



March 20, 2022  
Third Sunday in Lent  
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



‘FIG TREE AND OLIVE TREES IN A TUSCAN GARDEN’ BY TRUDI DOYLE

## Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary

*If Thou but Trust in God*

E. Frederick Richter

*As the Opening Voluntary begins, please use the time to center yourself for worship.*

Welcome

Rev. John M. Semmes

Ringling of the Bell

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



When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.  
Please silence cell phones.

✠ Call to Worship

In life and in death, we belong to God;  
**through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,**  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
**whom alone we worship and serve.**  
Let us worship God!

✠ Hymn 816

*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

✠ Call to Confession

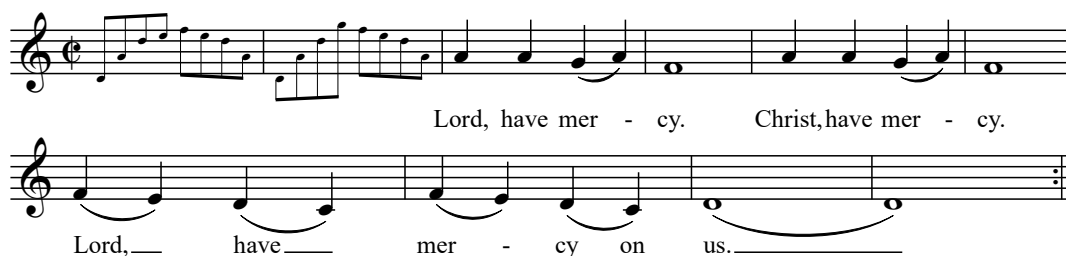
Rev. John M. Semmes

✠ Prayer of Confession

**You are before and behind us, O God, around and within us. We give thanks for your constant presence, even as we admit we don't always travel in the light of your way. We are impeded by fear, by society, and by urgent demands. Even when we know your direction, we detour instead, preferring the easier and seemingly safer path, even if it is not where you call us. Forgive us, O God. Steady us. Turn our eyes to you and where you lead. For you are our God. You meet us where we are, and you never leave us alone. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

✠ Kyrie



✠ Assurance of Pardon

✠ Passing of the Peace

✠ Hymn 440, Stanza 4

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

ABERYSTWYTH

**Plenteous grace with thee is found,  
grace to cover all my sin.  
Let the healing streams abound;  
make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art;  
freely let me take of thee.  
Spring thou up within my heart.  
Rise to all eternity.**

*During the response hymn, children are invited to come forward for A Time With Children.*

## Proclaiming the Word

A Time With Children

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

Prayer for Illumination

Melanie Bliss

First Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-5

Melanie Bliss

Second Lesson

Luke 13:1-9

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

Sermon

“Like a Fig Tree: Repent or Perish”

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

*Silence and Stillness*

## Responding to the Word



Affirmation of Faith

Rev. John M. Semmes

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Anthem

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

Edwin T. Childs

*Chancel Choir*

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN, MY SAVIOR'S LOVE TO ME, LOVE TO THE LOVELESS SHOWN THAT THEY MIGHT LOVELY BE.

OH, WHO AM I, THAT FOR MY SAKE MY LORD SHOULD TAKE FRAIL FLESH AND DIE?

SOMETIMES THEY STREW HIS WAY AND HIS SWEET PRAISES SING; RESOUNDING ALL THE DAY HOSANNAS TO THEIR KING.

THEN "CRUCIFY" IS ALL THEIR BREATH, AND FOR HIS DEATH THEY THIRST AND CRY.

WHY, WHAT HAS MY LORD DONE TO CAUSE THIS RAGE AND SPITE? HE MADE THE LAME TO RUN, AND GAVE THE BLIND

THEIR SIGHT. WHAT INJURIES! YET THESE ARE WHY THE LORD MOST HIGH SO CRUELLY DIES.

HERE MIGHT I STAY AND SING OF HIM MY SOUL ADORES. NEVER WAS LOVE, DEAR KING, NEVER WAS GRIEF LIKE YOURS!

