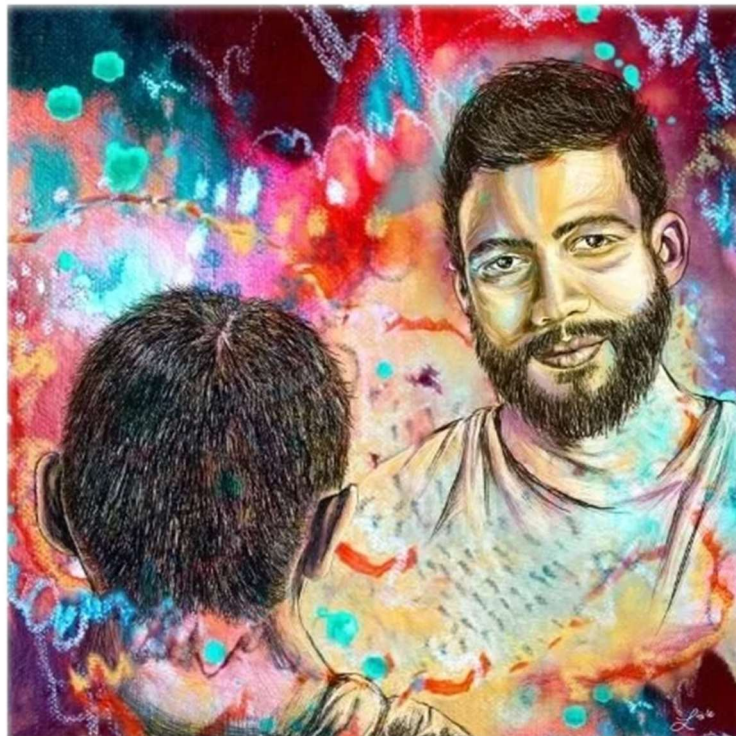




*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



Order of Worship for
January 11, 2026 10:30 am

Welcome to Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are with us today.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 11, 2026 – 10:30 AM

Cover Art: 'Ever Wider' by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Inspired by Acts 10

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

ORGAN PRELUDE The Old Year Hath Passed Away

J. S. Bach

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT*†

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Ascribe to the Holy One, O heavenly beings,

All: Ascribe to God glory and strength.

Ascribe to God the glory of God's name,

Worship God in holy splendor.

The voice of God is upon the water.

The God of glory thunders, the Supreme upon many waters.

The voice of God is powerful.

The voice of God is full of majesty.

Let us praise the name of the Holy One!

Alleluia! Let us worship in awe!

*OPENING HYMN NCH 164 Arise, Your Light is Come

FESTAL SONG

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

The congregation sings as the children head to their classrooms.

*Go, Tell it on the Mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere!
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born!*

African American Spiritual

SCRIPTURE Psalm 29
 Acts 10: 34-43

SERMON *You can Choose Your Friends, but You can't Choose Your (Church) Family*
Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE Rejoice Greatly (from Messiah)
Emily Gillespie, soloist

G. F. Handel

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Epiphany Carol

A. Lovelace

Center Church Choir

*DOXOLOGY NCH 135 (*refrain*)

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Unison*)

Gracious God, we give you our lives, symbolized in our gifts. Receive them with love, bless them with grace and use them according to your will. Lead us always into the depths of your love and into the world to serve, in the name and Spirit of Christ. Amen.

*CLOSING CAROL NCH 160 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
(Jesus, the Light of the World!)

ELDERKIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE Salvation Has Come to Earth

J.S. Bach

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's worship!

If you or someone you know would like a Poinsettia to brighten spirits during this season of Epiphany, please take a plant home with you after worship today.

If you have not yet received a Star Word for 2026, we invite you to take one from the Communion Table after worship; the words will remain on the communion table through January.