

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE 12, 2016 | ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A Needful Extravagance

Jan Richardson

(See artist's note in margin below)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

ARIA ON A CHACONNE

JOEL MARTINSON

BRENT IVEY, ORGAN; ADELAIDE FEDERICI, VIOLIN; REBECCA COLLINS, OBOE

(As the opening voluntary begins, please use the time to center yourself for worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

RINGING OF THE BELL

✦ OPENING SENTENCES

*Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.*

Those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed.

They will rise on wings like eagles;

They will run and not get weary;

They will walk and not grow weak.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

MOLLY MCGINNIS

✦ HYMN NO. 611

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

HYMN TO JOY

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

✦ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

A Needful Extravagance

Some with ointment.

Some with tears.

Me, today,
with words
gathered and treasured
carried and poured out
for you
wherever you are.

May you welcome this
as what it is:

a needful extravagance
an offering both lavish
and crucial
that has let go
of everything
to lay itself at your feet
and tell you

I see you

I bless you

And you,
where can you go
that you do not need
this anointing,
this blessing that drenches
the one who gives,
the one who receives?

For the younger ones among us:

Today we say goodbye to Pastor Gary. He and Jennell are moving to Virginia, where Gary will be the pastor of another church. He has been with Central for a long time. He may have held you as a baby and baptized you right here! Although it is hard to say goodbye to someone we love, we know that we will always be connected to each other because we are all God's family!

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

SALLY ANN MCKINSEY SISK

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

FROM FEASTING ON THE WORD WORSHIP COMPANION

Triune God, Holy Three, Holy One, we confess that we do not know how to look for you. We do not sense your nearness, and if there are angels among us, we are unaware. We do not trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit. O Covenant-keeper, forgive us. Let us laugh with joy because your grace has made peace among us. Send us out with this good news so that others will also receive your blessing . . .

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

✦KYRIE

WAYFARING STRANGER

Em D Em Am Em D Em
You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

Am D C D Em C Em
You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

Em D G Am Em D E
You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦PASSING THE PEACE

✦RESPONSE HYMN NO. 582 GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

PAUL VASILE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 7:36-8:3

PAGE 62, NT, PEW BIBLE

SERMON

OUR GUIDING SAINT

GARY W. CHARLES

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING THE WORD

✦HYMN No. 201

A PROPHET WOMAN BROKE A JAR

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

(Please sign the Friendship Pad found at one end of your pew, and pass it along.)

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

ARR. TAYLOR DAVIS

MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN ENDLESS SONG

CHANCEL CHOIR; ADELAIDE FEDERICI, VIOLIN, AND REBECCA COLLINS, OBOE

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentations.

I hear the real, though far off hymn that hails a new creation,

Through all the tumult and the strife I hear its music ringing.

It sounds an echo in my soul; How can I keep from singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing.

When tyrants tremble sick with fear, and hear their death knell ringing,
 When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
 In prison cells and dungeon vile, our thoughts to them are winging,
 when friends by shame and undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

During the offering, take a minute to sign the friendship pads found in each pew. If you are visiting with us, please leave your contact information so that we can reach out to you! Newcomers and regulars alike can see who is sitting around them and greet each other by name. By signing in, you help us build stronger community connections at Central.

♠ AT THE PRESENTATION

DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
 Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia!
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
 Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG) ANNA GEORGE TRAYNHAM

The Lord be with you.
 And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them up to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give God thanks and praise . . .

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG) MARK MILLER

mp
 Our God, in hea-ven, ho - ly is your name, your
 reign come, your will done, on earth as in hea-ven.
slower
 Give us to-day our dai-ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for - giv-en.
mf
 In the time of tri-al lead us in - to light, for yours is the king-dom, and the
f *mp*
 po - wer, and the glo-ry, for - e - ver. Our God, in
 hea-ven, ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(If you require gluten-free elements, please go to the center station to the second set of servers.

