

Meditation

Gretchen Kirby

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Theresa Fulk

*(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

\*Closing Hymn

No. 155

*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
(ring bells joyously during refrains)

*(After worship, a serving elder will be available at the back of each side aisle for personal prayer)*

Postlude

*Il Est Né*  
Dee Dee Gain, organ

French Carol

*\*All who are able, please stand*

Connect with us at:  
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**Michael E. Karunas**  
Senior Minister

**Vicky Woolridge**  
Pastor for Families

**Melinda McDonald**  
Pastor for Spiritual Formation  
and Pastoral Care

**David Martin**  
Youth Director

**Dr. Benjamin Hawkinson**  
Director of Music



Central  
Christian  
Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Decatur, Illinois

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Central Christian Church

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Sharing Christ. Changing Lives. Delivering Hope.*

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

Words of Welcome Vicky Woolridge

\*Introit

\*Opening Hymn No. 136  
*Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming* (vs. 1, 2, 4)

\*Responsive Reading Andy Fulk

Leader: Once we were far away, separated and divided.  
But now in Christ Jesus, we have been brought together.

**People: Christ Himself is our peace - breaking down  
walls of hostility and fear - and welcoming us  
into his presence.**

Leader: Christ comes to make us one, reconciling us to God  
and to one another.

**People: Through his saving love, Christ proclaims peace  
to a world trapped in chaos.**

Leader: Let us come as one people, no longer strangers,  
but members of God's household.

**People: Let us worship the God who makes us one in Christ.**

\*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

A Time for All God's Children

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Prayer Hymn *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* No. 134

Pastoral Prayer

(8:00) Prayer Response

(10:30) Special music, Ben Hawkinson

Offertory Invitation

\*Doxology No. 46

\*Prayer of Dedication

(8:00) Special Music, Ben Hawkinson

(10:30) Anthem arr. Trevor Manor

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:13-18 Pg. 192-193 NT

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *In the Midst of Chaos*  
Michael E. Karunas

Invitation to Discipleship

\*Communion Hymn No. 142

*People, Look East* (vs. 1, 3, 4)

*(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.)*

# Prayer List



Last updated 12/19/2025

## Members

Evelyn Sanders  
Debbie & Jim Hoffert  
Gene Guthrie  
Jim & Diane Denzer  
Mike & Carole Holbrook  
Misty Mochel  
Linda Kuhns  
Don & Brenda Tankersley  
Jack Dixon & Sue Burkham  
Dave Withrow  
Karen McFadin  
Larry & Debbie Foster  
Shane Garver  
Bill Moutray  
Shovann Romero  
Bob Smith

## We Pray for Those in the Military:

Katy & Matt Holden (granddaughter & grandson-in-law of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Phillip Johnston (son of Becky Johnston)  
Mitchell Lucas (grandson of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Preston Wade (son of Larry & Karen Wade)  
Ryan Smithson (grandson of Jim & Vicki Fitzpatrick)  
Lucas May (nephew of Marci Baumann)  
Nicholas Lucas (grandson of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Mason Penhallegon (nephew of Babs & Tom McKay)  
Cameron Hauhe (grandson-in-law of Cecil & Sheila Griffith)

## Members in Nursing Home & Assisted Living

Merle Chapman (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Elaine Hynds (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Janet Deakins (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Bob Garrett (Randall Residence)  
Dan & Nedra Brintlinger (Primrose)  
Dixie June Govro (The Arc at Hickory Pt.)  
Eleanor Pritts (The Arc at Hickory Pt.)  
Don Boyd (The Loft of Rock Springs)  
Yvonne Purcell (Mt. Zion Health & Rehab Center)  
Leona Bray (Tanglewood)