THIS IS MY FRIEND IN WHOSE SWEET PRAISE I ALL MY DAYS COULD GLADLY SPEND. MY SONG IS LOVE.

The Lord's Prayer

FROM A NEW MONASTIC HANDBOOK

**Blessed One, our Father and our Mother**

**May your love be enacted in the world.**

**May your will be done**

**On earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread**

**And forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us in the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For all that we do in your love,**

**and all that your love brings to birth,**

**and the fullness of love that will be**

**are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World



Hymn 649

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

AMAZING GRACE



Benediction

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

Closing Voluntary

*Amazing Grace!*

George Shearing

*The congregation is invited to be seated for the Closing Voluntary.*

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## Participating in Worship Today

Melanie Bliss, Lector  
Kathy Kohn, Choir Guild  
Tricia Berrett, Tower Bell Ringer  
Chancel Choir

### Worship Staff

The Rev. John M. Semmes,  
Interim Pastor and Head of Staff  
The Rev. Jasiel Hernandez Garcia,  
Associate Pastor for Engagement and Mission  
The Rev. P. C. (Buddy) Enniss, Pastor Emeritus  
Christian Antwi,  
Director, Ministries to Children, Youth,  
and Families  
Dr. Jennifer Sengin, Director of Musical Arts  
Vicki Fey, Organist/Music Associate  
Michael Morgan, Organist Emeritus

Thomas Dixon, Music Intern  
Dennis Lau, Music Intern

### Worship Production Staff

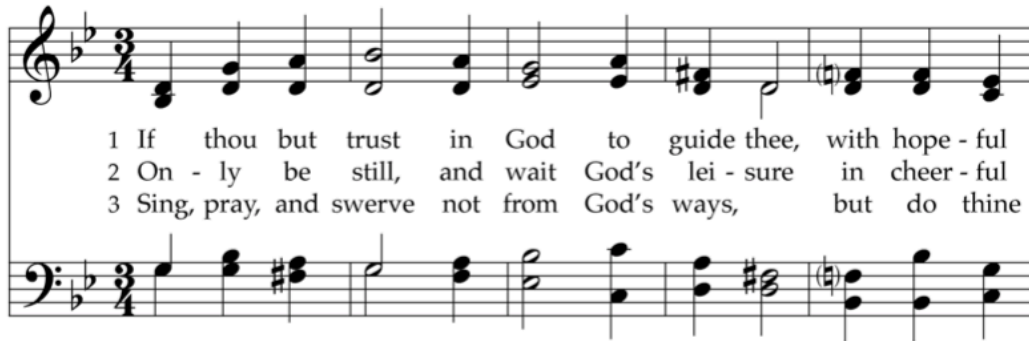
Mark Wallace Maguire, Director of Communications  
Dean Hammond,  
Volunteer Technology Director  
Kurt Vogel, A/V Assistant  
Thomas DeVore, A/V Assistant

### Hospitality Team

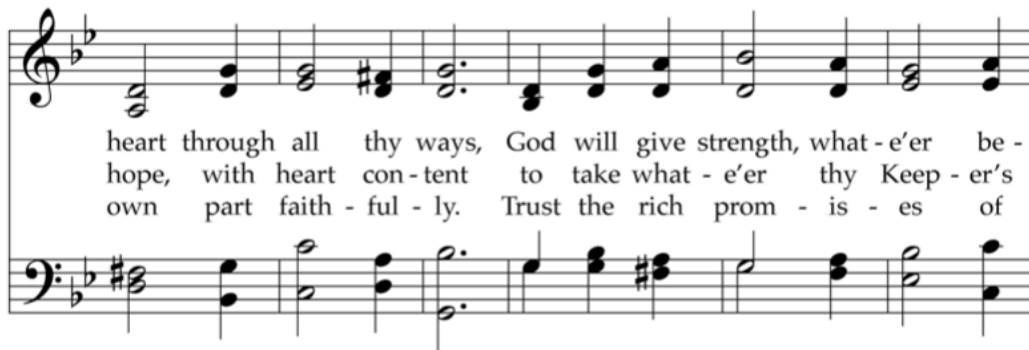
Beth Grashof  
Charles Rooks  
Kathy Kohn  
Norm Kohn  
Kathy McCloud  
Martha Haythorn



