

CENTRAL

United Church of Christ
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT



December 16, 2018
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
10:00 a.m.

The Mission of
Central United Church of Christ is...
to be a Christ-centered community
of faithful disciples,
who are called
to GROW IN FAITH, and
to SHARE GOD'S LOVE
as we REACH OUT
to each other,
to our community
and to our world.

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* indicates please stand, as you are able

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” #102

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

Sing aloud, children of the most high! Shout with joyful praise!

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again we will say, “Rejoice!”

The God of our salvation is near at hand. Our redeemer is in our midst.

With shouts of hope, we sing to God. Again we sing, “Rejoice!”

Make known God’s deeds. Proclaim Christ’s love for all to hear. **Again we sing, “Rejoice!”**

***CHORAL INTROIT**

***GATHERING PRAYER (in unison)**

With laughing hearts and joyous hope, we come to you, O God. With tired souls and withered dreams, we come to you, O God. In our joy and in our sorrow, we turn to you, O God. Renew us with your love. Gather us into your strong embrace, that we may know your presence and rejoice in your promised coming. With hopeful expectation, we pray. Amen.

***PRAISE HYMN**

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night” #106

***PASSING THE PEACE**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE GLORIA PATRI (sung in unison)**
Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Advent Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (3rd verse) #88

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

CHORAL RESPONSE

CHOIR ANTHEM "Mary's Carol" - arr. Margaret White

I think I hear the carol sweet
that Mary wished to sing,
when the shepherd's brought their gentle lambs
and knelt before their King.
This carol rings in melody
like bells from far away,
and rises with new resonance
and in my heart will stay.
For Mary lived like peasant folk,

she loved each simple thing.
Like the pureness of a shepherd's pipe
Her carol seems to clearly ring.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

***THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
One holy and universal Christian Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.
Amen. (Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer, 1662*)

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Shepherds” - Held

***THE DOXOLOGY (sung in unison)**

**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.**

***DEDICATION PRAYER (in unison)**

**Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us
to be your friends,
and to know your will in the world.
Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name
that these tithes and offerings
spread your love near and far. Amen.**

AND GO FORTH IN LOVE

***CLOSING HYMN** “It Came Upon The Midnight Clear” #107

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

***POSTLUDE** Fanfare on "Adeste Fidelis" - Young

Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES
December 16 – 23

TODAY:	3 rd Sunday of Advent	
	Adult Sunday School	8:30AM
	Coffee Hour	9:00AM
	Worship	10:00AM
	Children's Sunday School	10:15AM
	Handbell Solo Christmas Concert	2:00PM
MON:	Scouts	7:00PM
WED:	Quilting	9:00AM
	Meal On Wheels	10:00AM
	Young Youth After School Activities	3:45PM
	Senior Choir	6:00PM
	Bell Choir	6:15PM
THURS:	Finance Ministry	5:30PM
	Faith Formation	6:00PM
	Church Council	7:00PM
NEXT SUNDAY:	4 th Sunday of Advent	
	Adult Sunday School	8:30AM
	Coffee Hour	9:00AM
	Worship	10:00AM
	Children's Sunday School	10:15AM

Attendance Last Sunday: 66

Altar flowers are in honor of my father, Don Webster, from Joni Witt.

Bulletins are in honor of my friends in the church from Laverne Baker.

Please pray for our members, family and friends: Mabel Thompson, Elizabeth Klemme, Kathryn Waite, Audrey Hoelscher Bruemmer, Jacquie Howser, Tonya Berhorst, Beckett Michael Karr (parents Geoff and Lauren Karr), Jimmy Fairchild

Pastoral Care – Rev. Stoneburner has agreed to fill-in for emergency pastoral care. If you have a need for pastoral care, please call the church office at 635-1041, and they will be in contact with Rev. Stoneburner.

Our thanks and appreciation to Rev. Dr. Judith Scott for leading us in worship this morning and delivering the sermon message.

90+ Birthdays:

(To our knowledge, there are no 90+ birthdays in December.)

