



**Centenary United Methodist Church
2300 W. Friendly Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27403
January 7, 2024**

Epiphany Sunday

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director

*Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the
Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.
Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world.
Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.*

Invitation

Leader: By the light of the star, God led travelers to the Christ child.

When they saw the child they were overwhelmed with joy.

By the light of divine love, God leads us to this holy meal. Gathered together, we encounter the living Christ and taste the deepest joy.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

All: God of starlight, shine your love into the darkness of our lives. Preoccupied with ourselves, we forget the needs of others; we participate in systems that oppress;

we accept violence as a way of life; we fail to respond to the cry of others.

May your love fall upon us like rain on the mown grass. May your love wash away our indifference and water the tender shoots of our care and compassion.

Nourished in the sunlight of your love, may we grow into people who live in righteousness

and who work for justice for all your children. Amen.

Pray in Silence

Words of Assurance

In Jesus Christ, God has revealed the mystery that brings grace and forgiveness.

The light of God's love transforms us so that we may act with boldness and confidence.

We Worship with God's Tithes and our Offerings.

Offertory

What Child is This?

Choir

†Doxology

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks for, by the guiding of a star, you have revealed your only Son to the world, that in following him we are led from darkness into his marvelous light.

All honor and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the magi the king of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Savior sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore, with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymns of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord,
hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and, as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body

which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

In the same way, after supper He took the cup and gave you thanks; He gave it to them saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup, we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and, as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

To you be glory and praise for ever.

Through him, and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honor and glory and power

Be yours for ever and ever.

As our Savior taught us, so we pray.

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 and ever. Amen

Breaking of bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Prayer following Communion:

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Amen.

SENDING FORTH

†Hymn Angels from the Realms of Glory UMH 220

†Benediction

†Postlude Epiphany Road Ben Logan

†Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able and please silence your cell phones†

As you engage your 'Prayer Life' this week, please remember these prayer concerns. If you have a prayer concern or praises, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-5081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.

Prayer Concerns:

Ann Hennings. Joann Martin. Barbara Wolfe. Daisy Adams, Bari Hendrix. Connie Heffner. Abbie Samuel. Margaret & Patrick Miller. Joann Martin. Martha Nell Rives. Chuck Farabee. Gretchen Crabtree. Dave & Barbara Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Lee & Jane Norman. Scott Stanley. Al & Lori Eaton. Peggy Harris. Diane & Jim Stanley. Trudy Sillmon. Toby Swindell (Suzy grandson). Don & Clara Ellis. Aly Saunders. Hazel Perritt, Pat Glover. Anne Trumpler (Anita sister-in-law). Richard Fischer (Anita Trumpler's brother-in-law). Margey Sienkiewicz (Larry & Suzy Swindell's aunt). Dan Rozelle. Peace in the Middle East. The family of George Dubree in his passing. (friend of Betty Durham).

January Birthdays – 5th Brian Deuterman. 7th Barbara Singleton. 12th Reid Townsend. 16th Jane Norman, Aly Saunders. 17th Jimmy Stanley. 22nd Don Stowe. 24th Hannah Stout. 29th Bill Eller, Don Ellis.

Announcements and Calendar of events

Clothes Closet special requests: We need Men's pants and shirts ALL sizes, but especially 32, 34 & 36. Men's winter shirts. Men's shoes, especially athletic shoes. Men's belts 34, 36 & 38. Women's Small and Medium **winter** clothes. Women's Small and Medium underwear. Take-along style suitcases on wheels. Travel size shampoo, toothpaste, and body wash. If you have any questions, please see Caryn Hull or Dona Pickett.

The Blessed Table Food Pantry, food items needed for this month are cans of Black Eye Peas, Pinto Beans, Great Northern Beans, Pork & Beans, and Green Peas. There is a basket for cash if you prefer.

The D.R. Team need prescription glasses or sturdy readers. There is a great need for glasses.

January 21st-Worship Committee Meeting directly after church in the Conference Room.

January 21st-25 WNCC Equi & Connect Online Classes.

Attendance – December 31, 2023

Sunday School	No Sunday School
Worship in-person	28
Worship - Facebook Live	60
Worship –YouTube	3