

Introduction:

The scene of the eleventh chapter of John is one of the most familiar passages in the Bible. In this passage we meet some close friends of Jesus. They are Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Lazarus became deathly sick. Mary and Martha sent for Jesus, but rather than Jesus coming immediately, he stayed two more days in the region where John the Baptist had preached. Notice three things in the passage:

I. The Proclamation of Jesus “I am” to His grieving Children (vs. 25)

The words “I am” speak of the existence of Jesus. There are times when life becomes so rough that we talk as though there is no Jesus. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim. *Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, (26) and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”*

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” Alan Jackson version.

II. The Pledge of Christ to His Doubtful Children. *“I am the resurrection.” (39-49)*

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 (ESV): “Death is swallowed up in victory.”
“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

III. The Unlimited Possibilities for Saints in Glory (vs. 26)

“I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Dying, Christ destroyed our death. Rising, Christ restored us to life

Christ will come again in glory. As in baptism, we put on Christ, and so in Christ may we be clothed with glory.

Here and now, dear friends we are God’s children. What we shall be has not yet been revealed; but we know that when Jesus appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

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.

912 Fourth Ave., PO Box 485, Lake Odessa, MI 48849

www.centralchurch-lakeo.org

(616) 374-8861

Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor
pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Celebration Service

October 29, 2017

21ST Sunday after Pentecost

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.

NOISY OFFERING *Today's Noisy Offering is designated for S.M.A.T. – the School of Missionary Aviation Training.*

INTROIT "Bind Us Together" TFWS 2226

*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)

Come to me, all you who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death!

On you has the light shone!

**For Jesus Christ is the light of the world and this is the story;
the light shines in the darkness and the darkness could not put it out!**

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. I am the bright and morning star."

We join with the angels in their hymns of praise;

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

*OPENING HYMN "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Hymnal 158
Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets

INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison) (be seated)

Compassionate and Living God, the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all who long for you. One breath from you and we are rescued from the valley of dry bones, given muscles and strengths and joy with which to praise you, and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit, that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom, and what looks to us to be death may be revealed as but sleep before the emergence of new life. Amen.

ANTHEM "Resurrection Chorus" Chancel Choir
Hayford and Schrader

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

Our Father in heaven, you have filled us with an abundance of grace. We rejoice in your faithfulness being renewed every morning. And now, to your presence we bring our tithes and offerings. Accept these gifts from our hands and our hearts that overflow with gratitude to you—Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. Continue to provide and use us for the work of His kingdom and the building of this congregation for your eternal glory. Amen

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

PRAYER HYMN "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" vs 1,2 Hymnal 344

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

*SCRIPTURE: John 11:17-27 Pew Bible NT#99

SERMON: "THE SAYING OF CHRIST: 'I AM'" Rev. Dominic Tommy
"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

*CLOSING HYMN: "Because He Lives" vs 1,3 Hymnal 364

*BENEDICTION Choral Response "Lord Be Glorified" vs 3 TFWS 2150
**In our world, Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In my song Lord
Be glorified today.**

POSTLUDE

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

Next Sunday, November 5th, our congregation will gather to remember and celebrate the lives of members and friends of the congregation who have been called home to glory since last year's All Saints Sunday. Please be sure to join us for this special service.

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Have you ever heard of "Dinners for Eight"? A date is set, there are hosts/hostesses that open their homes and provide the meat and potatoes. The guests sign up to participate and help with other parts of the meal. The dinners would all happen at the same time. This would be a time to linger over dinner and have fellowship time with members of our church. We are thinking of planning this for a Sunday afternoon in December. *If you are interested in being a host/hostess, please sign the sheet in Fellowship Hall.* We will share more information as this event unfolds. If you have questions, see Andrea Gentner (616-374-7126) for more details.

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Our next Fresh Food Distribution is:
Tuesday, November 7th at 2 PM, in the back parking lot.
Volunteers are always welcome and asked to arrive at 1:30.

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SOUPER THURSDAY THANKSGIVING FEAST WILL BE HELD ON:
Thursday, November 16 — 4:30 to 6 pm

(No Souper Thursday dinner on November 23)

Our Souper Thursday volunteers will be serving a Thanksgiving Feast with all the trimmings. All Central Church families and community friends are invited.

Mark the Dates:

Christmas 'Round the Town

Friday, November 24 and Saturday, November 25

The UMW is hosting Christmas 'round the Town in our Fellowship Hall for vendors and their wares. There are a few booths still available; see Terri Catt.

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
Kay Barcroft

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

Coffee Fellowship
Today: Worship Committee
Next Sunday: Open

Greeters
Today: Elaine Garlock / Dale Mossburg / Carolyn Jackson
Next Sunday: Bob & Judy Cross /

Nursery
Today: Jean Cook / Jane Kostanko
Next Sunday: Leona Rayner / Penny Thelen

Ushers
Today: John Gentner / Mark Corston
Next Sunday: Open

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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

Family of Natile Joy Rareigh
Martha, Evelyn, Judy

Nora and daughter
Arnie

Friend

Continued in Prayer

Sgt. Branden Curtis
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr
1SG Nicholas Ludema
PFC Jason Hilley
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow
Brian Rayner
Kim Seese

Karl Klynstra
Toni Robinson
Dale Patterson
Phylis Armstrong
Pam Coleman
Terena Galaviz
Travis Tucker and family
Patti Coorman

Gary Smith
Ed Hilliker
Hank Minenna
Susan Steele
Sharon Brink
Ross McDowell
Judi Brandon
Arnie

Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott
Lois Goodmoot
Ed Reiser

Margot Bailey
Joanne McDaniels
Helen Miller

Ada Dennie
Phil Shetterly

Our Partners In Ministry

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
Waterloo Village United Methodist Church, Grass Lake
Sunfield United Brethren in Christ Church, Sunfield

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

10/29 Jan Everett
10/30 Eva Atwell
11/04 Carolyn Jackson
Barb Bosworth

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Noisy Offering will go to the School of Missionary Aviation Training (S.M.A.T.) providing mission-driven students with FAA-certified training in aircraft maintenance and flight, to serve the Lord in mission aviation. Your spare change can change a life.

The Worship Committee will be hosting a Special Coffee Hour this morning in celebration of all who serve in various ways to help make our worship services flow smoothly and bring glory to God. Please join us!

EVENTS

Today Rental - Fellowship Hall 1:30 pm

Mon 10/30 A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm

Wed 11/1 Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary 7 pm

Thu 11/2 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6 pm

Fri 11/3 *Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787*

Sun 11/5 Sunday School – classrooms 9:30-10:15 am
Worship Service – *All Saint's Sunday* 10:30 am

Mon 11/6 AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm

Tue 11/7 **Fresh Food Distribution – Back parking lot** 2 pm
Worship Committee – Front Room 7 pm

Wed 11/8 **Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall** 9 am–12 pm
Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary 7 pm

Thu 11/9 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6 pm

Fri 11/10 *Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787*

Sun 11/12 Sunday School – classrooms 9:30-10:15 am
Worship Service – *Sanctuary* 10:30 am

Mon 11/13 A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm

Tues 11/14 **Fellowship & Care Committee – Front Room** 6 pm

Wed 11/15 Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary 7 pm

Thu 11/16 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm
Souper Thursday Thanksgiving Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6 pm

Fri 11/17 *Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787*

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