If you wish to be served in your pew, indicate your desire to an usher.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

SERENADE

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

SICILIENE

GABRIEL FAURÉ

REBECCA COLLINS, OBOE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✠HYMN NO. 539

WE WILL GO OUT WITH JOY

WE WILL GO OUT

...LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND SENDING

OPENING REMARKS

LITANY

Holy Spirit, you breathed creation into life.

You birthed the church at Pentecost.

You guided your people through the wilderness.

You lead your followers in lives of faith.

We give you thanks for the ways you have guided Gary, Jennell, and this congregation

As we have worshiped, worked, and prayed together.

Together, we have travelled a path of discipleship:

Seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Holy Christ, you shared a table with people who were outcast.

Your feet were washed by a woman who was broken.

You died surrounded by people who were sinful.

You rose and reign that we might know new life.

I give you thanks, O God, for Central:

Not because it is perfect,

But because together we have walked a portion of this journey

And together we have witnessed to the depth of God's grace.

We give you thanks, O God, for Gary:

Not because he is perfect,

But because together we have walked a portion of this journey

And together we have witnessed to the depth of God's grace.

We give you thanks for the path that we have travelled together:

Through joy and heartbreak,

Laughter and sorrow,

Fear and excitement,

Death and new life.

Holy God, you are the creator and sustainer of all things.

Before the beginning, you were.

After the end, you will be.

Outside of all that we know, you are.

We give you thanks for your servant Gary:
For his twelve years of faithful leadership;
His commitment to justice.
His preaching of your word,
His pastoral care of us,
His ministry to and with us,
And his service to the wider church.
Together, we have been a branch of the church of Jesus Christ.
May our time together end with your blessing
As you touch our memories with your grace and peace.
We give you thanks that you call us to new ventures
as you continue to birth your church.
Grant us faith to go out with courage,
knowing that your hand is leading us
And your love supporting us;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP

Do you, the members and friends of Central Presbyterian Church release Gary Charles from service as your pastor, sending him into the service of God in a new time and place?

We do, with thanks for Gary's service and God's faithfulness.

Do you, Gary Charles, recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with this congregation, and send them into the service of God in a new time and way?

I do, with thanks for Central's service and God's faithfulness.

*With thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation
and the ministry of God's servant Gary,
and with hope for God's abiding grace in the years to come,
this pastoral relationship is now dissolved.*

*Now, we send one another out into the world,
With faith that God's spirit will guide and sustain us
As we continue our journeys of faith and service.*

Do you, the members and friends of Central Presbyterian Church release Gary Charles from service as your pastor, sending him into the service of God in a new time and place?

We do, with thanks for Gary's service and God's faithfulness.

Do you, Gary Charles, recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with this congregation, and send them into the service of God in a new time and way?

I do, with thanks for Central's service and God's faithfulness.

CHARGE

✠BENEDICTION

Go out into the world that God so loves to be makers of God's peace, and as you do may the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Go out into the world that God so loves to be makers of God's peace, and as you do may the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen.

Summer Series 2016

The POLITICAL PRESBYTERIAN

How *faith* informs
Public Engagement



A search on Google for “John Calvin” with the word liberty yields 1.2 million results. Clearly, the roots of our church are embedded in Calvin’s *Institutes* and his ideas about freedom. One scholar goes so far as to include Calvin in the pantheon of our nation’s Founders. This series is an opportunity to rediscover our roots, reflect on what the Bible says about how we claim our participation in community, and to examine our own responsibilities as ethical citizens. Class sessions will meet at **9:45 AM** in The Atrium, the ground floor of the Oglesby Building.

June 19 • Beth Johnson • **The New Testament and Christian Political Involvement**

The New Testament deals repeatedly—and often in conflicted ways—with the politics of its day and the various ways Christians ought to interact with the state. The threat and promise of the Roman Empire to the nascent church result in multiple different attitudes toward government that have informed subsequent Christians. Beth Johnson is J. Davison Philips professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary.

