

September 12, 2021 17th Sunday after Pentecost Worship begins at 11 a.m.



'Ridge Church' by Andrew Wyeth

Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary Pastorale on a Celtic Alleluia arr. Richard Proulx As the Opening Voluntary begins, please use the time to center yourself for worship.

Welcome

Ringing of The Bell

As the tower bell rings, may it call out to the city and the world that Central Presbyterian Church is worshiping God.

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

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John M. Semmes

• Call to Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God. The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple.

This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

We gather to renew our relationship with God. We seek enlightenment and the revival of our souls. Let us worship God!

Hymn 393

O Day of Rest and Gladness ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

Call to Confession

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God,

We come to you with open hearts and broken hopes. We recognize the wrongs we have done against you and against one another.

As your church, your love should guide us. Yet, we inform ourselves with vanities.

As your church, your grace should restore us. Yet, we hurt one another.

As your church, your power should strengthen us. Yet, we rely on our individual efforts.

Remind us of the good news of your salvation. Heal our confused consciousness. Rest your spirit within us and make us whole once again. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of The Peace

Response Hymn 587

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Rev. Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

Proclaiming The Word

A Time With Children		Jasiel Hernandez Garcia
Old Testament Lesson	Psalm 116:1-9	Gary Cornell
New Testament Lesson	Mark 8:27-38	John M. Semmes
Sermon	'Is the Church Going Out of Business?'	John M. Semmes
Silence and Stillness		

• Affirmation of Faith FROM THE CONFESSION OF BELHAR 10.5

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world...

Responding to The Word

Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Hymn 223

Gilbert Martin

Invitation to Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving



The Lord's Prayer TRADITIONAL WITH INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Beloved parent who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of The People

Music During Communion Hymn 507 Come to the Table of Grace TABLE OF GRACE Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of peace... Come to the table of love... Come to the table of love... Come to the table of hope...

Bearing and Following the Word into The World

Hymn 726

Will You Come and Follow Me?

KELVINGROVE

John M. Semmes

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

Participating in Worship Today

Worship Staff

John M. Semmes, Interim Pastor Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Associate Pastor for Engagement and Mission P. C. (Buddy) Enniss, Pastor Emeritus Jennifer Sengin, Interim Choral Director Michael Morgan, Organist Emeritus Christian Antwi, Director, Ministries to Children, Youth, and Families Vicki Fey, CCM, Organist/Bethlehem Choir Director Gary Cornell, Lector

Worship Production Staff

Mark Wallace Maguire, Director of Communications Dean Hammond, Volunteer Director of Technology Kurt Vogel, AV Assistant Tower Bell Ringer

Jason Bliss

Hospitality Team

Beth Grashof Ben Evans Em McNair Kathy McCloud Martha Kimes

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE LIST OF RINGERS, SEND AN EMAIL TO VICKI FEY (VFEY@CPCATLANTA.ORG). GATHERING

393 O Day of Rest and Gladness 1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light, tion the light first had its birth; 2 On you, at earth's cre - a -3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear, Ο ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright; balm for care and sad you, for our sal - va tion Christ rose from depths of earth; on -Christ's liv - ing pres - ence ing, through bread and wine made near. greet you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in on tune, Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven. on you, our gain - ing from this our day New grac - es ev - er of rest, ly″ great God tri - une. sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho to the And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given. we reach the rest re - main of the blest. ing to spir - its In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost-each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, alt.; stanza 3, Charles P. Price, 1980, alt. ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904 7.6.7.6.D Text St. 3 © 1985 Charles P. Price

Visiting Central?

Whether we are together in person or being the body of Christ from afar, Central is a community of faith that offers a great variety of opportunities for you to connect and find a place to belong:

Worship: On Sundays, our in-person worship service takes place at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Central's Chancel Choir has resumed and is participating during worship services.

Learning: Our Fall classes include "Delivered out of Empire: Pivotal Moments in the Book of Exodus," "The Christian Imagination - Theology and the Origins of Race," "Friends on the Journey: an Anti-Racism Community Building," "Coffee & Connections: Conversations about Life and Faith," and "The Bible and Poverty."

Fellowship: Our fellowship blooms across ministries - children and youth, college and young adults, parents and older adults, and other Central Life Groups that offer meaningful connections.

Service: From serving meals and coffee to our neighbors experiencing homelessness at the courtyard on Sunday mornings to traveling to the U.S.-Mexico border, Israel-Palestine, and Haiti; Central offers opportunities for faithful missionary service and advocacy support in Atlanta and beyond. You may also serve in our hospitality and the A/V and communications ministries.

We welcome you at Central Presbyterian Church!

For more information, please connect with our associate pastor, Rev. Jasiel H. Garcia at jhernandez@cpcatlanta.org

Central Care Teams

Central's diaconate is launching a new initiative called 'Central Care Teams.' Each team is composed of two to four deacons assigned to a particular Central parish. These teams will lead the church's caring and support efforts by:

1) Coordinating meal-trains & communicating other care-related needs to the parish.

- 2) Scheduling and coordinating care visits and in-home communion.
- 3) Assisting with funerals and memorial services.

4) Participating in the planning for Maundy Thursday in-home worship services.

The Care Teams will collaborate with Parish Coordinators and the Pastoral Staff. For more information, you may contact Eleanor Dake and Amy Covin.

The Care Teams for 2021-2022 are:

Decatur - Ed Carwile, Eleanor Dake, and Rob Forbes.

Northern Lights - Vicki Collier, Ginger Heidbreder, Zac Hilimire, and Brian Bishop.

In-Town South - Linda Lehfeldt, Ben Sutton, Sandy Hoke, Amy Covin*, and Phillip Covin.*

In-Town North - Jan DeLong, Tom Leslie, and Debbie Miller.*

Brookwood - Ben Evans, Vicki Norman.

Down Yonder - Anne Watkins, Kathy McCloud, LaShawn Green, Emmalee Hackshaw, and Em McNair.*

*represents the current Parish Coordinators.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year as we care for one another and share the love of God at Central.

Give

Please give generously to support Central's work and mission in this time of great need! You can scan the QR code to give via our secure portal.





The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

SERVICE MUSIC



TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981; harm. Christopher Walker, 1985 Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker (Published by OCP) CELTIC ALLELUIA



The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm, 2008 Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company TABLE OF GRACE 7.7.10.7

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Central Presbyterian Church is a Matthew 25 Congregation. As such, we are committed to:

1. Building congregational vitality by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.

We do so through the work of our Learning and Worship ministries, and through the Session's vision for community building and advocacy support for this program year.

2. Dismantling structural racism by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.

We do so through the work of the Dismantling Racism Task Group's consultation with VISIONS Inc. to better equip ourselves, and through the faithful conversations of "Friends on the Journey."

3. And eradicating systemic poverty by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

We do so through the work of the Local and Global Missions Committee, the Cozad Task Force, and the Pollard and Covenant Grant Discernment Team.