



CENTRAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Prayer Focus: Central's Lay Leadership

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 J. S. Bach
If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee BWV 647

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR

*(*All who are able are invited to stand.)*

*GREETING

Leader: From God comes my salvation.

People: For God alone my soul waits in silence.

Leader: God alone is my rock and my salvation.

People: God is my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 90 LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881 Apostles' Creed

*GLORIA PATRI 71 GREATorex
Glory Be to the Father

COLLECT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Merciful God, you have saved us for a purpose. We dedicate our spiritual gifts as we dedicate our lives to you, that you will make us fishers of people. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we now pray:

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, forever.
Amen.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PROCLAMATION

God's Word is Shared

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Calvin Hampton

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word; and our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of our Lord. Fearful souls, why will you scatter like a crowd of frightened sheep? Foolish hearts, why will you wander from a love so true and deep? There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good; there is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 1:14-20

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

*ACT OF PRAISE 787 Psalm 65:5-12

CHILDREN'S TIME

(Children are invited to the chancel. After Children's Time, children ages 3K to 1st grade will go to Children's Church with a leader and may be picked up in room #145 or #147 after the service.)

*HYMN 142 WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Job 28:12-28

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Ann Kovan

Job's Lament: Unraveling Everything

Series: Unraveled

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING IN FAITH

We Respond to God's Word in Worship

OFFERTORY DUET Felix Mendelssohn

I Waited for the Lord

I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me, and heard my complaint. O bless'd are they that hope and trust in the Lord. O bless'd are they that hope and trust in him.

*DOXOLOGY 95 OLD 100th

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING FORTH

We Respond to God's Grace with Our Lives

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 438 DUKE STREET

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord

CLOSING VOLUNTARY John Marsh

Gaudete (Rejoice)

Assisting in Worship

Preacher	Rev. Ann Kovan
Liturgist	Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies
Children's Time	Brandie Love
Organist/Choir Director	Dr. Don Grice
Organist/Choir Accompanist	Beverly Hazelwood
Duet	Dianna Wilson and Ashlei Jones
Lay Readers	Willa Burdette
Acolyte	Ian Powers
Crucifer	Oliver Powers
Chancel Choir	

Music Note

Around 1748, Bach issued a set of six preludes for organ with two manuals (keyboards) and pedals. In it, he transcribed movements from his own earlier church cantatas (for voices and instruments). The set is commonly known as the *Schübler Chorales* after the engraver and publisher Johann Georg Schübler. Our prelude today, *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* (*Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten*) is taken from the set and features the chorale tune in the pedals played on a high-pitched stop surrounded by active figuration played on the manuals. Later in the service, we sing that same chorale UMH 142—*If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*. The text was written in 1657 by Georg Neumark and translated into English by Catherine Winkworth in 1863.

2024 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2024 General Operating Budget	
Approved Budget for 2024	\$2,318,729.52
Received Week of 01-14-2024	\$21,310.00
Received YTD	\$66,686.56
2024 Capital Building Fund	
Received Week of 01-14-2024	\$900.00
Received YTD	\$1,561.75
2024 Special Gifts	
Received Week of 01-14-2024	\$206.85
Received YTD	\$1,355.23
2024 Endowment Gifts	
Received YTD	\$1,575.00

ATTENDANCE REPORT FOR JANUARY 14, 2024

Sanctuary Service	275
The Well Service	72
Wednesday Service of Prayer & Holy Communion	16
Children's Sunday School Totals	26
Youth Sunday School Totals	1
Adult Sunday School Totals	84

IN MEMORY OF

EPWORTH CHILDREN’S HOME

Helen Rhyne, Winfred Collins.....by Sheila & Russ Barnes

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Mike Timmsby Nadene Gregg, Helen & Evans Holland

John Palatto and Stephen Love by Jean Leatherman

Stephen Edgar Love.....by Lori Ann & Jeff Payne

Gail Elmore by Harriett Whitlock

YOUTH MINISTRY

Mike Timmsby Ronda & David Alderman, Nancy Seddinger, William Greenwood

SPECIAL GIFTS

COURTNEY GRAHAM SHELTER by Joanne & Steve Coker

DISCRETIONARY FUND & YOUTH MINISTRY by Kriste & Chuck Lindler