June 26 • John Senior • **Fear in the Heart of Politics**

These are anxious times for many Americans, and our politicians would have us fear one another. Political thinkers have long understood that fear is a powerful political emotion, and, in some respects, a useful one. This session examines, from a theological perspective, what fear is, how it disrupts a healthy political life, and what a faithful response to a fearful politics looks like. John Senior is a professor of Ethics and Society at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity and the author of “A Theology of Political Vocation: Christian Life and Public Office.”

July 3 • Gary Rowe • **John Calvin, Talk Radio and the Renewal of Liberty**

The talk radio format is widely criticized for its overheated presentations on politics. But is that a fair assessment of its impact? Does the format advance or hinder civic engagement? Gary Rowe was a principal program host during the development of the news and talk format at the Group W Westinghouse station in Chicago, WIND-AM, from 1978 to 1981.

July 10 • Chris McCain • **Faith and Politics Within the Church: Reflections on the 222nd PC(USA) General Assembly**

Every two years, representatives from across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) gather as the General Assembly, the church’s national governing body, to vote on policies and positions for the denomination. Central member Chris McCain serves as Commissioner to this year’s General Assembly and will lead this session reviewing the key decisions, the impact those decisions may have on the church, and how Presbyterians think about intersection of faith and politics within the church itself. Chris McCain serves as Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Forum for Theological Exploration, which supports young adults considering ministry and emerging scholars of color.

July 17 • Paul Zwier • **John Calvin, Politics and the Pulpit**

How do we understand what we call Calvinism in today’s church? John Calvin’s ideas about liberty, community and governance define and inform much of what we believe. What are the key features of this history? Paul J. Zwier is one of the nation’s most distinguished professors of advocacy and skills training and is director of Emory University’s Program for International Advocacy and Dispute Resolution and a professor of law.

July 24 • John Senior • **A Politics of Gratitude**

A theology of gratitude can empower a fearless politics, inviting us to imagine a common life together, one that transcends political divisiveness and aspires to the flourishing of the human community and of all creation. Drawing on Reformed theological sources, this session examines gratitude as a political virtue. John Senior is a professor of Ethics and Society at the Wake Forest University School of Divinity and the author of "A Theology of Political Vocation: Christian Life and Public Office."

July 31 • William Yoo • **The Presbyterian Struggle over Slavery in the Nineteenth Century: Contrasting Interpretations of Race, Culture, and the Bible.**

William Yoo began teaching as Assistant Professor of American religious and cultural history at Columbia Theological Seminary in 2014. He is a teaching elder in the PC(U.S.A.) and member of Cherokee Presbytery. He is currently working on two book projects: a historical monograph on the evolution of the American Protestant foreign missionary enterprise in Korea and a documentary sourcebook of Presbyterian history in the United States."

August 7 • Graham Younger • **Faith in Public Life - Advancing Faith Voices in the Public Square**

In order to maximize the faith community's unique ability to shape public debates, FPL identifies and creates moments of opportunity, builds and supports broad coalitions, and designs and implements innovative campaigns, bold initiatives and capacity-building tools. Graham is the Georgia Statewide Coordinator for Faith in Public Life. He graduated from Davidson College and the University of Georgia School of Law. Before FPL, Graham worked on a campaign against predatory lending, focusing on faith leaders throughout the Southeast.

August 14 • Brennan Breed • **Is the Old Testament a Political Document?**

For thousands of years, religious communities have wrestled with the complex and often confusing relationships between politics, the people, and God in the Old Testament. Does the Bible tell us what kind of government is best? Does God seem to have a particular set of policy goals in mind, either in the ancient world or today? We look at scripture with questions of government, political involvement and justice in view. Dr. Breed is a professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary.

