

Order of Service 11.28.2021
First Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Reflection on an Ancient Plainsong

—15th C. Plainsong/arr. Ryan

Acolyte

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle
Jim Larson

Call to Worship

Here I Am to Worship

(CCLI #3266032)

V1, CH, V2, CH, Bridge, CH, CH

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Chorus

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Chorus (2x)

Opening Hymn

Glorious Day

V1, V2, CH, V3, CH, Bridge, CH

Verse 1

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Verse 2

I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus

('Cause when) You called my name
(and) I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day
You called my name (and)
I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day

Verse 3

Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new Jesus when I met You

Chorus

Bridge

I needed rescue my sin was heavy
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven
When I was broken You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future my eyes are open

Announcements

Morning Prayer

Special Music

Fear Not—Pepper Choplin
from *Lead Me Back to Bethlehem*
Soloists: Kalin Brooks and Greg Dixon

Offering

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
—16th C. German carol/arr. Purifoy

Doxology UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings
flow, Praise God, all creatures here
below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-
lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people

from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Sermon

Apostle's Creed (No. 881 UMH)

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 arose 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.

Closing Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem
(UMH #230) V1, V4

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

Verse 4

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Benediction

Postlude

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
— arr. Leatherman

Save the Date

Sunday, December 5
for our Christmas Cantata
during our 10:00am service.

The Russell Fellowship Class Christmas Project will be collecting cash and blankets this year (no toys). They will be serving around 30 families in the community. To donate, please earmark your checks for Russell Christmas Project. For more information, please contact the church office at 704-739-2471.

Hearing Assist System

We now have a Hearing Assist System that will allow you to connect via a belt pack that the church provides or if you have a smartphone, you can use it with your own hearing aid when you download the WaveCAST Audio Receiver app. Please see an usher for assistance.

Sunday School News

****Beginning on 12/12/21 Sunday School will meet at 8:45am and will be followed by Fellowship with coffee and snacks ****Central UMC is now offering a congregational wide Sunday School Class. Join us at 9:00am for our Sunday School Class.

Special Notice:

Please note masks are encouraged for all members and visitors until further notice 8.23.21

November Ushers: Joe Patterson

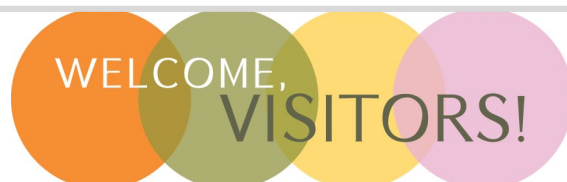
Greeter: Dru White

Upcoming Events

Mondays: Bells of Praise, 6:00pm
12/19/21 KID Central Singing Sunday

Operation Christmas Child Underway

Join us in reaching 150 children this year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Make out your check to Central and designate in the memo line Operation Christmas Child and the donation is \$25 per box. You can also pay online and choose your own shoebox items on the CUMC Goal Page at <https://sampur.se/2Zkijsl> or visit our website. For more information, please see Audrey Brooks or contact the church office.



Save the Date!
Christmas Eve Service on
December 24, 2021

at 6:30 pm service in the sanctuary

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

ATTENDANCE

(11/21) 10:00a Service.....96

Operating Fund

Contributions 11/21 \$

Contributions YTD \$322,510.49

Capital Improvements Fund

Contributions 11/21 \$ 0.00

Contributions YTD \$ 600.00

Thank you for your support!

PRAYER LIST: PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Praises and concerns will stay on this list for one month unless otherwise requested.

Members in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Homebound: Peggy Ramey; Jane Edwards; Barbara Bridges; Ruth Wilson, John & Evelyn Eagle.

Praise: Bobby Childers and Darlene Combs on their engagement and upcoming spring wedding.

Military Personnel: SGT Tyler Dixon-Marines; SSGT Jonathan Brucker-Army; CAPT Alex Plonk-Air Force; S 1 Tyler Hellstrand-Navy; Abbey Wallace-Air Force (Afghanistan); SSG Colby Bailey—Army; LT Boone McDaniel, Navy; CAPT Wendell Bunch, Jr.—Army; CAPT Alex Young,—Air Force; SGT Joshua Brucker.

Concerns (members/constituents/church-related concerns): Guidance in developing new ministries; our college students; Community Kitchen Ministry; Judy Norwood 7.12.21; Sheila Gentry 10.25.21; Sheila Dixon on the passing of her mother, Imogene Rinehart 11.7.21.

Concerns (friends/relatives/other concerns): All children in need; Samuel Smith (cancer) 9.30.19; Nancy Radford 6.7.21; Allen Ware 6.14.21 (colon cancer/www.caringbridge.org/visit/allenware); Sherry Wilson 6.25.21; Sidney Bridges 8.9.21; Sidney Bridges (brain tumor) 9.19.21; Trent Hullender (Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma) 10.18.21.