



Order of Service 12.31.2023
1st Sunday after Christmas Day
Liturgical Color: White

Prelude

Intermezzo on "Carol of the Bells" -arr. Dixon

Acolyte

Greetings—Kayla Potter Fuller
Director of Children/Youth Ministries

Welcome/Announcements—
Pastor Perry Hines

Apostle's Creed (No. 881)

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.

Opening Worship

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy) CCLI#5607039

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the world the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Chorus

Joy unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy unspeakable joy
It rises in my soul
Never lets me go

Verse 3

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

I Saw the Light (CCLI Song #45064)

Verse 1

I wandered so aimless life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Chorus

I saw the light I saw the light
No more in darkness no more in night
(And) now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Verse 2

Just like a blind man I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own
Then like the blind man that
God gave back his sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Verse 3

I was a fool to wander and stray
Straight is the gate and narrow the way
Now I have traded the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

Special Choir Music

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning
—Lloyd Larson

Offering

We Three Kings—arr. Smith

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!

Offertory Prayer

Sermon— Pastor Perry Hines

Sermon Title *Entering Our Promised Land*

Scripture Lesson

Joshua 4:19-24 NKJV

¹⁹ Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho. ²⁰ And those twelve stones, which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal. ²¹ Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: "When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What are these stones?' ²² then you shall let your children know, saying, 'Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land'; ²³ for the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, ²⁴ that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever."

Joshua 5:1-10 NKJV

⁵ So it was, when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had crossed over, that their heart melted; and there was no spirit in them any longer because of the children of Israel. ² At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time." ³ So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. ⁴ And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt. ⁵ For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness, on the way as they came out of Egypt, had not been circumcised. ⁶ For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD—to whom the LORD swore that He would not show them the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey." ⁷ Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. ⁸ So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰ Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho.

Closing Hymn

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear UMH #218
V1 and V3

Verse 1

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old, from angels bending
near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

Verse 3

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing!

Benediction

Chiming of the Holy Trinity

Postlude

Cortège Jubilant —Giamanco

**Reponses in Bold*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT ATTENDANCE

(12/24) 10:00a Service.....87 7:00pm Service....155

Operating Fund 2023

Contributions 12/24	\$16,385.00
Contributions MTD	\$40,401.75

Ushers: Joe Patterson, Jimmy Warren, Allan Propst

Greeter: Cecelia Meade

There will be a **Trustees Meeting Tuesday, January 2 at 6:00pm.**

The Daily Devotionals pamphlets are available for pick up in the Narthex.

Mission Trip to Manos de Fe Panama Planning Meeting January 7, 2024 at 11:30 am in the CAC

We're having an info meeting for a mission trip to Manos de Fe, Panama in 2024. All are welcome, including older high schoolers and college students. Debbie Greene will lead the discussion and answer questions.

Save the Date for the 2024 Methodist Women's Parade of Tables on Saturday, January 20! If you would like to sponsor a table or purchase tickets, please see Marie Brinkley or Elaine Dixon. Proceeds for this event will benefit local charities. For more information, please contact the church office at 704-739-2471 or central@cumkm.org.

Methodist Women of Kings Mountain Host: Mercy House Global "Share The Light" event on Saturday, February 10, 2024, in the CAC. Mercy House Global exists to rescue girls and empower families so that we can redeem future generations in Jesus' name. We work with women around the world through partnerships and sustainable Fair Trade product development. Every purchase made in the Fair Trade online marketplace provides dignified work while also sustaining our two maternity homes in Kenya.

This will be an immersive Mercy House Global experience. With a powerful message from our founder, a Fair Trade Pop Up Shop, and a coinciding candle class and volunteer project, this event gives guests a unique glimpse into the work of MHG and how they can be a part of how God is empowering vulnerable families around the world! Tickets are \$25 each. More details will come soon; you do not want to miss this event! Contact Audrey Brooks 404-274-1758 for more information.

Announcing a new **Women's Bible Study** beginning on **Tuesday, January 16 at 7:00 pm.** This class is led by Liz Pflieger and will be held upstairs in the Central Fellowship Room. We will be reading the book entitled: *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered* by Lysa TerKeurst available for purchase online at [Amazon](#) and [Thiftbooks](#). Contact the church office at 704-739-2471 for more information.

2024 Ushers and Greeters Needed We are looking for ushers and greeters for Sunday Morning Worship at Central. This is a ministry that can help our church grow, and we need your help. We are currently working on the usher and greeter calendar for the upcoming year, and we are in need of 4 volunteers each month. There are many spots available, so please consider volunteering. You can contact Joe Patterson or the church office at 704-739-2471 or central@cmkm.org to let us know you are willing to serve. Thank you for your interest!

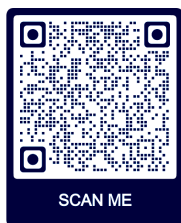
Missions Day Senior's Winter Party at Summit Place Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 2:00-3:30 pm—

All church members are invited to attend and fellowship with the seniors. We will be having snacks, crafts, games, and prayer with the seniors at Summit Place. If you are planning on attending from the church we ask that you register so that we will know how much material/snacks to buy. Please call the church office 704-739-2471 to register.

