



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. David Lee, Pastor
Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries
Savanna Craig, Director of Discipleship

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

<http://cumcshelby.org>

The Worship of God

December 26, 2021

10:00am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. David Lee

Prelude *Hope is Here (Joy to the World)*
Praise Ensemble Instrumentalists

arr. Clause

*Call to Worship

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

Let us go with the shepherds:

Let us go to find the Savior!

Let us go with the wise ones:

Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Let us go with the poor and humble:

Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

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

Christ the Lord!

*Congregational Song *O Come All Ye Faithful (We Adore You)*

Scripture – Luke 2: 1-4

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

Congregational Song *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Scripture – Luke 2: 5-7

Joseph went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Congregational Song *Away in a Manger*

Scripture – Luke 2: 8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Congregational Song

The First Noel

Scripture – Luke 2: 15-18

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

Congregational Song

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Offertory

What Child Is This

arr. Chapman

Praise Ensemble Instrumentalists

*Doxology (Tune: Greensleeves)

**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.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.**

A Christmas Litany Of Intercession

God of joy and celebration, God of love and mercy, God of peace and righteousness

We sing aloud and dance with the angels.

The ruler of all worlds, the shepherd of creation Jesus Christ has come among us.

Our Savior Christ has come, not in power, not in might, but in the tenderness of love, the promise of life hidden in a mother's womb.

In this season of God with us we celebrate with the angels. We are graced by the wonder of God's presence. We are filled with the tenderness of Christ's love,

This is the time we believe once more that perfect love casts out fear, that generosity transforms scarcity into abundance, that righteousness overcomes oppression with justice.

Shout aloud Hallelujah! God's faithfulness comes down from heaven, God has kept his promise, the Savior has been born and a new world begun.

We are graced by Christ's presence and filled with his love. May we become bearers of God's light and go out to transform our troubled world.

Shout aloud Hallelujah! God's faithfulness comes down from heaven, God has kept his promise, the Savior has been born and a new world begun.

*Congregational Song *Joy to the World*

*Benediction

*Postlude *Go Tell It (Reprise)* arr. Chapman
Praise Ensemble Instrumentalists

*Please stand if 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.

Office Hours for the Holidays

Office closed Monday, December 27th. Normal hours will resume Tuesday, December 28th. Office closed Monday, January 3rd. Normal hours will resume Tuesday, January 4th.

Backpack Ministry

We need your help in filling our closet with food for the backpacks we deliver to North Shelby and Shelby Middle each week. For December, we are requesting **individual packets of oatmeal or grits—any brand is fine**. You may drop them off at the office

New Church Directory

We hope to put out a new/updated church directory in January. (no pictures will be involved) If you have changed mailing addresses, phone numbers, or email addresses, please contact the office at 704-487-6336 or central@cumcshelby.org so we can update our records before printing and distributing the new directory.

Disciple 3 Bible Study

Rob Laney is looking to start this bible study on January 25th from 4-6 pm. This session takes a look at the Prophets and Letters of Paul all with the focus of identity and remembering who we are. It will be an incredibly meaningful, deep study that you will get a lot out of. If you are interested you may contact Rob or the office. Cost of the books is \$25.58. Additional days/times may be added if needed.

Prayer Concerns

We invite you to pray during the week for the following:

- ❖ All of those recovering or suffering from medical issues, physical and emotional, including Doris Pierce; Phyllis Brackett; Tammy Mauney; Christy Miranda; Sarah Beam; June Miller; Wayne Black; John Reid; Morgan Morrison; Talmadge Strickland; Jimmy Toole; Travis and Stacey Hoyle; William Pierce; Bill and Loretta Harris; Larry Brown; Lillian Rogers; Marilyn Herndon; Anne Stevens Cicci; Larry Thomas; Claudia Rose; Frankie Patterson; Bill Jack; Jessie Sumrell; Dawn Russell; Gina Blanton; Dale Almond; Emily Ousley; Rita Hamrick; Pat Ellison; Bill & Peggy Ledford; Brian Goff; Judy Beachley; and Alan & Scarlette Funderburke.
- ❖ We pray for those who experience injustice. Give us hearts of compassion to stand united with all people.
- ❖ We pray for our world as we continue the COVID-19 battle. May we continue to persevere with wisdom and care for each other.
- ❖ For caregivers carrying more burdens than we may understand
- ❖ Those who grieve, may they find comfort. Especially the family of Bill Beattie
- ❖ Our shut-ins and others feeling alone. May we be arms reaching out, enfolding them into the body of Christ.
- ❖ The church universal and the United Methodist Church.
- ❖ We pray for peace in our world, nation and communities. May God heal and unify all people.
- ❖ The ministries of Central United Methodist Church. We especially pray for the CUMC youth group. May our young people continue to grow together and in relationship with God as they make a huge impact in our community.

And though unknown and unspoken, may we help carry each other's burden and praise God for each other's joys.

COVID-19 Policy

Based on the recommendation by the CDC, Governor Cooper, and the Bishop's office, and recognizing the ongoing Coronavirus in our community, we are requiring the use of masks inside the church building.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19: *Before participating in any activities at Central UMC, you must quarantine for 10 days beginning the first day you had symptoms and/or a positive COVID test.*

If you have been exposed to COVID-19 within your family household or high-risk exposure outside of household: *You must quarantine until the last person in your household that tested positive for COVID has completed their 10 day quarantine (beginning the first day they had symptoms and/or a positive COVID test). Following that 10 day quarantine period, wait an additional 5 days or test negative for COVID-19.*

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 E106.

-**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.

Sermon Notes
