



**Central United Methodist Church
of Colorado Springs**

“A Place to Begin...Belong...Become”

**THE CENTRAL FAMILY OF FAITH
GATHERED IN PRAISE AND CELEBRATION**

Rev. Debra Wacker

Sunday, January 8, 2023, 10:00 am



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Central United Methodist Church

Epiphany Sunday and Baptism of The Lord Sunday

PRELUDE	“Praeludium” D. Zipoli	Kim Crom
WELCOME		Rev. Deb Wacker
CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES		Cynthia Pechacek
CHORAL OPENING	“Seek Ye First”	Chancel Choir
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Cynthia Pechacek
	Martha Brunell, <i>The Abingdon Women’s Preaching Annual, Series 2, Year A</i> (Abingdon Press, 2001), 58.	
Leader:	The Voice of God prods our hearing	
People:	The activity of God stretches our seeing.	
Leader:	Together they invite us down into the waters of life where the Spirit flows.	
People:	From there we may rise to go, to dare, to walk, and to serve beyond where we have been before.	
*OPENING HYMN	“Amazing Grace”	UMH #378
CHILDREN’S MESSAGE		Karen Hobson
OUR PRAYERS		Rev. Deb
	Congregational Response: Lord, in your mercy...hear our 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.	
CHORAL RESPONSE	“Remember Me”	Chancel Choir
OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS		
Offertory	“Let There Be Peace On Earth” arr. C. Tornquist	Kim Crom
*Doxology	“Alleluia”	UMH #186
	Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia	

SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:13-17 (CEB) Reader: Cynthia Pechacek

Baptism of Jesus “At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River so that John would baptize him. John tried to stop him and said, ‘I need to be baptized by you, yet you come to me?’ Jesus answered, ‘Allow me to be baptized now. This is necessary to fulfill all righteousness.’ So John agreed to baptize Jesus. When Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up out of the water. Heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and resting on him. A voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son whom I dearly love; I find happiness in him.’”

Leader: This is a Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION “The Water’s Fine” Rev. Deb

REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM LITANY Rev. Deb

Leader: Lord, hear us, as we lift our prayers to Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

(Sing) People: Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change me, Lord.

Wash me in the waters of baptism that I may become a new person.

Wash away everything that stands between me and your holiness.

(Sing) People: In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change me, Lord.

Wash away this temper that gets me into more trouble than I can handle.

Wash away the massive wants that place me in constant financial jeopardy.

(Sing) People: In my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change me, Lord.

Wash away my envy that separates me from the people I should love.

Wash away everything that stands between me and your holiness.

(Sing) People: Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: You alone can change me, Lord.

Wash me with your cleansing power that I may be a child of God.

You alone can change me, Lord.

(Sing) People: Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Leader: As we sing the whole of this hymn, please feel welcome to come and remember your baptism. Use the water to solemnly mark a cross on your hand or forehead, or bless another by marking each other with the water, or use it to express joy in sprinkling and splashing. Come God’s people, remember your baptism.

*CLOSING HYMN “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” UMH #402

*BENEDICTION Rev. Deb
Martha Brunell, The Abingdon Women’s Preaching Annual, Series 2, Year A (Abingdon Press, 2001), 59.

CHORAL CLOSING “A Charge to Keep I Have” Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE “Be Thou My Vision” Irish Folk Melody Kim Crom

(Please remain seated until the music has stopped. The service is still being streamed live on zoom.)

*Standing for those who are able

WELCOME TO
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAITH – A warm greeting is extended to all who are visiting with us today. We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this morning. It is our prayer that this service will be a source of comfort and inspiration to you. If we can be of assistance, please don’t hesitate to let us know.

Ministers

All the members of the congregation



WE ARE LOYAL TO OUR CHURCH BY OUR

PRAYERS: Lillian Bauserman, Chelsea Bosick, Sandra Noggle; and Billie Owings; All the people and communities affected by Hurricane Ian; the people of Ukraine, our "WAVES," our community and our nation, first responders, the military, medical service providers, leaders of government and churches.

Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa

PRESENCE: Sanctuary 53, Fellowship Hall 5, Online 17, Nursery 2 **Total: 77**

GIFTS:	Jan 1	Dec 25	Dec 24	Dec 18	Dec 11
	\$3,811.00	\$469	\$400	\$2670.00	\$3,286.00

SERVICE: Thank you to everyone who assisted in Charlene Nelson's memorial service last Friday.

CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES

JANUARY MISSION FOCUS: We at Central are one of the churches that support Kutela Katembo and his agriculture ministry in Angola. We have a covenant with Kutela to provide a minimum of \$1,000 in 2023. Can you help? Please make checks payable to Central UMC, designated "Kutela," or drop coins or cash in the watering can in the hallway. Thank you for helping Kutela to help hungry families. More info. in "The Messenger" newsletter in literature rack.

FOOD GIFTS "Hot Soup on a Cold Day." Hundreds of families come to Mercy's Gate each month for food and other assistance, and we can offer them the warmth of God's love. Please bring soup or any non-perishable items to the grocery cart in church entry area any time during January. Mmm, good!

NEW BIBLE STUDY With Rev. Deb In "*The Difficult Words of Jesus*", Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how have they been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation. Join us starting Thursdays, at 5:30 pm on Zoom and in-person.

GIVING ENVELOPES: If you would like to receive envelopes to use for your 2023 offering, please let Cheryl James or Kathy Andrew know so that they can get them to you. You can also leave a message in the office (719) 597-6642 or email the office at office@cumccs.org.

UPPER ROOM New Jan – Feb 2023 are available at the entryway on the literature rack.

*OPENING HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

UMH #378

1. 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.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

UMH #402

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord,
I want to be a Christian in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
4. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.