

**Introduction**

--Symbol of Light --Contrast of Light and Darkness --- (2017 Eclipse of the Moon)

**1. This Light is Perpetual—Supplying Life to His Creation (John 9:5)**

*“I am the light of the world.”*

Light is a symbol of purity and holiness.

Jesus is the inexhaustible light. John said, *“...The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it” (John 1:5)*. The word “comprehend” is a word that literally means to overpower or extinguish.

**2. This Light is Universal—Shinning, Leading us to the Father (vs.12)**

*“I am the light of the world; he who follows me... will never walk in darkness”*

*“There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man” (John 1:9)*

**3. This Light offers Hope of Everlasting Life to His Followers (John 3:19-21)**

*“I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life.”*

**God’s Presence Among Us—a Litany of Light**

Jesus, as the light of the world, brings God’s presence to us, and makes God real to humankind. He makes God personal and living.

*“He who has seen Me has seen the Father” (John 14:9)*

*“No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him” (John 1:18)*

Light is useful because it is a symbol of joy.

Light is useful because it contributes to safety.

Light is useful because it gives guidance.

Light is useful because it dispels darkness and darkness is a source of fear.

*“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread” (Psalm 27:1).*

# Welcome to



# Central Church

## Our Mission

***Central United Methodist Church Glorifies God through the Work of Ministry and the Making of Disciples of Jesus Christ.***

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(616) 374-8861

**Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor**  
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# CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Worship Celebration Service

October 8, 2017

18th Sunday after Pentecost

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### GATHERING

*Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.*

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.  
Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.*

INTROIT "Shine, Jesus, Shine" vs. 1 TFWS 2173

\*CALL TO WORSHIP - Isaiah 35:1-10 (congregation in bold)

In a world filled with darkness, broken hearts, loneliness and fear, the still voice of the Holy Spirit beckons us with the promise of warmth and comfort into the presence of the Holy God.

**In a world paralyzed with hate and injustice we pray to become instruments of peace.**

We are invited to this Sanctuary to dance with joy in His presence. Come join the dance of life. Come open yourself to the abundance of God's love and grace, for God's faithfulness never fails, God's love is everlasting.

**Amen. So be it. Lord, come to us now and always, and be the light of our soul. Shine light of hope upon our path.**

\*OPENING HYMN: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Hymnal 206  
*Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets*

### INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison)

**Our Dear Heavenly Father, your creative and loving power has brought us into being, fitting us for a life which is complete only through you.**

**Grant us, O God, the joy of your presence; the knowledge of understanding your will, the inspiration to discover ourselves through your Word. Give leaders of this congregation grace and courage to lead our congregation. Inspire us to prophesy and create forms of worship so that all who come seeking you might be touched, challenged, and filled by your Holy Spirit.**

**Take and use our words and music, litanies and liturgies, rites and rituals to further your will in us and in your Church. We ask this in the name of the one who brings us back into a right relationship with you, your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

ANTHEM "The Light of the World" Chancel Choir  
*by Price and Besig*

SHARING PEACE  
The Peace of our Lord Jesus be with You!  
**And Also with You!**

(Please take this time to greet one another in the Name of Christ by saying, "Peace be with you" and your neighbor says "And also with you")

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Children age 4 & under are welcome to leave for the nursery downstairs after the *Children's Moment*.

### INVITATION FOR OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

### OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

### UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS

**God of love, you have brought us into community with people of every time and place through your Son Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise for this gift. Open the hearts of all your people that we may see our differences as a joyful expression of your never-ending creation. Instill in us a spirit of acceptance and understanding that we may be Christ to our nation and our world. Amen**

### PRAYER CONCERNS, PRAISES, PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN "Grace Alone" TFWS 2162

*Please stand for the reading of God's word, as you are able.*

\*SCRIPTURE: John 8:12-20 Pew Bible NT#95

SERMON: "THE SAYING OF CHRIST: 'I AM'" Rev. Dominic Tommy  
"I am the Light of the World"

\*CLOSING HYMN: "Lamb of God" TFWS 2113

\*BENEDICTION Choral Response "Lord Be Glorified" vs 2 TFWS 2150

**In our world, Lord  
Be glorified be glorified  
In my song Lord  
Be glorified today.**

### \*RINGING OF THE BELLS

### POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as you are able*

Zion Lutheran Church is sponsoring a **Swiss Steak Dinner on Saturday, October 14**, from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. A freewill offering will go to the Lakewood Community Council to fund projects such as the Christmas baskets, fuel shut-off prevention, and the Lakewood Ministerial Association. All are welcome to enjoy good food, good fellowship, and a very good cause.

