



Order of Service 12.1.24
First Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Color: Purple

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten —arr. Wagner

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent Reader: Nicole Radford

The Angels Speak - Your Prayer Has Been Heard

Passing of the Peace

Opening Worship

Here I Am to Worship (CCLI#3266032)

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 (4x)

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)

Go Tell it on the Mountain (CCLI Song # 29080)

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Verse 2

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth

Verse 3

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

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 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.

Morning Prayer—Pastor Perry Hines

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

INVITATION

Christ the Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

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.

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.

Special Choir Music

Rockin' Jerusalem—American Spiritual
Arranged by Donald Moore

A rockin', a rockin', a rockin', Jerusalem, a
rockin', a rockin', a ring a them bells.

A rockin', a rockin', a rockin'
Jerusalem, Rock rock, ring a them bells.
Rockin Jerusalem, a rockin' a rockin',
a ring a them bells.

A Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, rockin',
a rockin', a rockin' Jerusalem, a rockin'
a rockin', a rockin', ring a them bells.

My troubles soon be over, a rockin'
Jerusalem, my troubles soon be over, a
rockin' Jerusalem.

Rock, rock Jerusalem, rock, rock, ring a them
bells.

Rock, rock, Jerusalem, rock, rock, we've been
in a wailing a rockin' Jerusalem, no weeping
and a wailing, a ringing them bells.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, rockin' a
rockin' a rockin' Jerusalem a rockin' a rockin'
a ring a them bells.

Oo rockin Jerusalem oo
Oo bring a them bells.

A rockin', a rockin', Jerusalem rock, rock, ring
a them bells rockin Jerusalem, a rockin', a
rockin', a ring a them bells. **(Repeat 3x)**

Offering

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — arr. Larson

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 — *Stay In the Fight*

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 5:27-30 (NKJV) *27 You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

Hebrews 13:4 (NKJV) *Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*

Proverbs 4:23 (NKJV) *Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*

Luke 12:4-5 (NKJV)

4 "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!"

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Communion Meditation-arr. Johnson

Closing Hymn

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (UMH #240)

Verse 1

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

Verse 2

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;

hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Verse 3

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.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

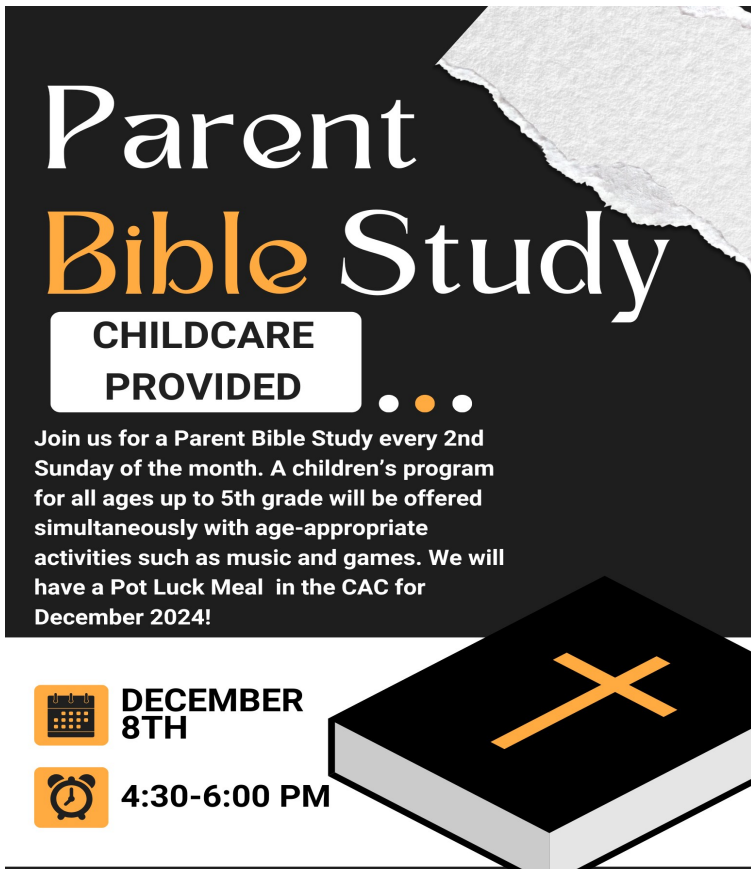
Benediction

Chiming of the Holy Trinity

Postlude

Postlude on Gabriel's Message
—arr. Basque Carol/Lasky


**Response is in bold.*




Parent Bible Study

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

Join us for a Parent Bible Study every 2nd Sunday of the month. A children's program for all ages up to 5th grade will be offered simultaneously with age-appropriate activities such as music and games. We will have a Pot Luck Meal in the CAC for December 2024!

