Candle

\*Candle Lighting Carol #239

*Silent Night*

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN!  
CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN!**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!**

\*Benediction

\*Recessional Hymn - #246

*Joy to the World*  
st. 1,2 & 4

\*Postlude

\*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 including if and when they need to use the restroom during service. We appreciate your assistance as we strive to ensure the safety of all.

**Central's Annual Christmas Lunch** will be Christmas Day at 11:30 am in the PAC. We hope to see you there! Sign up to help is available online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084ea9ad2fa4f85-christmas>



*December 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – Lessons and Carols will be shared as we celebrate Christmas!*

*January 6<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – Epiphany – Baptism of the Lord Service*

*January 9<sup>th</sup>, noon -- Kid's Place Epiphany Service in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited.*

**Church Office Closed** December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Regular hours will resume on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

**To Our Guests:**

Thank you for sharing in worship today. We are honored that you have chosen to spend a portion of your day with us and we want to help you have a meaningful experience. Here are a few things that you may find helpful.

-**Childcare** is available for infants and preschool aged children. Our nursery staff awaits you in room E105.

-**Hearing devices** are available for those who need them.

-**Large print Bibles & Hymnals** are available for those who need them.

The Ushers are at each door and will happily assist you with any of these.