August 21 • Richard Griffiths • **Bonfires to Breaking News**

For Presbyterians to be meaningfully engaged, they must be able to trust the information on which they act. CNN VP and Senior Editorial Director Richard T. Griffiths, an elder at Trinity Presbyterian Church, will explain how his faith informs his role at CNN and how working to maintain public trust is his core mission. Griffiths will explain how editorial oversight is managed at CNN and, with real world examples, he'll put the audience in the hot seat to wrestle difficult journalistic and ethical decisions.

August 28 • Central Members • **Worship as a Political Event**

Whether recognized or not there are political dimensions to liturgy. The panelists, taking advantage of their diverse educational and occupational backgrounds, will seek to unpack some of what can be meant by the title "Worship as a Political Event." Perhaps you will be surprised. Perhaps you will surprise the panel. John Huss, convener, Rod Hunter, moderator, with panelists Mark Borst, Larken McCord, Emil Runge, Lucy Strong and Paul Zwier.

WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgists today are Michelle Hwang, Anna George Traynham, Sally Ann McKinsey Sisk, and Molly McGinnis.

The flowers are given today with gratitude and thanksgiving for Gary Charles' 12 years of faithful ministry at Central.

Audio recordings of sermons may be found at www.cpcast.org. You may also subscribe to podcasts at that site.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

201 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-659-0274 • www.cpcatlanta.org

Gary W. Charles Pastor
Michelle Hwang Associate Pastor for
Christian Education and Spiritual Formation
Sally Ann McKinsey Sisk, Anna George Traynham,
and Molly McGinnis Pastors in Residence
P. C. (Buddy) Enniss Pastor Emeritus
David A. VanderMeer
Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries
Jason Maynard Organist
Michael Morgan Organist Emeritus

MEMBERS IN PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION AS TEACHING ELDERS

Sarah Paulsen
Erin Burt

WELCOME VISITORS

WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you found your way to Central. Please sign the friendship pads located in each pew so we may know who you are. If you would like more information please email Anna George Traynham, atraynham@cpcatlanta.org or see one of our greeters wearing a **RED CARNATION** immediately after worship.

THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers

Susan Landrum ▪ Hugh Landrum,
co-captains ▪ Carolyn Porter
Mike Sizemore ▪ Rudy Massengill
Kathy McCloud ▪ Terry Tusher
Shelley Parnes

Greeters

Ruth Dinkins ▪ Shirley Landrum
Roland Kinser ▪ Deanna Robbins

Deacons of the Day

Chantal Tusher ▪ Mark Borst

Sound Engineer

Kim McNair

Counters

Lee Biola ▪ David Messer
Carol McCullough Messer

Collectors of Friendship Pads

Cook-Byers Family
Sarah, Kevin, Sam & David

Bell Ringer

Lynne Rea

Choir Guild

Beth Gustafson

Cashier

Lee Ebeling

Narthex Greeters

Susan Landrum ▪ Mike Sizemore
Kathy & Oscar McCloud

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, June 12

11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
Gary Charles preaching
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
Celebrating the Ministry of
Gary Charles

Monday, June 13

No events scheduled

Tuesday, June 14

10:00 a.m. All Staff
11:00 a.m. Worship Staff

Wednesday, June 15

No events scheduled

Thursday, June 16

No events scheduled

Friday, June 17

Mexico Border Mission Trip returns

Saturday, June 18

Youth Trip to General Assembly departs

Sunday, June 19

Summer Worship and Music Conferences
begin at Mo-Ranch and Montreat
9:45 a.m. Summer Series continues
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
Joy Fisher preaching
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:30 p.m. Council of Ministries



ACTING HEAD OF STAFF

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that the Rev. Steve Bacon has agreed to service as Acting Head of Staff until the appointment of an Interim Pastor. The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee is working diligently to identify the person who will serve as our Interim Pastor, but in the interval between Gary's departure and the interim appointment, we are thrilled to have Steve as our Acting Head of Staff.