

Worship Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

Scripture Reader: Mary Jo Landreth

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" - arr. Hayes 1985 Gaither Music Co.

Call to Worship From the website of Grace Church in Ealing, London. <http://www.freshworship.org/>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2018/11/opening-prayer-seeking-light.html>.

Litany Adapted from a prayer by Christine Sine on Godspace. <http://godspace-msa.com/>. Posted on the website of the Irricana United Church. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/litany-light-of-god-has-come.html>.

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen CCLI Song # 39441© Words and Music: Public Domain

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" - arr. Tom Roed 1985 CPP/Belwin, inc

Photo Credit I would also like to add this picture for Christmas Day—either on the front or the back if we have lots of space. Attribution: Valente, Liz. Manger, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59334> [retrieved December 20, 2022]. Original source: Liz Valente, <https://www.instagram.com/donalizvalente/>.

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*We wish Pastor Miriam the very best and are grateful for the many beautiful sermons, her joyful laughter, and her ability to get Central through some tough times with grace. With love, the members and staff of Central*

The church office will be closed Dec 26-30.

**Choir** will resume on **Jan 4.**

The **Tuesday ladies Bible study** will resume on **Jan 10.**

**Virginia Paul**, Central's organist will be out for several weeks. **Kim Osborn** will be subbing for Virginia.

For the month of January, we will have a series of **lay speakers** each Sunday morning at Central. Our first speaker is Adam Kolmetz.

### December Financials

Needed Weekly	\$15,559
Received Dec 18	\$13,478
Needed for Dec	\$62,235
Received for Dec	\$34,488

### Last Week's Attendance

In-person:	109
Online:	88



616 Jackson Street  
Decatur, Alabama 35601  
256) 353-6941  
[CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com](mailto:CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com)  
<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>  
Sunday School – 9:30 AM  
Worship – 10:30 AM

### Calendar

#### Tuesday, December 27

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G  
8:00 AM Centering Prayer, CH  
2:30 PM Prayer Team

#### Wednesday, December 28

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G

#### Thursday, December 29

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study-JJ

#### Friday, December 30

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G  
9:00 AM, Women's Java Jaay Bible

CH- Chapel, FH- Fellowship Hall  
LFH- Lower Fellowship Hall  
L - Library S- Sanctuary G- Gym

Check our website for up-to-date calendar.  
[www.CentralUnitedMethodist.com](http://www.CentralUnitedMethodist.com)



## GLORY TO GOD

DECEMBER 25, 2022

Central's mission:

**Love God, love others, and serve the world**

December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

10:30 AM

*Please silence electronic devices.*

*\*Stand at these points, as you're comfortable.*

Musical Gift "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*arr. Hayes*

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

In this season of waiting, of longing,  
of looking for you to come into our world

**We are seeking light**

In our own lives

**We are seeking light**

In our neighborhoods

**We are seeking light**

In our families

**We are seeking light**

In our work

**We are seeking light**

In Grace

**We are seeking light**

In our nation

**We are seeking light**

In our world

**We are seeking light**

In our future

**We are seeking light**

Seek and you shall find

Knock and the door will be opened  
Ask and it will be given to you  
**Jesus Christ you are the light of the world**  
**May we have eyes to see you**  
**And ears to hear you**  
**Come into our world today**  
**Amen**

\*Opening Hymns #240 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

**Refrain**  
**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

**Refrain**

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

**Refrain**

\*Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostle’s Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth.**  
**and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**  
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
**born of the Virgin Mary,**  
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, dead, and buried;**  
**The third day he rose from the dead;**  
**He ascended into heaven,**  
**and sitteth at 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; the holy catholic\* church;**  
**the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;**  
**the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*universal*

\*Greeting

Singing of Carols

Prayers of the People

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Blessing of the Toys

Rev. Miriam Smith

Bible Reading — Isaiah 9:2-7

**Lord, open our hearts and minds**  
**by the power of your Holy Spirit,**  
**that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,**  
**we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

—  
The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

You have made the nation great; you have increased its joy. They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest, as those who divide plunder rejoice.

As on the day of Midian, you’ve shattered the yoke that burdened them, the staff on their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor.

Because every boot of the thundering warriors, and every garment rolled in blood will be burned, fuel for the fire. A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders.

He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be vast authority and endless peace for David’s throne and for his kingdom, establishing and sustaining it with justice and righteousness now and forever.

—  
The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Litany

Come and see!  
**The light of God has come into our world**  
**to proclaim God’s justice and love;**  
**It has overcome the darkness and brought new life.**

Come and follow!  
**Christ our companion has redeemed our world**

**He draws us into a loving family**  
**From every tribe and family and culture.**

Go and tell!  
**The Spirit has equipped us for service**  
**To love our neighbours as we do ourselves**  
**To bring God’s salvation to the ends of the earth.**

Come and see, come and follow, go and tell!  
**In God’s Love the nations of the earth will put their hope.**

\*Closing Hymn “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”  
God rest ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan’s pow’r when we were gone astray

**Chorus**  
**O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy**  
**O tidings of comfort and joy**

In Bethlehem in Jewry this blessed Babe was born  
And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn  
The which His mother Mary did nothing take in scorn

**Chorus**

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name

**Chorus**

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace  
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface

**Chorus**

\*Sending Forth

Musical Gift “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*arr. Tom Roed*