



Adoration of the Magi
He Qi



Baptism of Jesus
He Qi

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WE THREE KINGS

ARR. ALEC WYTON

BRENT IVEY, ORGANIST

(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

*Guided by the star we come
To pay homage to the Shepherd of Israel.
Guided by the star we come
To kneel before the Light of the World.
Guided by the star we come
And we are overwhelmed with joy.
Guided by the star we come to worship
We come to celebrate the Christ, our Savior.*

WRITTEN BY ANDREW BLACK

ANNA GEORGE TRAYNHAM

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.

✦ HYMN NO. 744

ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME!

FESTAL SONG

For the younger ones among us:

Today in worship we remember Jesus' baptism and our own. In baptism we remember God's love for us is stronger than any wrong we do. We are reminded of this during our confession and you can remind yourself every time you wash your face that you are a beloved child of God!

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

DAVID COZAD

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WRITTEN BY STEPHEN FEARING

God of our baptismal waters,
You sent the Baptist to point to your Son.
But too often, we abandon his message and point only to ourselves.
We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship.
We point to our status rather than the grace that makes us all equal.
We point to our values rather than the One who has always valued everyone.
We point to our traditions rather than to the One who calls us to let go.
We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.
Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions. . . .

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

✦KYRIE

LEE AFDAHL

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦PASSING THE PEACE

✦RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 137, STANZA 2

HE CAME DOWN

He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
He came down that we may have light; hallelujah forevermore.

PROCLAIMING AND SEALING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 42:1-9

PAGE 524, OT, PEW BIBLE

ANTHEM

ARISE, SHINE
CHANCEL CHOIR

DONALD PEARSON

Refrain: Arise, shine for your light has come and your glory has dawned upon you..
For behold, darkness covers the land, deep gloom enshrouds the peoples. *Refrain.*
For over you the Lord will rise and the glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawning. *Refrain.*
Your gates will always be open by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you the city of the Lord the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain.*
Violence will no more be heard in your land. Ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls salvation and all your portals praise. *Refrain.*
The sun will no more be your light by day, by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light and your God will be your glory. *Refrain.*
Arise, shine.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN

DOWN GALILEE'S SLOW ROADWAYS (*See insert*)

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

This hymn was composed by the brilliant hymn writer Sylvia Dunstan in 1991. And uses language from all four gospels in telling the story of the baptism of Jesus. The hymn tune we use today dates back to 1581. The descending pattern and rising pattern in the melody seems suggestive of the descent into the baptismal waters and the rising to new life.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDETH

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

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

MOLLY MCGINNIS

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 . . .

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

HYMN NO. 698, TAKE, O TAKE ME AS I AM

TAKE, O TAKE

HYMN NO. 520, TASTE AND SEE

TASTE AND SEE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN No. 295

GO TO THE WORLD! STANZAS 1-3

SINE NOMINE

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 295, STANZA 4

SINE NOMINE

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!"
Alleluia. Alleluia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

RONDEAU

JEAN-JOSEPH MOURET

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgists today are David Cozad, Anna George Traynham, and Molly McGinnis.

Our lector today is Tom Banyai.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are in honor of Cindi Yarbrough and Amy Kirkland's wedding yesterday in the sanctuary.

Audio recordings of sermons may be found at www.cpcast.org. You may subscribe to podcasts at that site and find us on Facebook as "Central Presbyterian Church."

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CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Christian Education and Spiritual Formation
Anna George Traynham and Molly McGinnis

Associate Pastors
P. C. (Buddy) Enniss Pastor Emeritus
David A. VanderMeer
Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries
Michael Morgan Organist Emeritus

MEMBERS IN PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION AS TEACHING ELDERS

Sarah Paulsen
Erin Burt
Julia Watkins

WELCOME VISITORS

Welcome to Central! We are glad you are here! All are invited to worship God in this place. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, may Central be a community in which you can be nurtured and supported along the way and a place where you may serve and be served in the spirit of Christ. Contact David Cozad at dcozad@cpcatlanta.org to learn more about life at Central. We hope to see you again soon!

THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers

Susan Landrum ▪ Hugh Landrum,
co-captains ▪ Carolyn Porter
Mike Sizemore ▪ Chris Kelly
Kathy Walker ▪ Terry Tusher
Shelley Parnes

Greeters

Shirley Landrum
Roland Kinser ▪ Deanna Robbins

Deacons of the Day

Martha Haythorn ▪ 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
Jo & Ted McMurtrie

Bell Ringer

Lynne Rea

Choir Guild

Frances Padgett

THIS IS OUR STORY: WINTER STUDIES 2017

Each January, Central holds a special combined Sunday school series. This year, the series is sponsored by the Invitation Committee, and you are invited! Over the course of the 5 weeks, we will hear stories from others and learn to recognize value in our *own* stories. We will create a space for everyone - including ourselves - to be seen. Each week will have a combination of facilitated listening, small group conversation, and theological reflection.

Sundays, January 8 through February 5
in the Atrium

9:30 a.m. Gathering and Coffee
9:45 a.m. Stories begin

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, January 8

12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:30 p.m. Local Mission
12:30 p.m. Adult Education Comm.
12:45 p.m. Jerusalem Choir
6:00 p.m. Youth Hang-out

Monday, January 9

12:30 p.m. Staff Lunch
1:00 p.m. Program-Staff
2:00 p.m. Worship Staff
6:00 p.m. Budget Meeting

Tuesday, January 10

No events scheduled

Wednesday, January 11

5:30 p.m. Geneva Handbell Choir
6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 12

No events scheduled

Friday, January 13

Youth Trip departs

Saturday, January 14

No events scheduled

Sunday, January 15

9:00 a.m. Children's Choirs
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Winter Studies
11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
preaching
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:15 p.m. Fair-Trade Coffee Sale
12:30 p.m. Council of Ministries

Monday, January 16

Church Offices closed for MLK Holiday
Youth Trip returns
1:30 p.m. MLK March