## Friends & Family

Jim Nuernberger (friend of Jim & Debbie Hoffert)  
Harriette York (mother of David York)  
Ron Price (brother of Debbie Hoffert)  
Quentin Wilmot (brother of Kevin Wilmot)  
Matt Andrews (son-in-law of Jean Maggioncalda)  
Tracy Cearlock (friend of Brett Swallow)  
Larry Baker (friend of Keith Backes & David Wagner)  
Evelyn Drahovzal (friend of Charlotte Ballance)  
Tina King (friend to many CCC members)  
Sharyl Craggs (wife of Bob Craggs)  
Curt & Malinda Jackson (cousin of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Jim Story (friend of Maria Jacobs)  
Tom & Jerry White (sister & brother-in-law of Joy Adams)  
Sara Foreman (friend of Susan Bryant)  
Kim Edwards (friend of Gale Barnes)  
Deborah Stokes (Angie Ingram's stepmom)  
Renee Spencer (daughter of Cecil & Sheila Griffith)  
Jeff & Lori Powers (son-in-law of Dave & Nita Phillips)  
Dream (daughter of Unique Hess, friend of Janelle Beedle)  
Pat Berry (friend of Angie Ingram)  
Brett Moroney (grandson of Jeannie Rade)  
Mary Schilling (sister of Susan Bryant)  
JeanEva Smallwood (mother of Nanette Frank)  
Joyce Wakeland (mother of Becky VanMeter)  
Jeff & Sally Brown (friends of many CCC members)  
Lynne Clark (daughter of Bob Sarver)  
Lucy Rapp (granddaughter of K & J)  
Mary Peck (friend of Keith Backes)  
Jennifer Maddox (sister of Fran Rutherford)  
Byron Fast (husband of Martha Fast)

Worship Extras  
December 21, 2025

Ephesians 2:13-18 NRSVUE

<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us, <sup>15</sup> **abolishing the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,** <sup>16</sup> **and might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.** <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, <sup>18</sup> **for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.**

Lighting the Advent Candle

L: God steps down from the throne of heaven and comes clothed in mortal flesh.

**P: Let your face shine upon us, O God, that we may be saved.**

L: Dwell among us. Breathe our air. Walk our roads. Reveal to us the heights and depths of your divine love.

**P: And teach us to love as we have been loved.**

L: We light this fourth candle of Advent – the candle of LOVE – so that the love of Jesus might shine in our hearts and in the world.

(lighting of the fourth candle)

L: Let us pray, God of love, dwell in the midst of our fears, our uncertainties and our shortcomings.

**P: Dwell in the midst of our hopes, our dreams and our accomplishments.**

L: We thank you for your unconditional love.

**P: May we receive it humbly, as we seek justice and strive to live kindly.**

L: In your name we pray,

**All: Amen.**

Serving Schedule

Today, December 21, 2025

**Elders:** Theresa Fulk, Gretchen Kirby

**Outreach Communion Elders:** Jeannie Backes, Susan Bryant, Gretchen Kirby, Shirley Swarthout, Lea West

**December Prep Deacons:** Donna Dash, Becky Johnston, Christine Lyman-Harm, Karen Penn\*

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Sandy Garver, Krista Rohrscheib

10:30 - Dale Ford, David Martin

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Moran, Blair Moran, Bobby Munos, Julia Munos

10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Stephani Martin, Gretchen Kirby

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:30 - Dale & Judy Ford

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:30 - Luke Kirby

**Liturgist:** Andy Fulk

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Next Sunday, December 28, 2025

**Elders:** Jeannie Backes, Kim Miller

**December Prep Deacons:** Donna Dash, Becky Johnston, Christine Lyman-Harm, Karen Penn\*

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Julia Munos, Gail Prince

10:30 - Mike Kirby, Ron Oliver

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Carolyn Sunderlik, Capt., Dianne Devore

10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Kincaid, Donna Dash

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Debbie & Jim Hoffert

10:30 - Mary Jane & Ron Oliver

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Krista Rohrscheib

10:30 - Mike Kirby

**Liturgist:** Gretchen Kirby