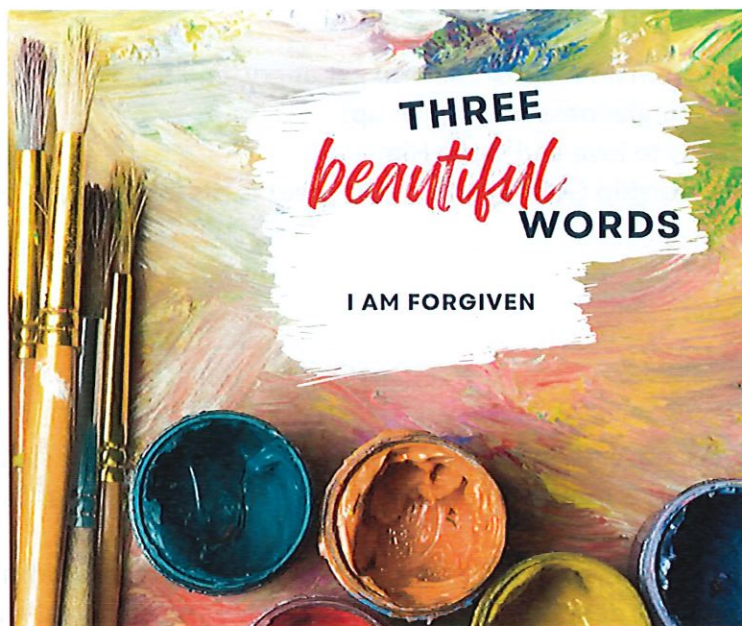


Central United Methodist Church



**Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
February 23, 2025
10:45 a.m.**

Our Vision:

***Making Christ known by extending hospitality,
serving the community, pursuing justice and embracing all.***

**201 - 3rd Avenue Knoxville TN 37917
www.knoxcentralumc.org**

We Gather to Praise God

Prelude

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod

Opening Prayer

† **Call to Worship**

God is a God of compassion and mercy, slow to get angry, and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

God's love and forgiveness never give up!

The Lord's grace frees us to love and serve Him.

So come, let's worship God together. For great is His love toward us!

† **Opening Hymn**

Grace Greater than Our Sin (vv. 1,2,4)

UMH 365

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

[refrain] Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, points to the refuge, the mighty cross. [refrain]

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see his face, will you this moment his grace receive? [refrain]

We Listen to Hear God's Voice

Scripture

Psalm 86:1-10; I John 1:5-9

This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

A Time for Young Christians

Madie Shehan

Sunday school for nursery through 5th grade is offered every week following children's time except on Sundays when we celebrate Holy Communion (typically the first Sunday of each month).

Anthem

Lord, Here Am I

John Ness Beck

Sermon

Three Beautiful Words: *I Am Forgiven*

Rev. Sherrod

We Respond to God's Great Love

† Hymn

Goodness of God

I love You, Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

[Refrain] 'Cause all my life, You have been faithful.
And all my life, You have been so, so good.
With ev'ry breath that I am able,
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love your voice. You have led me through the fire
in darkest nights, You are close like no other.
I've known You as a Father; I've known you as a friend.
And I have lived in the goodness of God. [Refrain]

Pastoral Prayer

The 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 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. Amen.

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Offertory

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

arr. Mark Hayes

† Dedication of Gifts

Doxology

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

We Are Scattered to Serve God in Our World

† Closing Hymn

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and Grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that Grace appear, the hour I first believed.

[refrain] My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood his mercy reigns, unending love, Amazing Grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures. [refrain]

† Benediction

Postlude

We Will Glorify

arr. Fred Brock

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† Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer List
Sunday, February 23, 2025

Alan Cheatham will have surgery on the retina of his right eye on March 3.

Diane Overbey has begun taking liquids and soft foods. She is having problems with bed sores and an infection around her feeding tube. Short visits and cards are welcome (Room 115B, 5321 Beverly Park Circle, 37918).

Maddie Shehan fell last Sunday and broke her elbow. She will be in a sling for several weeks.

Melynda Whetsel is recovering well from additional neck surgery last Monday.

Please continue to remember **Earl Bruce** (Susie Knable's uncle), **Pat Cowart** (Melanie Gangaware's mother), **Haley Dockery** (5215 E Sunset Rd, 37914), **David Helms** (801 E Inskip Dr, 37912), **Peter Keyes** (2806 N Decatur Rd, Apt. 212, Decatur, GA 30033), **George Kiley** (1519 Chicago Ave, 37917), **Diane Lowe** (7125 Meadowbrook Cir, 37918), **Ronny McDaniel** (Judy Dooley's partner), **Joan Moon** (7655 Apple Cross, Corryton, 37721), **Nancy Morgan** (3105 Atoka, 37917), **Donna Shirley** (Larry Ward's sister, 4133 Stephanie, Jonesboro, AR 72405), **Mike O'Tool** (Ron O'Tool's grandson), **Todd Rexrode** (Mary Humes's brother-in-law, 205 Park St, Ninety Six, SC, 29666), **Charles Sartwell** (Ann Sartwell's father and former CUMC member, Ivy Park at Monterey, 1110 Cass St, Apt 101, Monterey, CA 93940), **Billy Varnell** (4121 Riverstone Ln, 37918), **Carroll and Lucy Varnell** (4408 High School Rd, 37912), **Kathy Whaley** (friend of Penney Helms, 200 Nodding Oak, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516), **Bill Winans** (3696 Halcyon Trace, Trussville, AL 35173), **Rev. Grady Winegar** (4371 Lifespring Lane, #223, 37918), and **Mason S** (son of Tiffany Mynatt's friend).

