

Get Thee Behind Me, Satan
James Joseph Tissot, (1836-1902)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY SANCTIFY US BY THY GOODNESS (FROM CANTATA 22)

VICKI FEY, ORGAN, AND REBECCA TESTERMAN, OBOE

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

J. S. BACH

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

RINGING OF THE BELL

✦ OPENING SENTENCES

FROM PSALM 22:23-31

*Praise the Lord, you who worship; stand in awe, and give glory to God.
For the Lord does not despise the poor and needy, but when they cry out, God answers.
The hungry shall eat and be satisfied, and those who love the Lord shall offer praise.
All the ends of the earth shall worship God, for the Lord rules over every nation.*

Lectionary Texts for today:
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

✦ HYMN No. 718

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS, THE SAVIOR SAID

BOURBON

For the younger ones among us:

Long ago, Jesus tried to tell his disciples that it isn't easy to follow him. Being a Christian means trying to do the right thing, and sometimes that may make someone mad at us. They may want us to go along with them in telling a lie, or making fun of someone. But Jesus promised that he will always be there for us when we stand up for what is right.

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

ANNA GEORGE TRAYNHAM

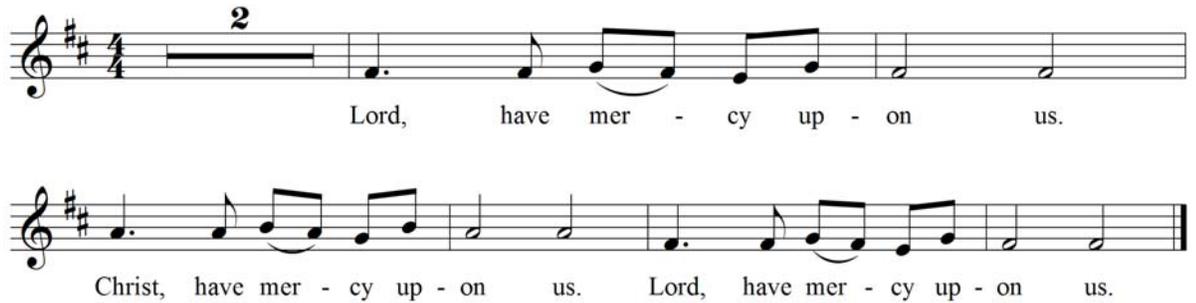
✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion, look upon us in mercy, for we have not walked in the way of Jesus. We have shied away from laying down our lives for the gospel, seeking instead to advance and defend ourselves. Our faith has wavered; we have trusted more in our own strength and understanding. In loving kindness, forgive us. Strengthen our faith by your Spirit, that we would be courageous enough to embrace the way of the cross. Enable us to trust that this way of life, proclaimed and lived by Jesus, is what serves us best and displays your glory, both now and in ages to come. . . .

(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. 441, STANZA 2

NETTLETON

All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing;
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

PAGE 13, OT, PEW BIBLE

ANTHEM

BE THOU MY VISION

JOHN RUTTER

CHANCEL CHOIR

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.
Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word. Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord.
O heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be thou my vision, O ruler of all.
Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight; be thou my whole armor, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower; O raise thou me heavenward, great power of my power.
Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise; be thou my inheritance, now and always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart; O sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun, O grant me its joys after victory is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be thou my vision, O ruler of all.

SECOND READING

MARK 8:31-38

PAGE 41, NT, PEW BIBLE

SERMON

FALLING UPWARDS: THE PREQUEL

DAVID COZAD

SILENCE AND STILLNESS

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN No. 320

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE

WAREHAM

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH

MICHELLE HWANG

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom.
Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey
all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful.
No more than Christ are we spared
the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world.
We are in the world, but not of the world.
Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people
do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world,
but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom.
Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom:
to serve as he has served us;
to take up our cross,
risking the consequences of faithful discipleship;
to walk by faith, not by sight,
to hope for what we have not seen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

