

Meditation

Tom Spry

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

(All believing Christians are invited to share in the Lord's Supper, regardless of church affiliation.)

Communion Music

One: The bread which we break is our communion in the Body of Christ.

**All: The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is our Communion
in the blood of Christ. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

Il Est Né

Dee Dee Gain, organ

French carol



Central Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
Decatur, Illinois
www.cccdisciples.org

Sunday, December 20, 2020



Michael E. Karunas
Senior Minister

Don Martin
Minister of Music

Tina Miller
Associate Minister of
CE and Family Life

David Martin
Youth Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sharing Christ. Changing Lives. Delivering Hope

GATHERING

Prelude ***Bell Carol*** William Mathias
Dee Dee Gain, organ

Introit ***Advent Canticle*** Mark Shepperd

Opening Music ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** No. 148

*Responsive Reading

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: Jesus is the LIGHT of the world!

Leader: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined;

People: Jesus is the LIGHT of the world!

Leader: For unto us a child has been born, a son given to us;

People: Jesus is the LIGHT of the world!

Leader: All things came into being through the Word,

People: Jesus is the LIGHT of the world!

*Invocation

*Lord's Prayer

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever,
Amen.**

*Gloria Patri No. 35

Advent Wreath Liturgy
O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 4) No. 119

Children's Message

PRAYER

Prayer Hymn ***Star of Wonder***
Thomas Karunas

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

PROCLAMATION

Offertory Invitation

Special Music ***O Come, Emmanuel*** Elaine Hagenberg

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-9; John 1:1-5, 10-14

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon ***From Darkness to Light: The Light Saves us For...***

RESPONSE

Invitation to Discipleship

Communion Music
Angels We Have Heard on High (ring a bell) No. 155

(In Christ's name we welcome all persons into membership into the church by confession of faith and baptism or by transfer of membership. Please step to the front pew during the singing of this Hymn of Communion.)

Questions for Reflection

December 20, 2020

“From Darkness to Light: The Light Saves Us FOR...”

Questions for Reflection

What do you remember being told by your parents about YOUR birth? What details do you remember? And what do they say about you and the family you were born into?

What does it mean to you (John 1:5) that the light shines in the darkness – not eliminating the darkness but overcoming it?

Read the descriptive names given to the child in Isaiah 9:6-7? Which resonates with your understanding of God the most?

Think back over 2020: where have you seen glimpses of God’s light? List them and give thanks for them. The darkness is always less dark when we do this.

Thinking ahead: how can you be a reflection of that light in someone else’s “world of darkness?”

Notes:



Isaiah 9:2-9 (NRSV)

² ^[b] The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ 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. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, 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.

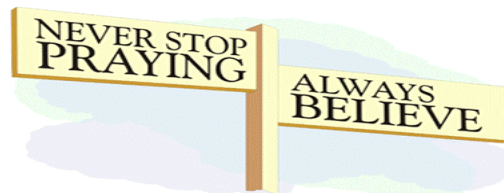
John 1:1-5 NRSV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, ^[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:10-14

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, ^[a] and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, ^[b] full of grace and truth.

Prayer List



Members

Howard Cravens
Louise Boline
Jean Booher
Lawrence Turner
Barbara Tyler
Karma Lynn Carpenter
David Miller
Unique Hess
Joan Smith
Evelyn Sanders
Don Boyd
Gretchen Barron
Linda Kuhns
Bob Bischoff
Pat Ash
Carol Wade
Morris Birkhead
Ellen Sheffer

Members in Nursing Home & Assisted Living

Arlene Penn (Imboden Creek)
Zettie Stern (Imboden Creek)
Claudine Nichols (Imboden Creek Gardens)
Warren Berner (Imboden Creek Gardens)
Laura Sperry (Imboden Creek Gardens)
Elaine Hynds (Imboden Creek Gardens)
Wanda Poisel (Imboden Creek Gardens)
Irwin Soliday (Primrose)
Billie Harmon (Randall Residence)
Marilyn Riley (Randall Residence)
Max Sperry (Randall Residence)
Dottie Scholes (Hickory Pt Christian Village)
Shirlee Johnson (Hickory Pt Christian Village)
Loren Glasscock (Hickory Pt Christian Village)

We Pray for Those in the Military:

Rob Aikman, Bobbie Backes, Noah Burkham,
Phillip Johnston, Jeremiah & Rachel Singletary,
Brandon Trail, Trysten Hall, Lucas Ward,
Katy Taylor, Mitchell Lucas

Last updated 12/18/2020

Friends & Family

Misty Mochel (friend of Marci Baumann)
Gary & Diane Lockwood (Friends of Nancy Ellen Taylor)
Barb Disney (Friend of Penny Rutherford)
Shannon Francisco (Friend of Bob Smith)
Bryanna Shaw (Friend of Maria Jacobs)
Timothy Littrell (friend of the Lintons & the Bednars)
Brook Stewart (Parents friend of Jim & Pamela Bednar)
Janet May Carpenter (mother of Karma Lynn Carpenter)
Mark Boline (son of Louise Boline)
Keith Bess (friend of Gregg & Linda Foltz)
Anne Hostetler (friend of many CCC members)
Jeff Pritts (son of Eleanor Pritts)
Michael Moran (son in law of Larry & Marla Winkleblack)
Catherine Bower (friend of Jerry Bean)
Carter Goodman (nephew of Greg & Gale Barnes)
Melissa Phelps (friend of Derald Hartley)
Jill Bolin (Larry & Marla Winkleblack's daughter)
Chuck & Linda Doehring (cousins of Joy Adams)
Carrol Virt (father of Diana Ritter)
Juanita Churchill (mother of Theresa Fulk)
Kay Wallace (friend of Sandra Schultz)
Cecelia Adams (granddaughter-in-law of Ed & Joy Adams)
Paul Barnes (father of Greg Barnes)
Shawn Renfro (cousin of Diana Ritter)
Dr. Albert "Albie" Gillman (friend of Marci Baumann)
Rodger Marshall (cousin of Donna Dash)
Kathy Crum (friend of Jean Maggioncalda)
Kristin Hesse (friend of Karen Driver)
Sally Brown (friend of Roberta Gorden)
Joe Opitz (friend of Donna Dash)