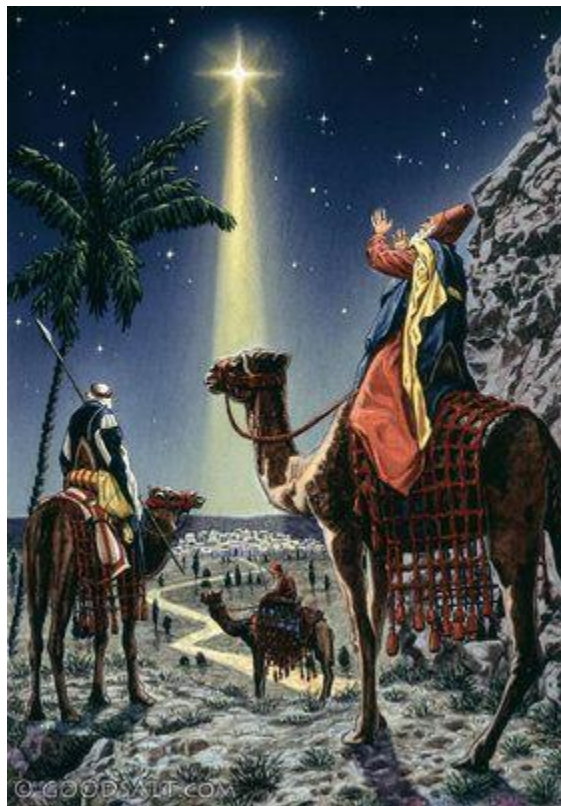


CENTRAL

United Church of Christ
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT

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January 3, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

PRELUDE

"The Old Year Now Has Passed Away"

- Bach

OPENING HYMN "Another Year Is Dawning"

Another year is dawning!
Dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting
Another year with Thee!
Another year of leaning
Upon Thy loving breast,
Another year of trusting,
Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face;
Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love;
Another year of training
For holier work above.
Another year is dawning!
Dear Father, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise; shine, for your light has come! We are called out of our darkness into light. Lift up your eyes and look around. We rejoice in the gift of light. Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace. We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe.

GATHERING PRAYER

God of promise and light, open our eyes this morning, that we may see your light in the darkness. Open our hearts, that we may perceive your promises of justice and righteousness fulfilled in the babe of Bethlehem. May we, like the Magi, have a star to guide us on our journey quest to find the one who truly set us free. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

SPECIAL MUSIC

People Look East”

- Central UCC Choir

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

***THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost and of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried, and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; from thence he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. In one holy catholic and apostolic Church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**THE 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.

OFFERTORY SCRIPTURE

Malachi 3:10a “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse... and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts...”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION****THE BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS****SHARING COMMUNION****THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

CLOSING HYMN "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Christ is made the sure Foundation,
Christ the Head and Corner Stone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.

Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee, forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory,
While unending ages run!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra"

- Benoit

(All Hymns and Songs reprinted under CCLI)

Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

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Ministers – Every Member
Pastor – Rev. Dr. Judith Scott
Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director – Rene Miserez
Organist – Shirley Klein

Please keep each other in prayer, particularly those for whom God's healing touch is of special comfort.