

# **CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

8237 Kenton Avenue - Skokie, Illinois 60076

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**December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**  
**The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**10:30 am**

\* = Please stand as able

## GATHERING

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Prelude

***Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming***

*Arr. by Brad Nix*

*Milette Silverio, piano*

Welcome &  
Announcements

Rev. Timothy Biel, Jr.

\*Call to Worship

*Claire Rogoski, Reader*

Through time and space, in the blink of the eye,  
the love of God stretched forth in the life of a young  
girl, asking that she be a part of God's plan of  
Salvation.

**Her name was Mary. She was not of wealth  
or power. She was a person, just like you  
and me.**

The Good News came first to the lowly.

**Even today, we believe that good news often  
comes only to the mighty. How wrong we  
are!**

In a world where hatred and fear was common  
place, the Christ Child would be born.

**Fear and Hatred are far too commonplace in  
our world. May the Christ Child come anew  
into our hearts this day. AMEN.**

by Nancy Townley

\*Hymnal #249

***There's a Song in the Air***

Lighting the Advent Candles

Opening prayer

**Lord, be with us this morning as we encounter Mary  
and Joseph and hear of the wondrous news that  
they received. Remind us that each one of us is a  
bearer of your Good News. We are called to  
proclaim hope, peace, joy and love in your name.  
Open our hearts and our spirits today to receive  
with great joy the love that you have for us. For  
we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

by Nancy Townley

## WORD

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Scripture Reading	<b>Micah 5:2-4</b>
Anthem	<b>My Soul Glorifies the Lord (Mary's Magnificat)</b> <i>Words &amp; Music by David Foley Katy Jacob, soloist The Chancel Choir</i>
*Gospel	<b>Luke 2:1-5</b>
*Hymnal #230	<b>O Little Town of Bethlehem</b>
The Message	<b>Journey to Bethlehem</b>
Entrance into Silence	
*TFWS #2017	<b>Come, Rejoice In God (Jubilate Servite)</b>
Prayers of the People	
The Lord's Prayer	
Offering Prayer	
Offertory	<b>Mary, Did You Know?</b> <i>by Mark Lowry &amp; Buddy Greene Millete Silverio, piano John Tiffin, keyboard</i>
Doxology	
Prayer of Dedication	

## TABLE

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Great Thanksgiving
The Giving of the Bread and the Cup (remain seated)

## SENDING FORTH

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*Hymnal #219	<b>What Child Is This?</b>
Benediction and Passing the Peace	
Postlude	<b>Bells of Joy</b> <i>Penny Rodriguez Millete Silverio, piano</i>

# CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Keeping God central in hearts, minds, and lives*

## WELCOME!

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If you are a guest today, we welcome you and are honored that you have come to worship at Central. Today, as we celebrate **HOLY COMMUNION**, you need not be a member of United Methodist Central to participate; everyone of every age who accepts Christ's invitation to his table are welcome. Our method of communion today will be to go remain seated to receive the bread and the cup.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

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Today's **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by **MERIAM RAMIREZ** in celebration of her birthday.

Please note that the **2019 ALTAR FLOWER CHART** is on the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall. Please start thinking about what dates you would like to provide flowers for the altar in the year to come.

## AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

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Following worship, you are invited downstairs to Fellowship Hall for a time of food and conversation. Today's Fellowship is hosted by **MERIAM RAMIREZ** in celebration of her birthday.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

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There will be two services on **Christmas Eve, December 24**. The first service will be at **6 pm** and the second at **10 pm**.

## EPIPHANY POT LUCK

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On **Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**, we invite you to our annual **EPIPHANY POTLUCK** following worship. Please bring a dish to share; meat, drink and utensils will be provided. Don't cook? Consider a donation. Contact **MAE WILLIAMS** for further information at 847-676-0798 or hhldmaster@aol.com.

## THANK YOU

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Have you noticed the pews - how clean and shiny they are? A big Thank You to Sean Carey for polishing and buffing the pews and making them look like new.

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## MEN'S DINNER & MOVIE

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The next Central **MEN'S DINNER AND MOVIE** will be **Saturday, December 29, 2018** from **5 to 8 pm** in the Log Cabin. The movie is **"MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - FALLOUT."** The menu will be Giordano's pizza, green salad and dessert. RSVP to Gerhard Mels at 847-675-0720 by text or voicemail.

## PLEDGE ENVELOPES

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Thank you for your giving throughout 2018 and into the new year of 2019. Financial envelopes for 2019 are available today for pick up in the narthex. If you do not have an envelope in your name, please contact Pam Castaneda (847-673-1311).

## FURNACE UPDATE

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The three furnaces have finally been installed in the Education Building at a cost of **\$40,000**. The congregation has raised **\$9,550** as of this date. Many thanks to all those who have contributed towards the cost of the furnaces. Additional contributions for the new and efficient models would be greatly appreciated. Please put "furnace" on the memo line of your check.

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

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December 23 - Tom Downes  
December 23 - Robin Reuter  
December 28 - Gerhard Mels  
December 28 - Meriam Ramirez

(To add a name to the birthday list, contact the church office at (847) 673-1311 or *central\_church@skokiecentralumc.org*.)

## CALENDAR

Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

**The 4th Sunday of Advent**

8:45 am - Chancel Choir

9:30 am - Adult Bible Study

10:30 am - **Worship**

**Rev. Timothy J. Biel Jr.**

Fellowship to follow

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Eve Services**

**6:00 pm**

**10:00 pm**

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Day**

Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

7 pm -Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

5 pm - Men's Night Out (LC)

Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

8:45 am - Chancel Choir

9:30 am - Adult Bible Study

10:30 am - **Worship**

**Rev. Timothy J. Biel Jr.**

Fellowship to follow

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*To add/remove someone from the Prayer List,  
contact the church office*

***Hospitals, Rehab, Assisted***

***Living & Extended Care:***

Edith Bass

Brian Gut

Steve Winker

Rosemarie Young

***At Home:***

Carolyn Adams

Nancy Blaylock

Doris Bloom

Jacquie Leipold

Lois Martin

Rev. Sylvia Pleas

Harriet Tiahnybik

Nena Zamora

## LEADERS

Pastor.....**Timothy J. Biel Jr.**

Today's Reader..... **Claire Rogoski**

Choir Director/Accompanist.....**Millete Silverio**

Song Leader.....**Julianne Arvizu**

Office Staff.....**Doris Bloom & Pam Castaneda**

Nursery Attendant.....**Ellen Mittman**

Lay Leader.....**Cynthia Barron**

Fellowship.....**Meriam Ramirez**

Ministers .....**The People of the Congregation**

## MEMORIAL WINDOW

Message: Christ Lives Today!

***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday,  
today, and forever***