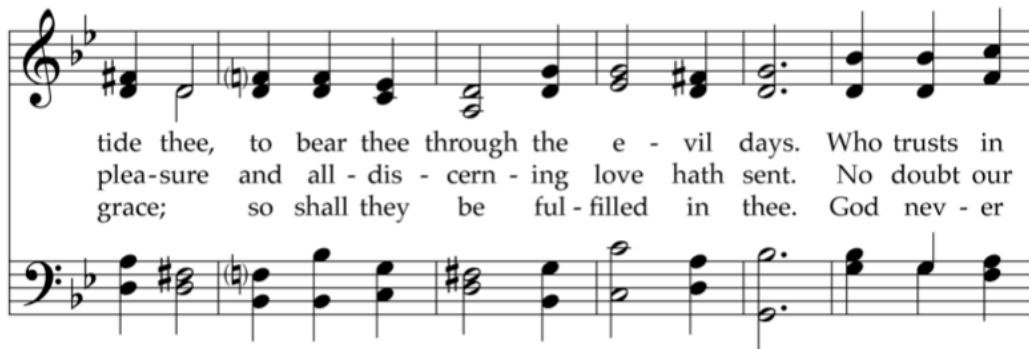
# If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816



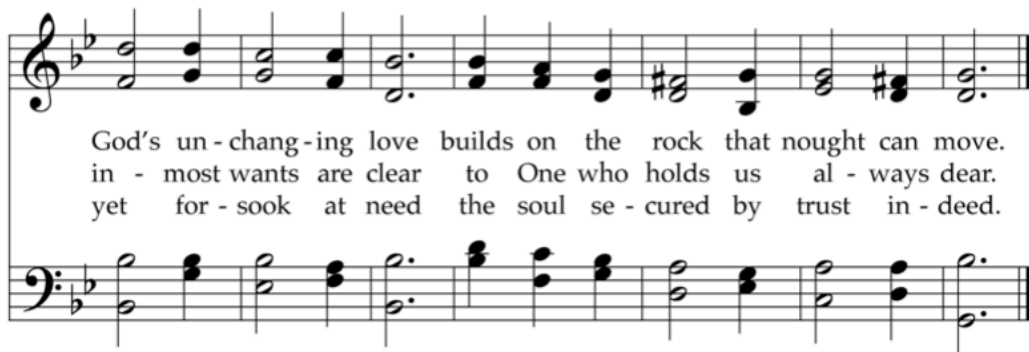
1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful  
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful  
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine



heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -  
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's  
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of



tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in  
 plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our  
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.  
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.  
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

# 440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om fly,  
 2 Oth - er ref - uge have I none; hangs my help-less soul on thee.  
 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.  
 4 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin.

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the temp - est still is high.  
 Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone; still sup - port and com - fort me.  
 Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in.

Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past.  
 All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness.  
 Thou of life the foun - tain art; free - ly let me take of thee.

Safe in - to the ha - ven guide. O re - ceive my soul at last!  
 Cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.  
 False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.  
 Spring thou up with - in my heart. Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Originally titled "In Temptation," these four stanzas (of five) call to mind how a spiritual and emotional tempest can move from turmoil to tranquility. This tune was first used with this text in a cantata by the composer in 1910, and since then has become the standard one.

## 649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## CHOCTAW

*Shilombish holitopa ma!  
 Ishmminti pulla cha  
 hatak ilbusha pia ha  
 is pi yukpalashke.*

## CREEK

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet  
 ah non ah cha pa kas  
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus  
 um e ha ta la yus.*

## NAVAHO

*Nizhónígo joobá diits' a'  
 yisdáshítinígí,  
 lah yóóiyá, k'ad  
 shénáhoosdzin,  
 doo eesh'ít da ít'ée.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie  
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;  
 Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE  
 CM

## 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:** We have multiple classes to connect.

**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](mailto: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 Lehfelddt, 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.







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, Central in the City, and the Pollard and Covenant Grant Discernment Team.*