Looking Ahead ~ Our Calendar

Weekly:

Builder's Class Bible Study via Zoom, Tuesday at 6:30 pm
Bible Study, Tuesday, 6:30-8:00 pm, #209
Bible Study, Wednesday, 10:00-11:30am, # 209
Handbell Rehearsals, Wednesday at 5:30-6:15 pm
Choir, Wednesday at 6:15 – 7:45 pm
Worship, Sunday at 10:45 am

Monthly:

1st Tuesday – Prayer Group, 10am, # 213
Caswell Manor Lunch Prep
1st Wednesday – Serve Caswell Manor Lunch
3rd Tuesday – Trustee Meeting, 10am, # 209
3rd Thursday – VMC Lunch Prep
3rd Friday – Serve VMC Lunch
4th Monday – Leadership Council, 6:30 pm, #210
4th Thursday – Help at Minvilla Manor
Second Harvest Food Pantry

February 23	4 th and Gill Board Meeting, Room 210, 4 pm
February 24	Ministry Team Meeting, Room 209, 5:30 pm Leadership Council Meeting, Room 210, 6:30 pm
February 25	Leadership Structure Team Meeting, Room 209, 10am
February 27	Discipleship meeting, Room 209, 6:30-8:00 pm
February 28	Food Prep at Norwood, 10:30 am to 2 pm
March 1	Serving at Norwood, 11 am to 1 pm
March 2	Mardi Gras lunch, Noon, Fellowship Hall
March 4	Retired Teachers Meeting, Room 210, 10am Prayer Group, Room 213, 10am Prep Caswell Manor lunch
March 5	Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30 pm

New Flower Calendar for Dedications! If you wish to claim a particular Sunday for putting flowers on the altar, a 2025 calendar is available for that purpose on the bulletin board in the church office. There are also policies for that, next to the calendar, which need to be observed. Please take note of when the Flower Guild needs to be notified and if you want a dedication listed in the worship guide, that information needs to be given to the church office no later than Tuesday of the week before.

Breakthrough Prayer Initiative - This is an intentional prayer followed by intentional listening to the voice of God's Spirit for guidance. We let go of our opinions and preferences and Let God.

Holy Spirit, breakthrough and open our hearts to be obedient to your will for Central Church.

Energize and empower us as we seek to accomplish your work in our community, our country, and the world.

We boldly pray and wait for your guidance. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lenten study - The Final Days: a Lenten Journey through the Gospels, by Matt Rawle. It is available through Abingdon Press as well as Amazon, Thriftbooks.com, Christianbook.com. We will meet in Room 210, throughout Lent on Sunday around 9:45 am for discussion. The study begins on March 9th.

School can be difficult for some kids. Being hungry in a challenging environment is difficult no matter what age! This is why we take snacks to our kids at Beaumont Academy. Applesauce pouches, and fruit snacks fight the hunger. Granola bars without nuts are great, too! Each week we take snacks to help our kids do better in school. Please add to your grocery list and bring to Central when you come on Sunday. Our kids are an important part of our community. Let's love them with healthy snacks!

Mark your Calendar! It's a feast of pancakes right after the Worship Service on March 2nd! The tradition of Mardi Gras, (Fat Tuesday,) is an indulgence of consuming rich foods before the season of lent and fasting begins. Won't you join us for pancakes, bacon and more for a Central Mardi Gras celebration on Sunday, March 2nd. Please fill in the form and leave it in an offering plate or RSVP to office@knoxcentralumc.org. **Please RSVP TODAY!!!!**

Name: _____

Number attending: _____



Welcome Visitors!

If you are visiting with us today, we invite you to let us know you were here. In front of you, in the pews, you will find a visitor card. If you are willing, leave us your name and phone number, or e-mail address so that we can connect with you and find out more about you and share more about who we are as well.

Care and Prayer

If you have a prayer request, let us know so we can be in prayer for you. Either use the visitor cards in front of you or e-mail Kathy Gant at gants@att.net

Sunday Morning Coffee

The coffee is on! Every Sunday morning at 9:30 am, you are invited to join us for coffee. Connect with Central folks for fellowship and conversation. Coffee is available from 9:30 until 10:45 am.

The Central Hub

Keep up with what's going on each week by subscribing to our weekly e-newsletter. You can subscribe by going to knoxcentralumc.org and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

Spiritual Discipline of Giving and Financial Update

Giving financially is a spiritual discipline and has the power to shape and transform us. When we give, it expresses priorities in our lives. All are encouraged to give out of the abundance that God has provided us. We aren't currently passing the offering plates, but we do ask you to consider giving to the ministries of Central Church in one of the following ways.

- Place your gift in the offering Plate on Sunday Morning. You'll find them as you exit the sanctuary.
- Mail a check to 201 Third Ave. or bring it by the office.
- Give online (text to give) and through the Vanco Mobile App.
- Set up an automatic withdrawal through your checking account. Please reach out to Laurie in the office to sign up.
- Scan the PayPal QR code to donate through PayPal.



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Sign up for our weekly e-letter, The Central Hub, on our website,
www.knoxcentralumc.org



Pastoral and Administrative Staff

Office: 865-524-1659

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Brandon Coffey, Music Director and Organist
Madie Shehan, Director of Families with Children
Ron O'Tool, Building Coordinator

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