



Light
my path

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, May 3

10:00 AM Worship Service
Central UMC Monroe Sanctuary

LIGHT MY PATH

10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

✝ *You are invited to rise in body or spirit.*
Congregational responses are in **bold**.

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY George Frideric Handel/arr. Jonathan Scott
Eternal Source of Light Divine

Originally from an opera and later transcribed for organ, this beautiful piece by Handel evokes the dawning of light on the world. The music unfolds like light slowly breaking through darkness, and the powerful, grand ending proclaims, "Let there be light!" For me, the whole piece reflects the unshakeable assurance we have in God, who is our source of light, and is the One who lights our path throughout life.

– Organist Nathan Clements

THE GREETING

Nathan Clements

THE LITURGICAL PROCESSION *I Speak Jesus*

Charity Gayle

The Procession

Crucifer: Parker Ollis

Acolytes: Ady Fomen and Moises Avila-Ramirez

Interpretive Liturgical Dance: Ana León, Millie Baucom, Addie Baucom, Ta'Naysia Holmes, Georgia Smith, Raelynn Helms, Ava Fomen, Isabella Marquez

Procession of Light: Central Youth

(As the youth walk together, the light is passed, reminding us that God's light leads us and we are called to shine it for someone else.)

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Tera Millward

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

We gather today as God's people, seeking the light that guides our way.

Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

In moments of uncertainty, when the road ahead feels unclear,

God's light shines before us, leading us in truth and love.

Today, we celebrate the faith, gifts, and voices of our youth.

For they are not only the future of the Church, but the Church right now.

Christ calls each of us to walk in the light, to reflect His love, and to follow His path.

We come ready to worship, to listen, and to be transformed.

Let us walk together in the light of Christ!

† THE OPENING HYMN *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

UMH 103

† THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Isabella Marquez

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**universal*

† THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

UMH 71

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Millie Baucom

Gracious and loving God,

You have searched us and known us. You know our thoughts,
our words, and our ways. You go before us and behind us,
yet we confess that we do not always follow Your path.
You call us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,
but too often we hide our light.

**We dim our faith out of fear, we stay silent when we should speak,
and we choose comfort instead of courage.**

**We confess that we wander from Your guidance,
trusting our own way instead of Your truth.**

Forgive us for the times we lose sight of Your light, and for the ways we fail to reflect
Your love to others. Search us, O God, and know our hearts.
Lead us back to Your path.

**Shine Your light within us again,
so that we may live as Your people.**

Amen.

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Tyler Sikes

Hear the good news:

The God who created you knows you fully and loves you completely.
There is nowhere you can go that God's presence will not reach you.
In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, restored, and called again to walk in the light.

Thanks be to God!

You are the light of the world.
Let your light shine before others,
that they may see God's love in you.

We are forgiven, we are loved, and we will walk in God's light.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

† THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Now, as forgiven people, let us stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

THE PSALTER READING

Henry Dilworth

Psalm 139:1-12 (NIV)

You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue, you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

† THE GOSPEL READING

Ana León

Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV)

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.
"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

THE FIRST ACT OF PRAISE

Waymaker

Kalu/Egbu

*I You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You*

*Way Maker
Miracle Worker Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness my
God that is who You are*

*You are here touching ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here healing ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You*

*You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You*

*That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are
That is who You are*

*Even when I don't see it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop You never stop working
You never stop You never stop working*

THE MORNING PRAYER

Trent Dilworth

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Trent Dilworth

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dramatic Interpretation of Psalm 119:105

Who Are You Following?

Leader: Tera Millward | **Narrator:** Camdyn Kirby

Boat 1: Trent Dilworth | **Boat 2:** Kyrin Kirby | **Boat 3:** Tyler Sikes

Keeper: Henry Dilworth | **Keeper Assistant:** José León

Seagull: Ava Fomen | **Water:** Parker Ollis and Emmanuel Avila-Ramirez

THE RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

Harry Dixon Loes

*This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine let it shine let it shine*

THE SECOND ACT OF PRAISE *Bow the Knee*

arr. Tom Fettke

Nathan Clements, Camdyn Kirby,
Ana León, Ta'Naysia Holmes, Isabella Marquez, *vocalists*

