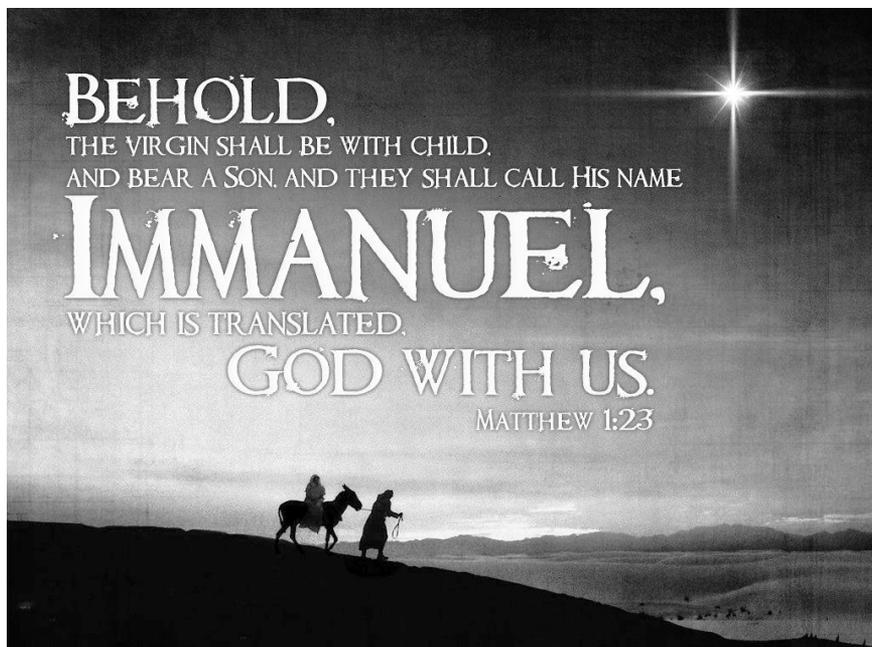


CENTRAL
United Church of Christ
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT



BEHOLD,
THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD,
AND BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME

IMMANUEL,

WHICH IS TRANSLATED,

GOD WITH US.

MATTHEW 1:23

December 22, 2019
Fourth 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.

All Hymns and Songs reprinted under CCLI.

* indicates please stand, as you are able

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

#105

CENTERING WORDS

“Faith is the place of mystery, where we find the courage to believe in what we cannot see and the strength to let go of our fear and uncertainty.” --Brene Brown

***CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)**

When an angel of the Lord appeared to Mary, Mary said yes, even in the midst of the unknown.

When an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph, Joseph said yes, even in the midst of uncertainty.

When we consider the origins of our Christian faith in the midst of mystery and glory, we say yes to God.

When we celebrate the birth of Christ, we proclaim God is with us, Emmanuel.

Come! Let us worship.

CHOIR INTROIT***GATHERING PRAYER (in unison)**

Loving God, we seek your grace and forgiveness for those times when we have not chosen well. We seek your compassion and mercy for those times when our choices were based on fear and mistrust, rather than love and care. We confess our weakness and rejoice in the gift of grace we have through your Son, Christ Jesus. Amen.

PRAISE HYMN

“Joy to the World”

#120

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” (all verses) #88

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 7:14, 15
Romans 1:1-6
Matthew 1:18-25

CHOIR RESPONSE

CHOIR ANTHEM “*Angels Are Making Their Rounds*” - Choplin

Angels are making their rounds
O what a beautiful sound,
Angels are making their rounds,
Angels are making their rounds.

Fear not, Zechariah, for the Lord
Has heard your prayer.
Elizabeth will bear a son.
Hail, O blessed one, you have found
favor with God. O blessed one,
you have found Favor with God.
You have found favor with God.
Hail, O blessed one, you have found
Favor with God. O blessed one,
You have found favor with God.

Angels are making their rounds,
O my, what a beautiful sound.
Heaven's glory comes down when
Angels are making their rounds,
Angels are making their rounds.

Fear not, Joseph, go and take Mary
To be your wife, for she carries a holy Child.
Unto you is born a Savior, glory to God
And peace on earth, for now the Lord is with you.

Angels are making their rounds,
O my, what a beautiful sound.
Heaven's glory comes down when
Angels are making their rounds.
Angels are making their rounds.

Hail, O blessed one, you have found favor with God.
O blessed one, you have found favor with God.
Hail, O blessed one, you have found favor with God.
O blessed one, you have found favor with God.

Angels are making their rounds,
O my, what a beautiful sound.
Heaven's glory comes down when
Angels are making their rounds,
Angels are making their rounds.
Fear not, Zechariah, fear not, Joseph,

Hail, O blessed one, the Lord is with you,
The Lord is with you.

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.

CHOIR RESPONSE

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“A Child Is Born in Bethlehem”* – Buxtehude

***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 *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

#108

***BENEDICTION**

CHOIR RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *“Glory to God in the Highest”* – Pergolesi

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

* * * * *

THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES
December 22 – December 29

TODAY:	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	Adult Sunday School	8:30am
	Coffee Hour	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
MON:	Scouts	7:00pm
TUES:	Christmas Eve Service	6:00pm
THURS:	Adult Bible Study	10:00am
NEXT SUNDAY:		
	Adult Sunday School	8:30am
	Coffee Hour	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am

Attendance last Sunday: 46

Altar flowers are in loving memory of Allen and Jeannette Kassebaum, Mildred Calhoun, and our grandparents from Steve and Marilyn Bradford.

Bulletins are in memory of loved ones from Gladden and Muck families.

Please pray for our members, family and friends: Mabel Thompson, Elizabeth Klemme, Jacquie Howser, Beckett Michael Karr (parents Geoff and Lauren Karr), Jimmy Fairchild, Melissa Parscal, Jenny Alpers, Larry Rizner, Lee Thompson, Finn Price, August Begemann, Pat Brauner, Hank Gozia, Michelle Heymeyer, Abel Green, Jerry Watson, Lonnie Schneider, George Seifert, Doug Blaha, Tommy Thompson, Norma Klemme, Eleanor Diersing, Allen Schmutzler, Dennis Kuebler, Janet Miller

Rev. Scott's contact information:

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott
2407 S. Holloway Road
Oak Grove, MO 64075
816-690-0042
scottjudy@centurylink.net

90+ Birthdays this month:

(To our knowledge, there are no 90+ birthdays in December. If you know someone who should be added to the list, please contact the office.)

Thank you to everyone who provided a poinsettia to beautify the sanctuary. Please remember to take it home after the Christmas Eve Service, or you can pick it up at church on December 26 or 27.

Adult Bible Study with Rev. Scott has moved to Thursdays, at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Scott will continue our journey through the Bible. The class is open to all!

The 2020 offering envelope boxes are available for you to pickup in the narthex. Please DO NOT begin using your envelopes until January 5, 2020 as the system renumbers the envelopes each year.

Annual Reports – If you are responsible for submitting information for the 2019 Annual Report, please turn in your report **by December 31, 2019** so that your group will be included. Reports should be emailed to office@centralucc.com. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 573-635-1041.



**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
December 24, 6:00 p.m.**

Central's Christmas Eve Service which takes place **Tuesday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m.**, will be a beautiful, candlelight service of scriptures and carols. *(Please note start time.)* Mark your calendars, spread the word, and invite family and friends. Plan to attend as together we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

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
Stated Supply Minister.....	Rev. Dr. Judith Scott
Director of Music	Dr. Patrick Clark
Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director.....	Rene Miserez
Organist.....	Shirley Klein



118 W. Ashley Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: 635-1041 E-mail: office@centralucc.com
Website: www.centralucc.com