 **DECEMBER 8TH**


 **4:30-6:00 PM**

STEWARDSHIP REPORT	
(10/27) 10:00a Service.....	105
<u>Operating Fund</u>	
Contributions 11/24 \$	5,250.00
Contributions MTD	\$ 25,226.00
<i>Ushers:</i> Joe Patterson, Kevin Osborne, Jimmy Warren,	
<i>Greeter:</i> Jennifer Osborne	

ADVENT
A Season of Preparation

What Is Advent?

Advent is a season observed in many Christian denominations as a time of waiting and preparation for both the celebration of Jesus's birth at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, often referred to as Advent Sunday. The name comes from Latin adventus, meaning coming or arrival.



Come Join Us!
Sunday, December 15
10:00 am

We will be going caroling to our shut-ins on Wednesday, December 18th. If you'd like to join us and spread some Christmas cheer, please see Justin Harper for more information.



You are invited to join us on
Tuesday, December 24, 2024
at 7:00pm for our annual
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

We're thrilled to announce that the **KIDS Central Children's Choir** will be performing during our service on December 8th at 10:00 am.

We will have a **Fifth Sunday Breakfast** on December 29, 2024. Please bring something to share with your church family!

Please note that there will be no December Trustees meeting.

It's time to start **Operation Christmas Child!** Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We invite you to build a shoebox online for the cost of \$25 or you write a check to Central Methodist Church for \$25 a box and we will build it online for you! Please write Operation Christmas Child in the memo line. Our Goal is 85 boxes online and 35 physical boxes. For more information, please contact Audrey Brooks at 404-274-1758. National Collection Week for physical boxes is Nov. 18–25, 2024 and online until 12/31/24.

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. **KIDS 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 the church office at 704-739-2471 or central@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 the church office at 704-739-2471.

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

Prayer List: Praises and Concerns

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

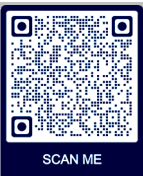
Members in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Homebound: Barbara Bridges; John Eagle; Marilyn Hamrick.

Military Personnel: SSGT Tyler Dixon-Marines; SFC Jonathan Brucker-Army; SSgt. Joshua Brucker; Army; CAPT Alex Plonk-Air Force; S 1 Tyler Hellstrand-Navy; MAJ Wendell Bunch, Jr.—Army; CAPT Alex Young,—Air Force.

Praises: Growth in our children's ministries; Renovation project is now underway.

Concerns: (members/constituents/church-related concerns): Guidance in developing new ministries; our college students; Community Kitchen Ministry; Vicky Still (continued healing) 7.11.24; Lisa & Ernie Howell (continued healing) 8.8.24; John Eagle (cancer treatment) 9.3.24; Those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton; Volunteers and workers for recovery efforts from the storms 10.11.24; Bob Smith III son of MaryWade Smith 11.12.24; Bob & Barbara Jones 11.13.24; Donnie Jenkins 11.19.24; Danny Lovelace 11.19.24; Pat Chapman 11.19.24; Manos de Fa Panama Community Bridge and water supply issues 11.19.24; Margie Alexander 11.26.24.

Concerns: (friends/relatives/other concerns): All children in need; Samuel Smith (cancer) 9.30.19; Jeff Hedden, (cancer) cousin of Clyde Kerns 12.22.23; Melissa & Ned Owens, parents of Audrey Brooks (healing) 6.25.24; Sharon Zolciak (CNS lymphoma) 6.25.24; Doris Bradley (Keith Bradley's mother) 6.27.24; Jamie Keever, Audrey Brooks' cousin (cancer); Our Sanctuary renovation workers 8.20.24; Tim Hamrick, stepson of Marilyn Hamrick (cancer) 8.29.24; Mother of Steve Velky, Ruth Velky (healing) 9.30.24.



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

We need greeters and ushers to help welcome people to church on Sundays in 2025. If you can assist, please see Joe Patterson.