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On **Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**, all women of the Church are invited to an Amish Dinner in an Amish home in Vermontville. The cost is \$12. We will plan to meet at the church at 11:00 and carpool to Vermontville. After dinner, we will drive to and tour the Sunnycrest Youth Ranch in Sunfield. Reservations and money need to be turned in by **today** to Terri Catt or Thelma Curtis; we need a minimum of 20 women to hold the lunch.

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You are reminded to check the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall to sign-up for various activities you can help with. Sunday morning Coffee Hour is the center of our weekly connectional life. Our prayer is that families and individuals will sign-up weekly to provide coffee and fellowship moments without interruptions on any Sunday. Please consider this ministry as part of community moments for members and friends worshipping with us here at Central. There are also many openings for greeters, nursery, and altar flowers.

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Our next Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for **TOMORROW**, October 9th, 12 to 5:45 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Marian Durkee at 616-374-7489.

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*MINISTER:* Every Member of This Church  
*PASTOR:* Rev. Dominic Tommy  
*SECRETARY:* Kim Stoepker  
*ORGANIST:* Marilyn Noffke  
*CHOIR DIRECTOR:* Jackie Spagnuolo  
*CUSTODIANS:* Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela  
*TODAY'S SERVICE:*

**Worship Assistant**  
Tom Reiser

**Audio/Visual**  
*Today:* Chuck Rayner / Kay Barcroft  
*Next Sunday:* Tony Barcroft / Kay Barcroft

**Coffee Fellowship**  
*Today:* Open  
*Next Sunday:* Open

**Greeters**  
*Today:* Elaine Garlock / Dale Mossburg / Carolyn Jackson  
*Next Sunday:* Elaine Garlock / Dale Mossburg / Brenda Steele

**Nursery**  
*Today:* Judy Freidhoff / Eunice Goodemoot  
*Next Sunday:* Char Kendregan / Penny Thelen

**Ushers**  
*Today:* John Gentner / Mark Corston  
*Next Sunday:* Same

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**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call  
Pastor Dominic at the parsonage (374-8294) or on his cell  
(269-941-3787) or the Church Office during office hours.**

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS**

Mike McCartney	Ron	Arlene Lee
Las Vegas victims and families	Helen Miller	Unspokens
Displaced refugee children, foster children, children who don't know God loves them, children who are hungry.		

**Continued in Prayer**

Sgt. Branden Curtis	Karl Klynstra	Gary Smith
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston	Toni Robinson	Ed Hilliker
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr	Dale Patterson	Hank Minenna
1SG Nicholas Ludema	Phylis Armstrong	Susan Steele
PFC Jason Hilley	Pam Coleman	Sharon Brink
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow	Terena Galaviz	Ross McDowell
Brian Rayner	Travis Tucker and family	Judi Brandon
Bonnie Leak	Kim Seese	Patti Coorman

**Our Special Friends**

Leah Abbott	Margot Bailey	Ada Dennie
Lois Goodmoot	Joanne McDaniels	Phil Shetterly
Ed Reiser		

**Our Partners In Ministry**

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa  
 Sunfield United Methodist Church, Sunfield  
 St. Edward's Catholic Church, Lake Odessa

**CELEBRATIONS**

**Birthdays**

10/11 Lloyd Corston  
 10/14 Sam Kostanko

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**EVENTS**

Sun 10/8	Sunday School – classrooms Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>	9:30-10:15 am 10:30 am
Mon 10/9	<b>Missions Committee</b> – Front Room <b>Blood Drive</b> – Fellowship Hall <b>Board of Trustees</b> – Lounge A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	9 am 12-5:45 pm 7 pm 7 pm
Tues 10/10	<i>Parking Lot Striping</i>	
Wed 10/11	<b>Friendship Group</b> – Fellowship Hall Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary	9 am–12 pm 7 pm
Thu 10/12	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 10/13	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 10/15	Sunday School – classrooms Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>	9:30-10:15 am 10:30 am
Mon 10/16	<b>UMW Field Trip</b> – <i>meet at the church at 11 am</i> <b>Finance Committee Meeting</b> – Front Room AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	6 pm 7 pm
Tue 10/17	<b>Annual Church Conference</b> – <i>Lakewood United Methodist</i>	6 pm
Wed 10/18	Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary	7 pm
Thu 10/19	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 10/20	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	

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Our Annual Church Conference is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 17, from 6:00 to 8:15 pm.** It will be held at Lakewood United Methodist Church. Mark the date on your calendar; *we encourage all of our members to attend.*

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