ARR. HART MORRIS

GENEVA HANDBELL CHOIR AND REBECCA TESTERMAN, OBOE

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN No. 726

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

KELVINGROVE

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN NO. 543, STANZA 2

GREEN TYLER

Bind to myself the name of Holy; great cloud of witnesses enfold;
Prophets, apostles, angels witness. O Christ surround me; O Christ, surround me.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY TAKE UP YOUR CROSS, THE SAVIOR SAID

EDWIN T. CHILDS

Lenten Prayer Tree

During the Lenten season, we are placing two Prayer Trees in the Sanctuary. During the Prayers of the People each Sunday, you are invited to go to the trees to tie a colored prayer ribbon on a branch to represent your prayer concerns. By Easter the tree will have "bloomed" with a visible, tangible manifestation of our congregation's prayers. Let us lift up our hearts together in prayer!

Color key for the ribbons

PINK - Praise and Adoration
RED - Courage
YELLOW- Thanksgiving
SILVER - Wholeness & Healing
LIGHT GREEN - Confession and Forgiveness
TURQUOISE - Strength
WHITE - Peace
PURPLE - Wisdom and Discernment

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.

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.

WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgists today are Michelle Hwang and Anna George Traynham.

Our lector today is Anne Watkins.

We thank Brent Ivey for serving as Interim Music Director while Dave VanderMeer is on Sabbatical.

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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Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-659-0274 • www.cpcatlanta.org

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 MINISTERS OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

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 Debbie Miller at debbietimmiller@gmail.com to learn more about life at Central. We hope to see you again soon!

THE Greening of Central

Does all this spring-like weather make your green thumbs itch to get out and play in the dirt? Do you find you have some free time to play in the dirt? For several years Centralite Amy Kirkland has been faithfully tending to our Memorial Garden and other plantings around the church. She would very much like some help this Spring. If you like to play in the dirt or have a green thumb, please send Amy an email (amkcu99@gmail.com) and let her know you'd love to help with the greening of Central.

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

Chantal Tusher ▪ Matt Baum

Collectors of Friendship Pads

Liz Burkhardt ▪ Becca Leland
Hugh & Shirley Landrum

Bell Ringer

Bliss Family

Choir Guild

Ann Hunter

Counters

Max Gallman ▪ Doris Beachy
Sandy Hoke

Central Women will gather at the Calvin Center for the annual Women's Retreat on Friday, **March 2**, at 5:00 p.m. Our retreat will conclude on Sunday, March 4 after breakfast. This year our leader is Beth Johnson. You may register on line or in Tull Hall before and after worship.

The TheoEd Talks series at First Presbyterian Church will take place this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. We at Central have been invited to be an Event Partner. Because of this, you can register for the event at no cost. For tickets, go to their website and enter the code "Central" at checkout.

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, February 25

12:15 p.m.	Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m.	Fellowship Lunch
4:50 p.m.	Jerusalem Choir
5:00 p.m.	TheoEd Talks <i>First Presbyterian Church</i>
6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
6:00 p.m.	Lenten Group #1 CPC

Monday, February 26

2:00 p.m.	All Staff Meeting
3:00 p.m.	Worship Staff Meeting
7:30 p.m.	Lenten Group #2 <i>Cornell Home</i>
7:30 p.m.	Lenten Group #3 <i>Wright Home</i>
7:30 p.m.	Lenten Group #9 <i>Watkins Home</i>

Tuesday, February 27

7:00 p.m.	Lenten Group #5 <i>Wade Home</i>
7:30 p.m.	Lenten Group #4 <i>Miller Home</i>

Wednesday, February 28

5:30 p.m.	Geneva Handbell Choir
7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 1

10:00 a.m.	Lenten Group #6 <i>Clairmont Place</i>
3:00 p.m.	Lenten Group #8 <i>Lehfeldt Home</i>

Friday, March 2

5:00 p.m.	Women's Retreat begins
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Saturday, March 3

Women's Retreat continues

Sunday, March 4

Women's Retreat concludes after breakfast	
9:00 a.m.	Children's Choirs
9:00 a.m.	Youth Handbell Choir
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m.	Worship for the Lord's Day Youth Sunday
12:15 p.m.	Peace Vigil
12:15 p.m.	Fellowship Lunch
6:00 p.m.	Lenten Group #1 CPC