



Central United Methodist Church

Our Mission:

To make disciples of Christ who WORSHIP God,
GROW in their faith and SERVE in the church and world.

Rev. David Lee, Pastor

Tammy Bass, Director of Discipleship

Caroline Scism, Director of Children's Ministries

Katie Bowers, Director of Youth Ministries

Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries

200 East Marion Street

Shelby, NC 28150

704-487-6336

<http://cumcshelby.org>



Please scan the QR code to the left and fill out the connect card to let us know you are worshipping with us and how we can connect you to our ministries.

The Worship of God

December 24, 2025

11:00pm

Prelude *Now the Holly Bears a Berry* Basque Carol/arr. Biery
Choral Variations on "From Heaven Above" arr. Burkhardt
 I. From heaven above to Earth I come...
 II. The Blessing that the Father planned...
 III. These are the signs you will see...
 IV. Now let us all with joyful cheer...
 V. Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child...
 Oh Little Town of Bethlehem Arr. Wold
 O Holy Night arr. Varner
 Libby Alexander, organ and piano

Welcome Caroline Scism

*Congregational Carol #246 *Joy to the World*

Lighting of the Christ Candle Katie Bowers, Karsyn & McKenna King
First Reader: Tonight, we gather to remember with the prophet
Isaiah: *For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this (Isaiah 9:6-7).*

All: We gather to once again bask in the glory that visited a stable and a manger, shepherds watching their flocks, and a young couple cradling the newborn Messiah.

Second Reader: We light the Christ candle as a sign of the glory that came among us in unexpected places and to unexpected people, that we may be people who seek and follow the glory of the Christ child here and now.

(Light the Christ Candle)

*Congregational Carol #245 *The First Noel*

Offering *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. Kim
 Libby Alexander, piano

Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*
 (tune: *What Child Is This*)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;

**praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Anthem	<i>O Holy Night</i> The Buckner Family	Adam
Scripture	Luke 2: 8-20	
Sermon	A Christmas Carol	Rev. David Lee

*Candle Lighting Hymn #239 *Silent Night*

Safety note on candle lighting: To keep wax from dripping on your skin, clothes or furniture, please make sure your lighted candle is in the perpendicular upright position. The unlit candle should be tilted at an angle to receive the flame from the lighted candle and then held upright for the next person to receive the flame.

Postlude	<i>Joy to the World</i> Libby Alexander, organ	arr. Lau
----------	---	----------

*Benediction Rev. David Lee
*Please stand if able

The Advent Wreath honors the joyous celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and is in loving memory of Bill Jack and their parents by Marilyn Jack.

*Thank you, Debbie Powell, for providing your beautiful collection of English Carolers to the movie design for **The Christmas Carol**.*

Christmas Eve Offering

As we celebrate the birth of Christ- the Bread of Life- we are invited to share God's abundance with our neighbors. Tonight's special offering will support food insecurity needs in our county. You are encouraged to prayerfully give as an act of gratitude and love. Together, we bear witness to Christ's light in tangible ways.

Christmas Office Hours

The office will be closed for the rest of this week.. Merry Christmas! Regular hours will resume Monday, December 29th 9-2 but the office will be closed January 1st.



MERRY
Christmas



From:

Katie, Caroline, Hannah, Libby,
Danny, Doug, David, Doug, Tammy,
and Shelley (not pictured)