*There are moments on our journey
Following the Lord
Where God illumines ev'ry step we take
There are times when circumstances
Make perfect sense to us
As we try to understand each move He makes
When the path grows dim
And our questions have no answers Turn to Him*

*Bow the knee
Trust the heart of your Father
When the answer goes beyond what you can see
Bow the knee
Lift your eyes toward heaven
And believe the One who holds eternity
When you don't understand
The purpose of His plan
In the presence of the King
Bow the knee*

*There are days when clouds surround us
And the rain begins to fall
The cold and lonely winds won't cease to blow
And there seems to be no reason
For the suffering we feel
We are tempted to believe God does not know
When the storms arise
Don't forget we live by faith and not by sight*

*Bow the knee
Trust the heart of your Father
When the answer goes beyond what you can see
Bow the knee
Lift your eyes toward heaven
And believe the One who holds eternity
When you don't understand
The purpose of His plan
In the presence of the King Bow the knee
Bow the knee Bow the knee Bow the knee*

THE INVITATION TO PRESENT LOVE OFFERINGS

José León

THE OFFERTORY

Houston/Myrin

Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)

Ana León, Isabella Marquez, Camdyn Kirby, Millie Baucom,
Ta'Naysia Holmes, Addie Baucom, Nathan Clements, *vocalists*

*All these pieces Broken and scattered
In mercy gathered Mended and whole
Empty handed But not forsaken
I've been set free I've been set free*

*Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
Oh I once was lost
But now I am found
Was blind but now I see*

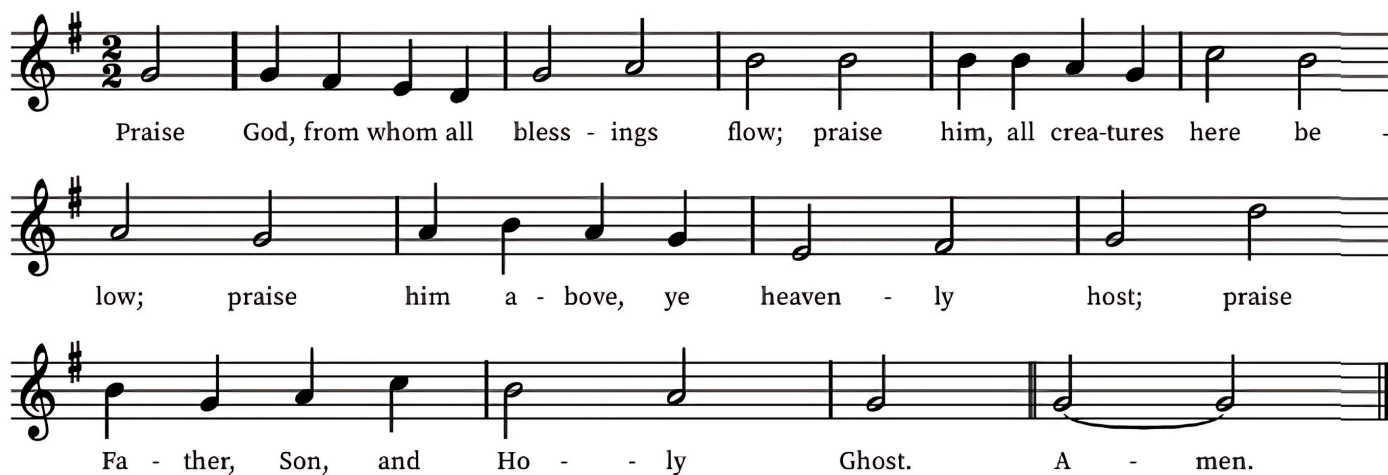
*Oh I can see You now
Oh I can see the love in Your eyes
Laying Yourself down
Raising up the broken to life*

*You take our failure
You take our weakness
You set Your treasure
In jars of clay So take this heart Lord
I'll be Your vessel
The world to see Your life in me*

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LOVE OFFERINGS

† THE DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH



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.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Kyrin Kirby & Ava Fomen

THE SONG OF PREPARATION

Leonard/Ingram/Jordan

Great Are You Lord

*You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope
You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord*

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

"CARRIED BY GRACE"

John 14:27

Camdyn Kirby

THE SONG OF PREPARATION

Leonard/Ingram/Jordan

Great Are You Lord

"GLOW!"

