

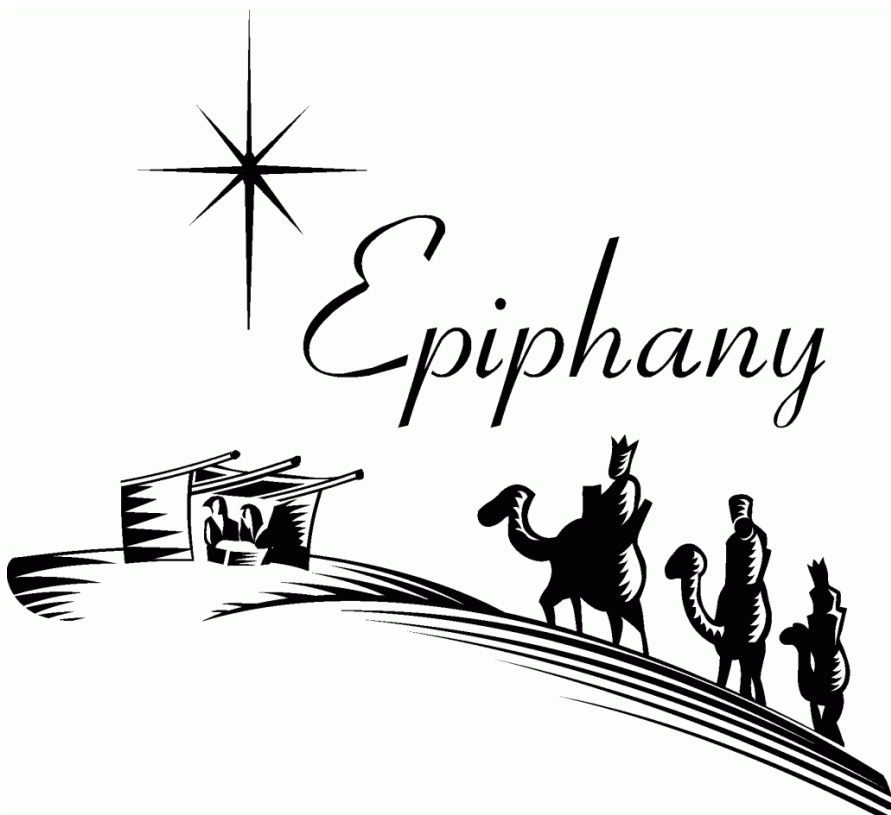
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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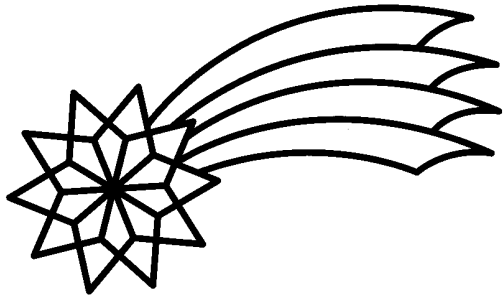


December 31st, 2017

New Year's Eve

Epiphany Sunday

10:30 am



* Please stand as able

GATHERING

Prelude

What Child is This?

Greensleeves

Arr by Joel Raney

Millete Silverio

Welcome &
Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sylvia Pleas

*Call to Worship (*Sung*) ***Arise, Shine*** (TFWS 2005)

Arise, shine

Arise, shine

For your light has come

For your light has come

And the glory of the Lord

And the glory of the Lord

Has risen upon you.

Has risen upon you.

Opening Prayer

O God of light and peace, whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem, still draws the nations to yourself: dispel the darkness that shrouds our path, that we may come to kneel before Christ in true worship, offer him our hearts and souls, and return from his presence to live as he has taught. Amen.

Children's Moment

Rev. Sylvia Pleas

WORD

Old Testament	Isaiah 60: 1 - 6 <i>Doris Bloom, Reader</i>
Psalms	Psalm 72: 1 - 14 <i>The Grail Version</i>
Anthem	Star of Advent <i>Words & Music by Pepper Choplin</i> <i>The Chancel Choir</i>
*Gospel	Matthew 2: 1 - 12
*Hymn 244	Twos in the Moon of Wintertime
Message	Rise and Shine <i>Rev. Dr. Sylvia Pleas</i>
The Prayers	
Offering	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen <i>Traditional English Carol</i> <i>Arr by Vicki Collinsworth</i> <i>Millete Silverio, piano</i>

TABLE

*The Peace	
Great Thanksgiving	
The Giving of the Bread and the Cup	<i>(please go forward to receive the bread and dip it into the cup)</i>
Communion Hymns	
<i>Hymn 254</i>	We Three Kings Brightest and Best
<i>Hymn 245</i>	The First Noel
Prayer After Communion	

SENDING FORTH

*Hymn	Beautiful Star of Bethlehem
*Dismissal & Blessing	
*Postlude	We Three Kings of Orient Are <i>Words & Music John H. Hopkins, Jr.</i>

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Keeping God central in hearts, minds, and lives

WELCOME

If you are a guest at Central today, we welcome you and are honored you have come to begin a New Year with us. Here's some helpful things to know . . .

