

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 30, 2018 | FIRST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS



Flight into Egypt
Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

O WONDROUS STAR

ARR. JOHN TROUTMAN

CLAYTON HEIDBREder, 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

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Give you heed to what we say, "Jesus Christ is born today!"
Now we hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this.
Oh come, let us adore him.*

✦ HYMN NO. 132

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

IN DULCI JUBILO

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:

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52

For the younger ones among us:

Christmas Day was last Tuesday. Does that already seem like a long time ago? When do you return to school? Does that seem like a very, very short time from now? In the Church, Christmas only begins on December the 25th. Then Christmas continues for twelve days, until January the 5th. In some lands, the people give gifts every single day for twelve straight days. (Ask your parents if you can move to that country!) Many people leave their Christmas tree and other decorations up until all twelve days of Christmas have passed. Today, sing the Christmas Carols with all your heart, because after today we put them away until next year. Look one last time at the manger scenes in the windowsills. Which one is your favorite? And don't even think yet about returning to school. After all, it's still Christmas!

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, do not let us do more, if in doing less, we might do better.

Do not let us acquire more, if in living with less, we might know you better.

We are easily swayed by size, equating quantity with quality, wealth with security, and success with living well.

Forgive us for spreading ourselves too thin.

Empower us to amend our ways,

lest we rush by the Baby in the stable, the Teacher of the hillside, the Christ in our own hearts ...

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦PASSING THE PEACE

✦RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 121, STANZA 4

ST. LOUIS

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

PSALM 28:6-9

PAGE 510, OT, PEW BIBLE

SECOND SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 2:13-18

PAGE 2 NT, PEW BIBLE

SERMON

AN ICY CHRISTMAS

DAVID FRY

SILENCE AND STILLNESS

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦HYMN NO. 110

LOVE HAS COME

BRING A TORCH

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe, not just in the holiday of Christmas, but that into every night is sent a star.

We believe that in the face of any Herod the world can produce, and all the inn doors slammed in our faces, and all the dark nights of our souls, that with God, all things are still possible.

Even now, unto us a Child is born, born to give us second birth.

Christ was born for this. Christ was born for this. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANNA GEORGE TRAYNHAM

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

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

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM*

ARR. FRANKLIN RITTER

✦ AT THE PRESENTATION HYMN NO. 144, STANZA 4

CRANHAM

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a Lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN No. 146

GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN NO. 113, REFRAIN

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ARR. LANI SMITH

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.

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.

To make an offering with your phone, scan the QR code below or text "cpcatlanta" to 73256.



WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our liturgist today is Anna George Traynham. **Our lector** today is Vanessa Hunter. **We thank** Clayton Heidebreder for playing the organ while Vicki Fey is on vacation. **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
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David Fry	Interim Pastor
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

THOSE SERVING DURING WORSHIP TODAY

Ushers

Beth Grashof, captain

Greeters

Ann Bryan ▪ John Bryan

Sound Engineer

Keith Pascoe

Bell Ringer

Tom Banyai

Collectors of Friendship Pads

The Landrum Family

Deacons of the Day

Martha Haythorn ▪ Mark Borst

WELCOME VISITORS

Central is a community in which you can learn and teach, care and be cared for, love and be loved. You have a place here among this community of faith.

All visitors and newer members are invited to the **Believing and Belonging** class to explore what Presbyterians believe, how those beliefs inform our life at Central, and what it means to *belong* in today's world of competing interests. The next class is **February 24** and **March 3** at 9:45 in the Parlor. For more information, contact Anna at atraynham@cpcatlanta.org.

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Sunday, December 30
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil

Monday, December 31
Church Office closes at noon.

Tuesday, January 1
Church Offices closed

Wednesday, January 2
No events scheduled.

Thursday, January 3
No events scheduled.

Friday, January 4
No events scheduled.

Saturday, January 5
No events scheduled.

Sunday, January 6
9:00 a.m. Children's Choirs
9:00 a.m. Youth Handbell Choir
9:45 a.m. Sunday School classes for all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship for the Lord's Day
Anna George Traynham
preaching
12:15 p.m. Peace Vigil

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Concert with a Cause:

Westminster Choir College Concert Bell Choir
Monday, January 14, 2019 | 7:30 p.m.

The Westminster Concert Bell Choir is comprised of undergraduate and graduate students of Westminster Choir College, and is conducted by Kathleen Ebling Shaw.

Westminster Choir College was the first institution in the world to develop a handbell curriculum, which is now in its 40th year. They ring on the largest set of English handbells in the country. A Love Offering will be taken to support the Central Night Shelter and Foot Clinic.