



## 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 5, 2021

10:00am

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Gathering Music

Silas Hamilton, pedal steel

Welcome and Announcements

Savanna Craig

Prelude

*People, Look East*  
Libby Alexander, organ

arr. Wood

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The McDowell Family

\*Congregational Song

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel (st. 1)*

Responsive Prayer

Savanna: O come, O come, Immanuel,

**People: And be light for our darkness.**

Savanna: Be comfort in our grief, and be a friend for our loneliness,

**People: A safe place for our searching.**

Savanna: O come, O come, Immanuel,

**People: Restore our joy, heal our wounds, and bring us peace.**

Savanna: God in this season suspended between hope and fulfillment, let us never forget what you have done.

**People: May we be overwhelmed by your mercy, which flows in wave after wave.**

Savanna: May we be honest about the darkness within us, and perceptive of the light around us.

**People: May we make straight the path for the Lord, that together we may see God's glory revealed in your Son, Jesus, who taught us to pray...**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.**

Children's Message

Savanna Craig

Anthem *Goodness of God* Fielding  
Praise Ensemble  
Savanna Craig, solo  
I love you, Lord, oh Your mercy never fails me; all my days I've  
been held in your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, oh I will sing  
of the goodness of God.  
And all my life you have been faithful, and all my life you have been  
so, so good;  
With every breath that I am able, oh I will sing of the goodness of  
God.  
I love your voice, You have led me through the fire. In darkest  
nights You are close like no other.  
I've known You as a Father, I've known you as a friend. And I have  
lived in the goodness of God.  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give you everything.  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

Sermon "Mary" Rev. David Lee  
Luke 1:26-38

Offertory *A Virgin Unspotted* arr. Martin  
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**

Great Thanksgiving You are welcome to use *The Faith We Sing* hymnal  
p. 2257 b-d for the sung portions

Holy Communion

\*Congregational Hymn #206 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

\*Benediction

\*Chiming the Trinity

\*Postlude *Let Your Little Light Shine*

**Let your little light shine, shine, shine  
Let your little light shine, oh my Lord  
There might be someone down in the valley trying to get  
home**

\*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.

*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

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## **Crossfire Youth Choir**

All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders come and sing Sundays 4:30-5:30 pm

## **Sunday Night Hangs**

All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders meet today 5:30-8 pm for Christmas Caroling and dinner at Mi Pueblito

## **Central Kids**

All children 4 years-5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us on Wednesdays, 5-5:54 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## **Midweek Check-In**

All 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders join us Wednesdays 4-4:45 pm at Lily Bean Coffee

## **Bible Study**

**1st & 2nd Samuel Bible Study** Thursdays 6-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall

## **Angel Tree**

Shelby Middle has an Angel Tree for some of their students and Suzanne Hensley is looking for sponsors. If you can help, you can call or text at 336-327-6503 or email her at [sghensley@clevelandcountyschools.org](mailto:sghensley@clevelandcountyschools.org)

## **Christmas Love Offering**

As we move from a season of Thanksgiving to the season of Advent we have had time to reflect on so much to be thankful for. As a Congregation, one of the many things we have to be thankful for is our "Church Staff".

In a year of transition for our pastors, our former deacon and former financial secretary, our church staff has made this process work seamlessly. However, that is only because they have dedicated themselves to working additional hours and taking on additional responsibilities so that us, as a Congregation, would not be affected. For these efforts we are again very thankful and as a means of sharing our gratitude we are hoping to collect a "Love Offering" for our staff during this season of Advent.

If you feel moved to do so and are able to do so, please contribute by placing a check in the offering boxes or by mailing it to the church office with the words "love offering" written on the memo line. If you would like to contribute by cash please write "love offering" on the envelope prior to placing it in the offering boxes.

And as always, thanks to you, our Congregation, for supporting our staff through encouragement, compliments and a willingness to assist our staff as we strive to work together as one body in Christ. May each of you this season be filled with the Peace of Christ.

Sincerely,  
The Staff Parrish Committee

## **Christmas Gathering for College Aged Adults and High School Seniors**

We will be having a Christmas gathering for our college students, college-aged adults, and high school seniors on Tuesday, December 21st from 4-6 PM at Pastor David and Amy's house. RSVP by Friday, December 17th, to Savanna at [savannamcraig91@gmail.com](mailto:savannamcraig91@gmail.com) or Pastor David at [DJLee75@yahoo.com](mailto:DJLee75@yahoo.com).

### **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 **Mon.-Thur. 9AM-4 PM and Fri. 9 AM-1 PM**.

### **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 Alan Hughes; Christy Miranda; Sarah Beam; June Miller; Wayne Black; John Reid; Morgan Morrison; Talmadge Strickland; Jimmy Toole; Travis and Stacey Hoyle; Sarita Verma; 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 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. We pray especially for the family of Jean Eaker; Ellen Benfield whose mother, Jane Corriher passed away; Virginia Story on the passing of her husband, Bill.
- ❖ 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.