- **RESTROOMS** are downstairs. There is also an accessible restroom just outside the sanctuary, to the left.
- The words to the hymns, the Scripture readings, and the responses may be followed on the screen. Please silence all **CELL PHONES** before the service.
- At the time of the **OFFERING**, we realize not every one carries cash or checks; to donate electronically go to www.skokiecentralumc.org/donate.html
- Today as we celebrate **HOLY COMMUNION**, you do not have to be United Methodist or a member of our congregation to participate; all who accept Christ's invitation to his table – of every age – are welcome. Our method of communion today will be to go forward, receive the bread, and dip it into the cup.

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Today, December 31st, (New Year's Eve), as we celebrate the **FEAST OF EPIPHANY** (January 6th); **REV. DR. SYLVIA PLEAS** is our preacher. As a reminder, today will be the last day to give to Central for the 2017 calendar year.

Next **Sunday, January 7th**, we invite you to our annual **EPIPHANY POTLUCK** following worship. Please bring a dish to share; meat, drink and utensils will be provided. Don't cook? Consider a donation. Contact **MAE WILLIAMS** for further information at 847-676-0798 or hhldmaster@aol.com.

AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Following worship, you are invited downstairs to Fellowship Hall for a time of food and conversation. Today's Fellowship is hosted by **GERHARD** and **HESTER MELS**.

ALTAR

Today's **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by **MERIAM MURYKURTHY** in celebration of her birthday. Please take your poinsettia home today. If you can deliver a poinsettia to a shut-in, please see Pam Castaneda or Donna Campell.

THANK YOU

Pastor Haley, Millete, Doris, Pam and **Ellen** thank everyone who donated to our Staff Christmas Gifts. Your gifts were much appreciated; we are grateful to serve this congregation.

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PLEDGE CARDS & ENVELOPES

Thank you for your giving throughout 2017, and into the new year of 2018. Financial envelopes for 2018 are available today for pick up in the narthex. If you do not have an envelope in your name please contact Doris Bloom (847-673-1311).

FOOD PANTRY NEXT SUNDAY

Next **Sunday, January 7th**, we welcome food donations for the **NILES TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY**. Items needed for January are:

*Canned/boxed soup, Peanut butter/jelly,
Juice boxes, Shaving cream/razors.*

Shopping reminder cards are available from **LOIS MARTIN**. If you forget to purchase the items above, bring a can of "anything" in your cupboard/pantry to church for the Food Pantry. All donations are welcome.

SIMON BALANSCHÉ, 97

SIMON BALANSCHÉ, age 97, of Bartlett, formerly of Skokie, and member of Central for many years, died Tuesday, December 26th. Services were held yesterday at Haben Funeral Home. Our condolences to Simon's wife, **CHRISTINE**, his son **JOHN** (Doreen), and daughter **HELEN** (Vincent) Byrne, and the family.

2018 ALTAR FLOWERS

The **2018 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR** is posted on the Bulletin Board by the Fellowship Hall kitchen. Please choose dates when you would like to provide flowers for the altar during 2018. Thank you for your faithful provision of altar flowers, keeping the altar beautiful week-by-week!

UPPER ROOM

The January/February edition of the daily devotional booklet, **UPPER ROOM**, is available in the literature rack in the Narthex.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

January 2 - Kathy Ryan

January 8 - Patti Downes

To add a name to the birthday list, contact the church office at (847) 673-1311 or central_church@skokiecentralumc.org.

CALENDAR

Today, Sunday, December 31st

New Year's Eve

Epiphany Sunday

9:30 am - Adult Bible Study

10:30 am - **Worship**

Rev. Dr. Sylvia Pleas, preaching

Fellowship to Follow

Sunday, January 7th, 2018

Baptism of the Lord

8:45 am - Chancel Choir

9:30 am - Sunday School
& Adult Bible Study

10:30 am - **Worship**

Potluck to follow

Monday, January 1st, 2018

New Year's Day

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*To add/remove someone from the Prayer List,
contact the church office*

Hospitals, Rehab, Assisted

Living & Extended Care:

Edith Bass

Carmen Ewing

Brian Gut

Steve Winker

At Home:

Nancy Blaylock

Janet Casey

Lola Helsing

Wilma Odlivak

Harriet Tiahnybik

Eutopio Zamora

LEADERS

Pastor.....**David L. Haley**

Today's Reader.....**Doris Bloom**

Choir Director/Accompanist.....**Millete Silverio**

Song Leader.....**Julianne Arvizu**

Office Staff.....**Doris Bloom & Pam Castaneda**

Nursery Attendant.....**Ellen Mittman**

Lay Leader.....**Cynthia Barron**

Fellowship.....**Gerhard and Hester Mels**

Ministers.....**The People of the Congregation**

MEMORIAL WINDOW

Message:

Christ Lives Today!

***Jesus Christ is the same yesterday,
today and forever***