KIDS Central & Nursery News Our **Nursery** is available starting at 9:00 am for ages 0-4 years old. We are in need of volunteers in the nursery to help support this ministry. Please see or contact Kayla Potter Fuller at kayla@cmkm.org or 704-739-2471. **KID Central** is our church's church for K-5th and **check in is now at 9:00am** on Sundays. If you have any questions, please contact our Youth and Children's Ministries Director, Kayla Potter Fuller at kayla@cmkm.org.

Central Youth meets on Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:30pm. If you have any questions or would like to join/volunteer for youth events, please contact Kayla Potter Fuller at kayla@cmkm.org or 704-739-2471.

You can reach **Pastor Perry Hines** at 828-768-5996.



Welcome Visitors!

Scan to get connected to Central, inquire about membership and for prayer requests.

Year End Donations All 2023 Contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2023 or received in the offering by December 31, 2023.

Church Office Holiday Schedule The church office will be closed on 1/1/24 and 1/15/24.

Sunday Morning Groups

1. Sunday Morning Group

- Leader: Mark Dixon
- Time and location: 8:30 am CAC, Sunday mornings
- Age: All ages

2. Daughters of Wesley Sunday morning Group

- Leader: Tim Miller
- Time and location: 9 am in the Parlor/Bride's room
- Leader: contact info: tmnkm@bellsouth.net
704-473-9148

3. Pilgrim's Progress Study Sunday Morning Group (will resume in January 2024)

- Leaders: Clyde and Faye Kerns, Jimmy Warren, & Jim Larson
- Time & Location: 8:45am Upstairs in the Central Fellowship Room
- Leader: contact info: clydekerns@att.net

Weekly Groups

Men's Bible Study

- Leader: Tim Miller
- Time and location: Weekly on Tuesdays, 7:30 pm in the Asbury room
- Leader: contact info: tmnkm@bellsouth.net
704-473-9148
- Description: We are an ongoing small group for men of all ages. Dedicated to studying God's word as it is shared to us in the Bible. We meet for fellowship and worship in a safe and non-judgmental environment. We recognize and appreciate that not everyone is at the same level in their Biblical study, and we work together to make God's word understood and relevant for each of us in our lives

●Mary's Breakfast Brunch

- Leader: Betty Masters
- Time and location: Meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 9:00 am. Location is Linwood Restaurant: 805 Cleveland Ave, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.
- Will resume meeting in **January 2024**
- Leader: contact info: 704-739-2653

Weekly Prayer Partners

- Leader: Kayla Potter Fuller kayla@cmkm.org
- Time and Location: Tuesday 12:30pm-1:15pm in the CAC
- This will be a time we will spend together in prayer for our church prayers requests, our community, global needs and for one another. Members will be given weekly prayer assignments.

We want to thank you all for your support of our small groups here at Central as well as our small group leader. We pray that this ministry has been a blessing to you. Our semester-based groups will be taking a brief break until the beginning of the new year. Further details for the start of the 1st 2024 semester are to come. In the meantime, please feel free to join any of our Ongoing small groups or Sunday morning small groups. You can find a list of these in your weekly bulletin. If you are interested in leading a small group during the 1st 2024 semester, please reach out to Kayla at kayla@cmkm.org.

Prayer List: Praises and Concerns

Please note names will stay on list for one month unless otherwise requested— Contact the church office at 704-739-2471 or central@cmkm.org to have names added/or removed from the prayer list.

Members in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Homebound: Jane Edwards; Barbara Bridges; John Eagle; Marilyn Hamrick.

Military Personnel: SSGT Tyler Dixon-Marines; SSGT Jonathan Brucker-Army; SSgt. Joshua Brucker; Army; CAPT Alex Plonk-Air Force; S 1 Tyler Hellstrand-Navy; SSG Colby Bailey—Army; CAPT Wendell Bunch, Jr.—Army; CAPT Alex Young,—Air Force; PFC Matthew Oliveira—Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX.

Praises: The growth of our church; Birth of Ozzi Kate Styers, granddaughter of Vince & Jada Rees; daughter of Nash & Macey Styers on 12/3/23.

Concerns: (members/constituents/church-related concerns): Guidance in developing new ministries; our college students; Community Kitchen Ministry; Carol Brazzell (healing) 12.26.23; Dr. Marty Stallings (death) 12.26.23; Allen Dixon 12.18.23.

Concerns: (friends/relatives/other concerns): All children in need; Samuel Smith (cancer) 9.30.19; Tony Donadio (Uncle of Carol Velky) 8.29.23; Haley Judd (healing) 9.5.23.; Mary Donadio 10.3.23; Jamie Keever (chemo treatments), cousin of Audrey Brooks 8.29.23; Kathy Rogers (chemo treatments) 10.24.23; Tim Best (healing) Charlene Maxey 11.14.23; Travis 11.28.23; The Danner Family 11.28.23; Dan Dixon (death) brother of Greg Dixon & Teresa Williams 11.30.23; Keith Falls 12.7.23; Patsy Lunsford (healing); Jeff Hedden, (cancer) cousin of Clyde Kerns 12.22.23; Kenny McAbee 12.29.23.