

CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT AND CAROLS SERVICES AT  
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
December 24, 2019  
7:00 and 9:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

"What Child is This" arr. Robert J. Lamb  
*Central Bells featuring Peter Deneen, soprano saxophone*

"Intermezzo" Joseph Rheinberger  
*Tom Bara, organ*

"Joy to the World" arr. John A. Behnke  
*Central Bells*

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST Traditional

\*PROCESSIONAL CAROL "O Come, All Ye Faithful"  
**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him  
born the King of angels: O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.  
Glory to God in the highest: O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to Thee be glory giv'n; Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Following the processional hymn, please remain standing and greet those around you.)*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: Hope, peace, joy, and love. Four candles, four promises continually offered to us by God, and all of them manifest in this one we light tonight: the Christ candle. In Christ we find the hope of transformation, the peace that follows justice, the joy of self-fulfillment in community, and the love that encompasses us in all our diversity, empowering us to make our own unique contribution to this world. In Christ we find light and life, and the courage

to be like him, answering his call and following in his footsteps.  
*[All candles are lit.]*

**All: We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives,  
and in God's unique presence in the life of Jesus of Nazareth—  
born of Mary, growing through childhood into an adult ministry,  
in all his life manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God;  
his voice undimmed by the centuries his call and his promise as clear to us  
as it was to his disciples so long ago. Come to us, Lord Jesus, be born in us  
this night, in our hearts, our minds, our lives. May the light of your life be  
kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us,  
God in us. Amen.**

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2; 6-7; 11: 1-3a; 11: 1-3a  
*A shoot will spring from Jesse's tree.*

CAROL "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" arr. Helvey  
Chancel Choir

SECOND LESSON Luke 1: 26-35, 38  
*The Angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary*

CAROL "Blessed Be That Maid Mary" Stephen Main  
Chancel Choir

THIRD LESSON Matthew 1: 18-24  
*Joseph is visited in a dream.*

CAROL "Precious Promise" M.W. Smith/A. Grant  
The WELL Worship Band

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2: 1-14  
*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*

CAROL "All is Well" M.W. Smith/A. Grant  
The WELL Worship Band

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2: 15-20  
*The shepherds go to the manger.*

CAROL "Mary Did You Know" Lowry/Greene  
The Well Worship Band and Chancel Choir

MEDITATION "Thin Places" Rev. Dale Ostema

CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS AND GIVING OUR GIFTS  
Congregational Carol Sing *(see back panel and screens—first verses only)*

"Angels We Have Heard on High"  
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"  
"Joy to the World"  
"Away in a Manger"  
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"  
"The First Noel"

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

TIME OF CANDLE LIGHTING

*"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." —John 1:5*

*When passing the flame, please hold your lighted candle upright while the person next to you lights his/her candle from yours. Please keep a safe distance between candles, hair and clothing.*

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL "Silent Night"

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!  
(Please hum a final stanza)**

\*BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE "Carillon de Westminster"  
Tom Bara, organ

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.  
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

\*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL SING

### Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

### It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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.

### Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and heaven, and nature sing.

### Away in the Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn 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 newborn King!"

### The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

# Welcome

to Christmas Eve Worship  
at Central United Methodist Church!

**Visitors**, If you are without a church home in Traverse City, you are welcome and wanted here. We would be pleased to have you make this your home. Please Take a few minutes to look at our display near the Welcome Center, right outside the Sanctuary. There is information about upcoming programs available for you to take. **Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/cumctc](https://www.facebook.com/cumctc) or visit our website 24/7 at [www.tccentralumc.org](http://www.tccentralumc.org).**

After candle lighting, please deposit your candles in the boxes found at the exits.

An Infant Room for infants through one (1) year and a parent is available on the main floor, across from offices, for all the services.

If you provided a poinsettia(s), following the 7:00 p.m. service poinsettias may be taken from the back of the church and following the 9:00 p.m. service poinsettias may be taken from anywhere in the church.

The Chrismon Tree in the chancel area of our sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons is one of the traditions of Central Church. The Chrismon tree glorifies Jesus Christ and celebrates His birth. The ornaments are Christian symbols in white and gold. The white, which is the liturgical color of Christmas, refers to the purity and perfection of Christ as the Light of the World, and the gold refers to His majesty and glory.

For any emergency, please contact an usher; wheelchairs are available on all levels. To exit the building during an emergency, please follow these exit procedures: those to the right of the altar, use the Exit at the right front; to the left of the altar, use the Exit at the left front to the parking lot. The right balcony, exit out the north ground level door to the alley. The left balcony, leave by hallway and back stairway to parking lot. The center balcony, leave by balcony stairway to lower level.

**Worship Leadership for December 24 7:00 & 9:00 p.m.:** Pastors **Dale Ostema and Chris Lane**; The WELL Band – vocalists: Eliza Beutler, Ellen Grams, Allie Kessel, and Claire Olinik; director and piano: Jeffrey Cobb; guitar: Phil Tarczon; bass: Stu Ford; percussion: Will Harris; trumpets: Dave Hester, Bob Hicks, and Scott Sorenson; saxophones: Mike Davis and Pete Deneen; horn: Julie Schleif; trombone: Mike Hunter; Tom Bara, Organ; Jeffrey Cobb, Director of Chancel Choir; Lynne Lombard, Director of Adult Bells

**Thank you to the worship leadership and to the Christmas Eve Angels, including the ushers, greeters, clean up crews, food providers, and office volunteers.**

**Continue the Celebration of The Messiah's birth**—our Annual Messiah Sing, held in early December, will be re-broadcast Christmas Eve on WCCW-FM 107.5 at 6 p.m.; Christmas Day on WTCM-AM 580 at 8 a.m. and again at 12 noon on WCCW-FM 107.5. **These re-broadcasts of Central's Annual Messiah Sing are generously sponsored by WCCW FM and WTCM AM as a gift to our community.**

## Central United Methodist Church YOU are welcome HERE!

*Welcome to all who seek true community, or who have no church home, who have been here awhile, or have just arrived, who need strength, who want to follow Christ, who have doubts, firm convictions, or who aren't sure what they believe. Welcome to new guests and to old friends. Welcome to people of all colors, cultures, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities, to old and young, to believers and questioners and welcome to questioning believers.  
Everyone is welcome at Central Church.*



*Christmas Eve  
Services of Candlelight & Carols*