

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

* indicates to stand as you are able;
if sitting is better for you, feel free to do so!

Prelude

Greeting *Pastor Michelle*
Announcements *Bonnie Cole*
There are pads in the seats to help us connect with you—please take some time during the service to fill it out and pass it along. Feel free to check in on Facebook as well.

We Are Called to Worship by Lighting the Advent Candles
Horace & Marie King

One: As we light four candles, we come to worship the One.

All: God who comes to us.

One: Bring your troubles, your impossible situations, your frenzy, your chaos. Open yourself to God's peace.

All: Light four candles. May they represent God, in all the ways God comes to us—Maker, Son, Spirit. May they ignite our desire to bear God's light into the world.

*Scripture reading and candle lighting
A moment of silence*

Unison Prayer from "Cloth for the Cradle"

In the face of the Gospel, let us ask God for a good Christmas: That no powerful nation should tax the poor or uproot them; that no unmarried mother should be put away in disgrace; that no door will be shut on those who need to find it open; that shepherds and sheep and all of nature need not be afraid; that barbed wire and angry soldiers may not be found in Bethlehem; that wise men and wise women might appear in Belfast, in Iraq, in Indonesia, in South America, in the United States; that this Christmas, worship may become a manger, and the church a stable, and the rumor become a reality that Christ has come among us. And this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Song # 209 (red) Blessed Be the God of Israel**

**We Exchange Signs of Peace and Blessing
Please greet your neighbors, especially those you don't yet know*

A Time for the Child in All of Us

Special Music A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us
Chancel Choir & Living Water by Price/Besig

Scripture Luke 1:26-38 *Bob Wilcox*

We Offer Ourselves and Our Gifts to God's Purposes
Lost in the Night ~ Moklebust *Cappella Ringers*
Response: All things come from you, O God.

All: And of your own have we given you.

***Song of Dedication #94 Doxology**

*Prayer of Dedication

***Song # 250 (red) Once in Royal David's City**

We Hear Joys and Concerns and Pray for Each Other
Following the pastor's prayer, we will speak the names of others not already named who need special prayers today.

*This ends with the words: "Lord, in Your Love,"
the people respond: "Hear our prayers."*

The Lord's Prayer #895 (red)

The Sermon Luke 1:46b-55 *Pastor Michelle*
Music by J Doug Esmond, 2010 *Solo, Michaela Birek*

***Song # 198 (red) My Soul Gives Glory to My God**

*Blessing
Postlude

*Music can be a wonderful preparation for the week ahead;
why not spend some time in prayer before departing...*

Special Guest Musician
Kaitlin Tagliaferri, violin

Our Mission Statement

Central UMC is a fully inclusive church that seeks, embraces, educates, worships, and serves, all in God's love.

This Week

Sunday, December 24 – 4th Sunday in Advent

8:00 Worship Broadcast (Ch. 4)
9:00 Café Central – dining room
10:00 WORSHIP – Usher Team 2
4:30 Informal Christmas Eve Service
10:30 Candlelight & Communion Service

Monday, December 25 – Merry Christmas!

Office Closed

5:30 Worship Broadcast (Ch. 4)

Tuesday, December 26

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27

8-4 Sanctuary is open for prayer
9-12 Reduced Office Hours

Thursday, December 28

9-12 Reduced Office Hours
10:00 Newsletter Mailing
5:00 Shepherd Supper

Friday, December 29

9-12 Reduced Office Hours
7:30 A.A.

Saturday, December 30

Sunday, December 31

8:00 Worship Broadcast (Ch. 4)
9:00 Café Central – dining room
10:00 WORSHIP – Usher Team 3

Monday, January 1 – Happy New Year!

Office Closed

Announcements

Monday Book Study with Pastor Michelle at Jonathans Restaurant will start the new book, *Credo*, by William Sloane Coffin on January 8th. All are welcome to come.

Youth Bottle Drive the confirmation class will gladly accept your bottles and cans. There is a box in front of the office for any donations from your holiday parties.

Wedding Reception Maggie Cude & Tyler Wolford invite the congregation to a reception on Saturday, January 13 at 1pm in Central's dining room. To help with food preparation, please sign-up in the Welcome Center.

Need a Ride To Early(4:30pm) Christmas Eve Service? the van is available to get you to or from the service! Contact Bruce Bishop (748-6150) by 2pm today!

Undecorating the sanctuary will be done Sunday, Jan 7th after the 11am service. We need lots of help taking the decorations down. Can you stay for a few minutes to help! Pizza will be provided.

Church Directories (with a green paper cover) are available in the Welcome Center. If your copy is over a year old, pick up a new directory! Reminder: to please let the church office know when your address, phone# or email change.

Offering Envelopes please pick-up your envelopes by the stage in the back of the sanctuary. If you don't see your name and would like envelopes, contact the office.

Holiday Schedule

One service at 10am on Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve
4:30pm Informal Christmas Eve Service
10:30pm Candlelight & Communion Service
Office will be closed Dec 25 & 26 and Jan 1.
Reduced office hours (9-12) from 12/27 to 12/29
Clothing Center Closed 12/26-12/28 and will reopen Jan 2.
Shepherd Supper will be served on Thursday, 12/28.

In Our Prayers

Prayer Program: *Specific Families receiving prayer this week:*
We thank Barbara Reynolds and her team of callers who contact every family once a year. If you did not receive a call this year, the church office may not have your current phone number or address.

Church Family and Friends:

Baby Fisher, Chuck Harvey, Paul Lewis, Roger McVannan, Helen Henderson, Dolores Stiller, Karen, our homebound members

To add prayer concerns (with person's permission), contact Andy Tewksbury (785-5861) or the office (754-6060)

Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

17 Nanticoke Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760
607-754-6060 Fax: 607-785-4676

www.centralumcendicott.org

Office Hours Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
"Like" Central on Facebook!

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Michelle Bogue-Trost pastormichellebt@gmail.com

Director of Christian Education and Programming

Kelly Crane centraledu@stny.rr.com

Secretary centralumc@stny.rr.com Pat Breneman
Music Coordinator..... Connie Lamando
Chancel Choir Director Carolyn Stanford
Bell Choir Director.....Denise Johnson
Living Water Director Jeff Heald
Joyful Noise Children's Director..... Suzette Marino
Organist Sean Stafford
Custodian..... Gregg Wood
Greeters.....Andy Tewksbury / Bill & Sharon Carmine
Café Lite Shelley Lobevero, Dee Stiles, Pat McVannan
Van Jere Hotchkiss

Previous Services are available on Youtube or Central's website

Central United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation
December 24, 2017



We welcome guests and visitors today, and we pray that the service will be a blessing to you. If you wish to learn more about Central and our ministries, there are Welcome folders available at each entrance/exit to the Sanctuary, and in our Welcome Center.

Café Central is our fellowship time with refreshments between the services—all are welcome downstairs in the Dining Room,

Assisted Hearing Devices, which operate throughout the building, and **large-print bulletins, hymnals & bibles** are available at the rear of the sanctuary. Please speak to an usher.

Child Care during worship is provided in the Nursery (Room 114) for infants and children up to age four. An usher will be happy to accompany you.

Children's Activity Packets are available at the rear of the sanctuary for children's use during the service.

Central Church is sensitive to those with allergies. Snacks in Café Central are nut-free. Central's communion elements are grape juice and gluten free bread.