

Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Closing Hymn #415 "Take Up Thy Cross"

"Take up thy cross," the Savior said,
"if thou wouldst my disciple be;
Deny thyself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me."

Take up thy cross, let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
Nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
Thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
To save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

*Sending Forth

Musical Gift "Unity and Brotherhood"

Chesterton

Worship Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

Scripture Reader: Richard Gregory

"Fantasia on 'Old Hundred'" - Wilson c. 1971 Lorenz Publishing Co.

"Communion Hymn (Behold the Lamb)" Getty/Townend ©2006 Thankyou Music (adm. By CapitolCMGPublishing.com)

"Do Lord, Remember Me" Arr. Mauldin © 2010 Belden Street Music Publishing (ASCAP) (Admin. By Evergreen Copyrights)

"Unity and Brotherhood"- Chesterton c. 1985 Lorenz Publishing Co.

Call to Worship adapted from: Ministry Matters.

Bible Reading for August 21

Prepare for August 21: Read Hebrews 12:18-29. How do we know what is essential to our lives? The author has been talking about the ways that faith is real to us in our daily lives, and in this passage suggests that there are parts of our lives that cannot be shaken—no matter what happens. Consider if this feels true to your own life. Are there things from God in your life that feel absolute and unshakeable? What does that mean for you?

The Ministry Fair will continue after this morning's service.

There will be a **congregation-wide** discernment meeting **this evening at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall.

Junior High Parent Meeting: August 14, this evening, **from 5 to 6 pm**, in the Chapel.

Lunch Bunch is every Wednesday at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$3 to help with the lunch costs.

Back to School Bash!! Something for everyone, dinner, then children on the inflatables and waterslides, while the adults enjoy music inside from the Southern Cross Quartet. Wednesday, **August 17th, 5-7.**

Children start back evening programming on Sundays, Aug 21 at 5:30 pm.

August Financials

Needed Weekly	\$15,559
Received August 7	\$24,725
Needed for August	\$62,235
Received for August	\$28,510

Last Week's Attendance

In-person:	215
Online:	49



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.

616 Jackson Street
Decatur, Alabama 35601
256) 353-6941
CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com
<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>

Sunday School – 9:30 AM
Worship – 10:30 AM

Calendar

Sunday, August 14

9:15 AM Crossroads (Rm 209)
9:30 AM Ministry Fair
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:30 AM Ministry Fair continued
5:00 PM Junior High Parent Meeting-CH
5:00-7:00 PM Youth-3rd flr
6:00 PM Discernment Meeting-FH

Tuesday, August 16

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

Wednesday, August 17

5:15 AM Exercise Class, Gym
11:00 AM Lunch Bunch-FH
5:00-7:00 PM Back to School Bash-FH
Children, Youth, Adult Programming
6:00 PM Choir

Thursday, August 18

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study-JJ

Friday, August 19

5:15 AM Exercise Class-Gym
9:00 AM Women's Bible Study-JJ

CH- Chapel, FH- Fellowship Hall
LFH- Lower Fellowship Hall, S- Sanctuary
L - Library, JJ-Java Jaay

Central's mission:

Love God
Love others
Serve the world

Inspiration in the Cloud

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Central's mission:

Love God, love others, and serve the world

August 14, 2022

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

10:30 AM

Please silence electronic devices.

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

Musical Gift "Fantasia on 'Old Hundred'"

Wilson

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Sing to the Lord a new song!

We sing a song of peace and hope!

Sing to the Lord a song of strength.

Our strength is in the Lord of hosts!

Sing to the Lord a song of joy!

Our song is a song of service and faithfulness. AMEN

*Hymn # 711 "For All the Saints"

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Prayer of Confession and Pardon, Passing the Peace

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

Greeting

*Hymn "Communion Hymn (Behold the Lamb)"

Getty/Tommond

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us

And we remember

The promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross.

So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you

Eat and remember;

The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.

So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice

As a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses ev'ry stain of sin, shed for you

Drink and remember

He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.

So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond

And to remember

Our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth.

As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again!

And we'll join in the feast of heav'n around the table of the King.

Special Music "Do Lord, Remember Me"

Arr. Mauldin

Do Lord, O do Lord, O do remember me,

Way beyond the blue.

Now, I've got a home in Glory Land that outshines the Sun.

Way beyond the blue.

Well, I took Jesus as my Savior, you take Him too

While He's calling you!

Do Lord, O do Lord, O do remember me,

Way beyond the blue.

Bible Reading— Hebrews 11:29-12:2

—[Prayer]

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.

By faith they crossed the Red Sea as if they were on dry land, but when the Egyptians tried it, they were drowned.

By faith Jericho's walls fell after the people marched around them for seven days.

By faith Rahab the prostitute wasn't killed with the disobedient because she welcomed the spies in peace.

What more can I say? I would run out of time if I told you about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets. Through faith they conquered kingdoms, brought about justice, realized promises, shut the mouths of lions, put out raging fires, escaped from the edge of the sword, found strength in weakness, were mighty in war, and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured and refused to be released so they could gain a better resurrection.

But others experienced public shame by being taunted and whipped; they were even put in chains and in prison. They were stoned to death, they were cut in two, and they died by being murdered with swords. They went around wearing the skins of sheep and goats, needy, oppressed, and mistreated. The world didn't deserve them. They wandered around in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground.

All these people didn't receive what was promised, though they were given approval for their faith. God provided something better for us so they wouldn't be made perfect without us.

So then, with endurance, let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter. He endured the cross, ignoring the shame, for the sake of the joy that was laid out in front of him, and sat down at the right side of God's throne.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message — "Inspiration in the Cloud"

Rev. Miriam Smith

The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer—

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give thanks for God's creation and deliverance, concluding:

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks for the Son and the gift of the Holy Meal.

...in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

We give thanks for God's presence, the Holy Spirit, concluding:

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

With the confidence of God's children, we are bold to pray together:

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.

[While standing, receive the bread and cup. Then pray at the rail or return to your seat. Offerings left at the rail go to the needy. You may wish to receive with these words. If you wish to remain seated, please alert an usher and a server will come to you.]

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

*Prayer after Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery

in which you have given yourself to us.