



CENTRAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship

January 7, 2024

Baptism of the Lord (White)

Prayer Focus: Prayers for the Unbaptized

GATHERING

The People Come Together in the Lord's Name

PARISH CONCERNS

(The service of worship begins. The prelude is offered on behalf of the entire congregation. Quiet meditation and private prayer are encouraged.)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Max Reger
How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR
(*all who are able are invited to stand.)

*GREETING

Leader: A prophet appeared in the wilderness,

People: calling the people to repent, be baptized, and prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: We return to the water to confess our sins,

People: giving thanks for the grace of Jesus Christ, the one who has come to save us!

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 252 COMPLAINER
When Jesus Came to Jordan

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881 Apostles' Creed

*GLORIA PATRI 71 GREATOREX
Glory Be to the Father

COLLECT

God of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus to hear your holy Word and to be immersed in your Spirit. Speak to us with grace and truth and pour out your love upon us so that this sanctuary may resound with joyful shouts of glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: YOUTH MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH DISMISSAL

(Children in first grade and below going to Children's Church are now dismissed and may be picked up in room #145 or #147 after the service.)

PROCLAMATION

God's Word is Shared

ANTHEM Michael Burkhardt
Down Galilee's Slow Roadways

Down Galilee's slow roadways a stranger traveled on from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by John. He went down to the waters like soldier, scribe, and slave, but there within the river, the sign was birth and grave. Arising from the river he saw the heavens torn; it seemed the sky so open revealed the Spirit's form. The holy dove descended amid a glorious voice: "You are my own beloved, my child, my heart, my choice." We too have found a roadway; it led us to this place. We all have had to travel in search of hope and grace. But now beside this water again a voice is heard. "You are my own, my chosen, beloved of your Lord."

SCRIPTURE LESSON..... Mark 1:4-11
Leader: The Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!
SERMON Rev. Thomas Smith

The Big Reveal
Series: *Jesus Who?*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING IN FAITH

We Respond to God's Word in Worship

OFFERTORY David Cherwien
When Jesus Came to Jordan (King's Lynn)
*DOXOLOGY 95 OLD 100th
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
*COMMUNION HYMN 618 LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
Let Us Break Bread Together
CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION 12
THE LORD'S PRAYER (UMH 895)
GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP
HYMNS DURING COMMUNION (*sung by all*)
612 SCHMÜCKE DICH
Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness
614 FOR THE BREAD
For the Bread Which You Have Broken
PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

We Respond to God's Grace with Our Lives

*BENEDICTION
*HYMN IN PROCESSION 610 ENGELBERG
We Know that Christ Is Raised
CLOSING VOLUNTARY David Lasky
Trumpet Processional in G

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Assisting in Worship

Preacher Rev. Thomas Smith
Liturgist Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies
Organist/Choir Director Dr. Don Grice
Organist/Choir Accompanist..... Beverly Hazelwood
Acolyte Anna Reaves Yarborough
Crucifer Coleman Jones
Chancel Choir

Music Note

When Jesus Came to Jordan (UMH 252) is one of the only hymns in our hymnal dealing specifically with the Baptism of Jesus. It was written by Fred Pratt Green in 1973 to address the shortage of hymns on this subject. The text is based on accounts of the story in each of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The associated tune COMPLAINER, which predates this text by more than a century, has been attributed to William Walker. The tune name comes from the text with which it was paired in *Southern Harmony*, 1835 – “I am a great complainer, that bears the name of Christ.”

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR DECEMBER 31, 2023

Sanctuary Service	202
The Well Service	74
Wednesday Service of Prayer & Holy Communion	8
Children's Sunday School Totals	28
Adult Sunday School Totals	64

2023 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2023 General Operating Budget	
Approved Budget for 2023	\$2,400,242.00
Received Week of 12-31-2023	\$75,253.31
Received YTD	\$2,160,342.01
2023 Capital Building Fund	
Received Week of 12-31-2023	\$600.00
Received YTD	\$84,198.37
2023 Special Gifts	
Received Week of 12-31-2023	\$1,850.50
Received YTD	\$293,155.45
2023 Endowment Gifts	
Received YTD	\$13,251.97

IN MEMORY OF

DISCRETIONARY FUND

Our parents..... by Jo Ellen & Tim Carroll
Elizabeth Allen Commander, Gloria Hazel Fralix Brown, Cherie Cates Hill by Margaret & Brent Cates
Jerome Davis by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Gloria Brown by Kari & Ben King, Betty Gail & Reamer King
Buddy Phillips by Jacquelyn Parrish

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

John Palatto by Mary & Brian Falcone
Helen Benton by Carla & Jim Benton
Elizabeth R. Johnson by Jean Roney
Michael Almers by Catherine & Wayne Thompson
Gloria Brown by Adriane & John Reynolds

MUSIC MINISTRY

Gloria Brown by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Catherine & Jack Parrish by Jacquelyn Parrish

SANTAHATCHIE MISSION

John Palatto, Gloria Coldren by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Charles Welch by Katherine B. Welch

IN HONOR OF

COSTA RICA MISSION

Rick Knight by Dickie Knight

DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rev. Smith, Rev. Kovan, Rev. Jiunnies by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Rita Phillips by Jacquelyn Parrish

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Cynde White by Pam & Mike Morgan
Beth Ann & Marvin Owen by John M. Charles
Missy Brown, Adriane Reynolds, Wendy Richardson, Anne Stone by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Rev. Thomas Smith, Rev. Ann Kovan, Rev. Meg Jiunnies by Betty & Bill Hester
Congregational Care Ministries Team, Ann Wansley by Nancy & Carroll Player
Hospitality Team by Julia & Robby Sisco
Jody Parker by Adriane & John Reynolds
Don Grice, Beverly Hazelwood, Chancel Choir by Gowoon Choi & John Park

SANTAHATCHIE MISSION

Ed & Martina Love, all Youth & Volunteers by Lynn Clary & Billy Garey
Beth Ann Owen, Ginny Hill by Betty & Bill Hester

SPECIAL GIFTS

DISCRETIONARY FUND & YOUTH MINISTRY by Kriste & Chuck Lindler

ORGAN RENOVATION by Ruth & Thomas Barnett

LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRIES by Margaret & David Hewitt

SANTAHATCHIE MISSION..... by Rita Phillips, Adriane & John Reynolds
..... Spiritual Journeys Sunday School Class