Central's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will take place on Monday, December 24 at 6:00pm. (*Please note new start time.*) Mark your calendars and plan to attend this beautiful service as together we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

The 2019 offering boxes (envelopes) are ready for you to pick-up in the narthex. Please do not begin using these envelopes until January 1st, 2019. After December 31st, please discard any 2018 envelopes or previous year's envelopes as the system reassigns different numbers each year.

2018 Annual Reports: If you are responsible for submitting information about your group's 2018 activities for the Annual Report, please do so **by January 1, 2019**. Rene Miserez will be gathering and compiling the information for this year's report,

so please **email everything to: bellsic@aol.com**. In the subject line reference “Church -- 2018 Annual Report.”

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 19, 2019 for an all-you-can-eat breakfast put on by the Brotherhood. The community will be invited as well. Menu includes eggs, pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, and juice. More information will follow – be sure to mark January 19 on your calendar.

Incoming mail for groups within Central UCC – Mail addressed to various groups, committees, etc. at Central Church will be placed on shelves in the library across from the office until we can acquire a more permanent type of mail sorter.

It’s time to sign-up for monthly 2019 Salvation Army Meals. All months are open except January and May. If you would like to volunteer, contact Mission and Outreach Ministry chair, Susan Poettgen, at 573-298-4515 or susan.poettgen@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed to prepare Communion for 2019. Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month as well as the Ash Wednesday Service and Easter Services. We’re needing volunteers to help prepare the elements and clean-up afterwards. Please contact Worship Ministry chair, Mary Ann Wippermann, at 636-3685 or mlwipper@embarqmail.com.

2019 Bulletin Openings: The Sundays shown below are available for 2019. Cost is \$15 per Sunday. If interested, please contact the office at office@centralucc.com or 635-1041.

4th Sunday in April (4/28)

A silhouette of a nativity scene is set against a dark purple and blue night sky. A bright, multi-pointed star shines in the upper right, with a beam of light extending downwards. The scene includes the silhouettes of Mary kneeling, the infant Jesus in a manger, and a standing figure, possibly a shepherd or Joseph, holding a staff. A palm tree is visible on the right side of the scene.

Christmas begins with Christ

Handbell Solo Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 16
2:00 p.m.

Scripture and music woven together to reflect on Jesus' birth



Christmas Eve Memorial and Honorarium Listing: If you would like to contribute to a Central UCC fund of your choice and participate in the Memorial and Honorarium Listing, please complete the form included in the bulletin and turn it in to the office by **Monday, December 17**. Please be sure to PRINT your wording for the listing. Payment for the fund should accompany the form (make checks payable to Central UCC). The listing will be available for you to pick-up at the Christmas Eve Service.

CHRISTMAS EVE MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM FORM

Please complete the information below and **return the form with payment to the church office by Monday, December 17.**

NAME/PHONE:

Make your selection and write in the amount:

\$_____ General Fund \$_____ Organ Fund

\$_____ Memorial Fund \$_____ Music/Choir

\$_____ Capital Improvement \$_____ Bell Choir Fund

TOTAL DONATION: \$_____

Please PRINT the wording you would like on the listing:



Dancers' Alley

&



SOUTHSIDE
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

present

The Nutcracker

Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 7:00 P.M.

Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018 1:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

Miller Performing
Arts Center

501 Madison St. Jefferson City, Missouri

For ticket information, call:

573-635-6610

www.DancersAlley.com

www.SouthsidePhilharmonic.org

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Thank you for joining us in worship today. Your presence and participation are an important part of shaping this experience of worship for all of us. Know that whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey of life and of faith, you are welcome here!

If you are a guest here today, we would love for you to become a regular part of what God is doing in and through this church community. If you have any questions about joining us in ministry, please contact the Pastor.

Large Print Bulletins: Large print editions of the worship bulletin are available in the Narthex and by the elevator.

Friendship Register: Please sign the Friendship Register (the blue book at the end of the pew) when it is passed around so that we have a record of your visit.

Ministers	Every Member
Director of Music	Dr. Patrick Clark
Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director	Rene Miserez
Organist.....	Shirley Klein



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