Ephesians 5:8-14, 19-20 (NRSVUE)

Nathan Clements

THE INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON

The table of the Lord is open to all who love him. Let us repent of our sins and seek to live in peace with one another.

Almighty God, we confess that we have not followed your call to live fully as your disciples. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Bless us with renewed faithfulness to live as true servants of Jesus. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, Christ loves you and forgives you!

**Christ loves you and forgives you!
Glory to God. Amen!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As we lift our hearts to the Lord, we remember that it is a right, good, and joyful thing to always give our hearts to you, our Creator. You formed us in your image and called us to be your people. When humanity failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from slavery to sin and death by the passion and resurrection of Jesus. You made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he blessed bread and cup with thanksgiving to you. He instructed his disciples to eat and drink in remembrance of his broken body, and the blood poured out for forgiveness. Doing so, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his Heavenly banquet.

Amen.

THE GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Presiding over The Sacrament of Holy Communion: Rev. JD Moffett

Communion Stewards: Julie Miles, Camdyn Kirby, Tera Millward, Trent Dilworth, & Henry Dilworth

THE MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

Lord, I Need You

Maher/Reeves/Stanfill

Addie Baucom, Ava Fomen, Raelynn Helms, Georgia Smith, Ta'Naysia Holmes, vocalists

*Lord I come I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart*

*Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You*

*Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me*

*Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You*

Everlasting Light

Benajmin-Korporaal/Goss

Nathan Clements, Ana León, Isabella Marquez, Millie Baucom, Ta'Naysia Holmes, vocalists

*You're the horizon the bright
The glimmer that breaks the constant night
You are the brilliance the dream
The evidence of things unseen*

*Even the darkest days are temporary
You are the everlasting light
All of the time and space could not contain You
You are the everlasting light*

*You are the glory that stays
You never dim You never fade
You are the power the truth
Nothing can stop You nothing can stop You*

*The end and the beginning The new reality
Outside my understanding But still within my reach
As far as I can see You You're closer still to me
You are the everlasting light*

✠ THE SONG OF DEDICATION

Thy Word

Amy Grant

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path*

*When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still You're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near
Please be near me to the end*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path*

*I will not forget Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering
Jesus be my guide And hold me to Your side
I will love You to the end*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path*

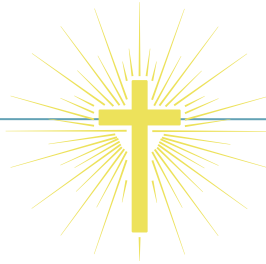
THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens (1823–1881)

Fanfare

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

Our Service of Worship has ended.
Let our Worship through service begin.



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Director of Youth Ministries: Julie Miles

Pianist & Organist: Nathan Clements

Central Youth Choir

Central Youth Vocal Ensemble

Ushers: Parker Ollis, Emmanuel Avila-Ramirez, Raelynn Helms, Georgia Smith

Greeters: Central Youth

Audio Visual: David Dilworth, Diana Ollis, Kenny Brown, & Aidan Ollis

Youth Support Team: Erica Kirby, David Dilworth, Emily Dilworth, Natalie Gordon, Katie Stewart, Joan Miles, Taylor Apple, & Nancy Totherow

Altar Flowers

The flowers placed on the altar today are given in dedication to the Glory of God and in honor of Central's Youth for their hard work and persistent dedication to our Church.

Given by Central United Methodist Church

THE CENTRAL YOUTH



Nathan Clements
12th Grade



Camdyn Kirby
12th Grade



Millie Baucom
10th Grade



Ana León
10th Grade



Isabella Marquez
10th Grade



Henry Dilworth
9th Grade



Trent Dilworth
9th Grade



Tera Millward
9th Grade



Georgia Smith
8th Grade



José León
8th Grade



Parker Ollis
8th Grade



Tyler Sikes
8th Grade



Kyrin Kirby
8th Grade



Ava Fomen
7th Grade



Raelynn Helms
7th Grade



Ta'Naysia Holmes
7th Grade



Emmanuel Avila-Ramirez
7th Grade



Addie Baucom
6th Grade



Moises Avila-Ramirez
Rising 6th Grade



Ady Fomen
Rising 6th Grade