

The pink rose at the altar is for the birth of Lillian Joan Addison, born on November 18. Lillian is the daughter of William and Nok Addison and the granddaughter of Joan and David Addison

Prepare for the third Sunday in Advent, December 11, 2022: We continue on our journey to Bethlehem with more words from the prophet Isaiah. Read Isaiah 35:1-10. Again, there is beautiful imagery in the words for this week. They are words of hope for the future that have inspired many throughout history. There is also a continuation of the theme of new life coming forth from unexpected places. Notice the places where you see this, are there any that are particularly striking or meaningful to you? At the same time we delight in these promises, we remember that Isaiah wrote these words at a time when hope was badly needed. Surely as his hearers encountered his words, some might have thought he was completely out of touch. What visions of the future feel out of touch today? Where is hope hard to find? How does your faith inform these observations for you?

Need someone to talk to? Contact Pastor Miriam. Central also offers **Stephen Ministers**—lay Christian friends trained to help through times of crisis. The pastor can get you in touch with one.



Central's mission:
Love God
Love others
Serve the world

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

Lunch Bunch is every Wednesday at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$3 to help with the lunch costs.
 The **Happy Birthday Jesus Party** is Wednesday, **December 7 at 5 pm** in the fellowship hall. We will have pizza, salad, drinks and cake available for **\$5.00 per person**. Don't forget to **bring your shoeboxes** to turn in for the Volunteer Center.
 The **Children's Play**, Rooty's Christmas Wish, is on Sunday, **December 11, at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall.
 If you would like to donate to **honor a loved one** towards the purchase of poinsettias to decorate the fountain, please pick up a form at the church. The deadline is **Dec 16** and the names will be in the **Dec 23 bulletin**.
Christmas Eve candlelight services will be at **5 pm** and at **11 pm** on Dec. 24.
Sunday, Dec 25th; there will be a **blessing of the toys**. Bring your favorite toy received this Christmas to be blessed during the service.

November Financials

Needed Weekly	\$15,559
Received Nov 27	\$26,425
Needed for Nov	\$62,235
Received for Nov	\$55,745

Last Week's Attendance

In-person:	142
Online:	77

Calendar

Sunday, December 4

9:15 AM Crossroads (Rm 209)
 9:30 AM Children, Youth 3rd Fl), Cornerstone (LFH), Agape (L), Lovett (Rm 208), Bates/Godwin (Rm 213), Young Adult (Rm 211)
 10:30 AM Worship Service

Tuesday, December 6

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

Wednesday, December 7

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G
 5:00 PM Happy Birthday Jesus Party-FH
 6:00-6:45 PM Chancel Choir
 6:45-7:30 PM-Voices of Praise

Thursday, December 8

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study-JJ

Friday, December 9

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



SIGNAL TO THE PEOPLE
ISAIAH 11:1-10; PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

Central's mission:
Love God, love others, and serve the world

December 4, 2022
 2nd Sunday of Advent
 10:30 AM

Please silence electronic devices.
 *Stand at these points, as you're comfortable.

Musical Gift "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Mansfield

Welcome and Announcements

*Advent Wreath

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails
In his days, justice shall flourish and the voice of those who are oppressed will be heard. The poor will receive enough on which to live and the rich will share gladly the abundance they have received at the hand of God.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
The wolf lies down with the lamb: the fierce gives way to the tame, and the weak protect the strong, the powerless contain the power of the mighty.

In his day justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fades.
God will give judgment to the King, to the One who comes in the name of the Lord, to establish peace and justice with integrity and with mercy.

*Opening Hymns #203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
 Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
 He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
 To take away transgression and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

*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

Hymn #204 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.

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.**

Children's Message

Quay Lively

Special Music "Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven"

Getty/ Getty

Jesus, joy of the highest heaven,
born as a little baby
under a wondrous star.
Like us, crying, He takes His first breath,
held by His mother, helpless,
close to her beating heart.
Jesus, laid in a lowly manger,
facing a world of dangers;
come to turn me, a stranger,
into a child of God.

Jesus, King of the highest heaven,
learning to take His first steps
that He might bring us life.
Like us, knowing our smiles and sorrows,
He showed the way to follow,
a way that is true and right.
Jesus, take away ev'ry darkness;
steady my simple footsteps
that I might, in Your goodness,
live as a child of God.

Bible Reading — Isaiah 11:1-10

**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.**

A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse; a branch will sprout from his roots. The Lord's spirit will rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of planning and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord. He will delight in fearing the Lord. He won't judge by appearances, nor decide by hearsay. He will judge the needy with righteousness, and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land. He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth; by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked. Righteousness will be the belt around his hips, and faithfulness the belt around his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; the calf and the young lion will feed together, and a little child will lead them. The cow and the bear will graze. Their young will lie down together, and a lion will eat straw like an ox. A nursing child will play over the snake's

hole; toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den. They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain. The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, just as the water covers the sea.

On that day, the root of Jesse will stand as a signal to the peoples. The nations will seek him out, and his dwelling will be glorious.

—
The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message — Signal to the People

Rev. Miriam Smith

*Closing Hymn "God Almighty, We are Waiting"

God Almighty, we are waiting for a Savior to appear.
Meet us in our desert journey; give a sign that you are near:
Burning bushes, parted waters, food aplenty in the wild.
As we look for signs and wonders, help us see you in a child.

God Incarnate, we are waiting for the feast day of your birth.
Looking back and looking forward to the Christ's return to earth.
Help us to proclaim the gospel, 'til the world is reconciled.
Let us set your holy table for each woman, man, and child

God the Spirit, we are waiting for your presence here and now.
Humbled by our sinful weakness, at your mercy we will bow.
Search our hearts and make us ready, speak in language strong and mild,
Help each one of us, your people, to receive you like a child.

*Sending Forth

Musical Gift "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

Price

Worship Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

Advent Reading: Hugh, Michelle, Eenie & Ben Reeves

Scripture Reader: Mary Jo Landreth

""Angels We Have Heard on High" - Mansfield 1994 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Opening Litany: (inspired by Psalm 72 and Isaiah 11) from the Wellsprings website. <http://wellsprings.org.uk/>

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" #204 ©1976 C.A. Music (div of Christian Artist Corp)

"Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven" Getty/Getty ©2011 Gettymusic and this arrangement (c)2013 Gettymusic (admin. by Music Services) (PRS)

"God Almighty, We are Waiting" Words © 2005 Hope Publishing Co. (sung to the tune of Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus)

"Angels From the Realms of Glory" - Price 1994 Lorenz Publishing Co.

CCLI License # 2306531