

JULY 23, 2017 | SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Ascent
John August Swanson

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

SICILIENNE

GABRIEL FAURÉ

ALLEGRO - SONATA IN F

BENEDETTO MARCELLO

ERICA PIRTLE, FLUTE, AND VICKI FEY, ORGAN

(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

*Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Surely the Lord is in this place!
This is the house of God.
Let us worship God.*

SANDRA McDONALD

✦ HYMN NO. 408

THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

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.

Lectionary Texts for today:

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

For the younger ones among us:

There are certain places that are special to us because of the memories we have. Maybe you have a memory of a place that is special to you? Today we are hearing about Jacob who had a very special dream at a place called Beth-el. In the dream God reminded Jacob that God would never leave him alone. Jacob also didn't have to look for God because God's home is the whole world.

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of Jacob, you speak in the light of day and in the dark of night when our sleeping is filled with dreams of heaven. Yet we often ignore or question your presence for earthly, self-centered dreams. Remind us to be open and watchful, ready to discover your presence in our midst . . .

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

✦KYRIE

LAND OF REST



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



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

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦PASSING THE PEACE

✦RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 426

KAM CHHAT

Search me, O God, and know my heart.
Try me, O God, and know my thoughts,
And see if there be any wicked way in me.
And lead me in the everlasting way.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 86:11-17

PAGE 553, OT, PEW BIBLE

SECOND READING

GENESIS 28:10-19A

PAGE 25, OT, PEW BIBLE

SERMON

PLACES IN THE HEART

MICHELLE HWANG

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦HYMN NO. 844

INCLINE YOUR EAR, O LORD, TO ME

DANBY

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH

We believe God blessed and judged God's people.
The Lord's care sustained the people of Israel. God gave them a land where they could celebrate God's goodness. The Lord established their kingdom and promised a ruler from the line of David to reign in justice and peace. When God's people worshiped the gods of the land, when they put their trust in military alliances, when they failed to do justice and oppressed the poor, God sent the prophets to condemn their sins and to call the people back to obedience. There were times of repentance and reform, but in the end their kingdoms fell.

This hymn text was composed by Organist Emeritus Michael Morgan, who is also the author of *The Psalter for Christian Worship*, found in our pews.

We declare God's goodness and justice. God has blessed us beyond our deserving. When we forget the Lord and worship our possessions, when we fail to deal justly with the poor, when we seek security no matter what it costs others, we can expect God's judgment upon us.

We testify that God is faithful.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. The Lord still brings from oppressed and uprooted peoples riches of insight and daring visions that can judge and bless the world.

We can have confidence in God's coming kingdom even in the darkest times.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

DAVID COZAD

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY LORD, YOU HAVE SEARCHED ME

DAVID HURD

PSALM 139

CHORAL ENSEMBLE AND ERICA PIRTLE, FLUTE

Refrain: Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting places, and are acquainted with all my ways. *(Refrain)*

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me. *(Refrain)*

Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; If I make the grave my bed, you are there also. *(Refrain)*

If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand will hold me fast. *(Refrain)*

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION HYMN NO. 643, STANZA 1

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

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.

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.

✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN No. 350 KEEP YOUR LAMPS TRIMMED AND BURNING

KEEP YOUR LAMPS

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN NO. 350, REFRAIN

KEEP YOUR LAMPS

Sisters, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary,
Children don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

O DAY FULL OF GRACE

CHARLES W. ORE

WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgists today are David Cozad and Sandra McDonald.

Our lector today is Beth Grashof.

Audio recordings of sermons may be found at www.cpcatlanta.org. You may find us on Facebook as "Central Presbyterian Church."

Music is printed under Onelicense.net AA-710014.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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David Cozad	Interim Pastor
Michelle Hwang	Associate Pastor for Christian Education and Spiritual Formation
Anna George Traynham	Associate Pastor
P. C. (Buddy) Enniss	Pastor Emeritus
David A. VanderMeer	Minister of Music and Fine Arts
Vicki Fey	Organist
Michael Morgan	Organist Emeritus

MEMBERS IN PREPARATION FOR ORDINATION AS TEACHING ELDERS

Sarah Paulsen
Erin Burt
Julia Watkins

THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers

Jeff Spruell, captain
Mary Sidney Harbert ▪ Sherry Wright
Kimble McNair ▪ Deanna Robbins
Em McNair ▪ Wills Moore

Greeters

Isabel Werber ▪ Daphne Evans
Nancy Wilkes ▪ Martha Kimes

Sound Engineer

Tom Banyai

Deacons of the Day

Philip Covin ▪ Vanessa Hunter

Collectors of Friendship Pads

Liz Burkhardt ▪ Becca Leland
Hugh & Shirley Landrum

Bell Ringer

Lynne Rea

Counters

Doris Beachy ▪ Roland Kinser
Max Gallman ▪ Stephen Smith

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, July 23

12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil

Monday, July 24

No events scheduled

Tuesday, July 25

No events scheduled

Wednesday, July 26

No events scheduled

Thursday, July 27

No events scheduled

Friday, July 28

No events scheduled

Saturday, July 29

Scotland Choir departs

Sunday, July 30

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Children and Adults
11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
David Cozad preaching
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil

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!

SUMMER STUDIES 2017:

The Martin Luther Quincentenary 500 Years of Reformations

Sunday, July 30 | 9:45 a.m.

Paul Zwier

Luther vs Calvin vs Zwingli:

The Bible, Authority, and the Sacraments

CONGREGATIONAL FORUM

The transition team is scheduling a monthly series of congregational forums to keep our members up to date on the status in the process of identifying a new pastor for Central. The first of these is next week, on July 30 immediately after worship. It will be an opportunity to meet the Pastor Nominating Committee and learn about the process, and about why each of the committee members has chosen to serve in this way.



September 2-4, 2017
All Church **RETREAT**
OUR NEIGHBORS, OURSELVES

Matthew 22:34-40

Register on line at www.cpcatlanta.org