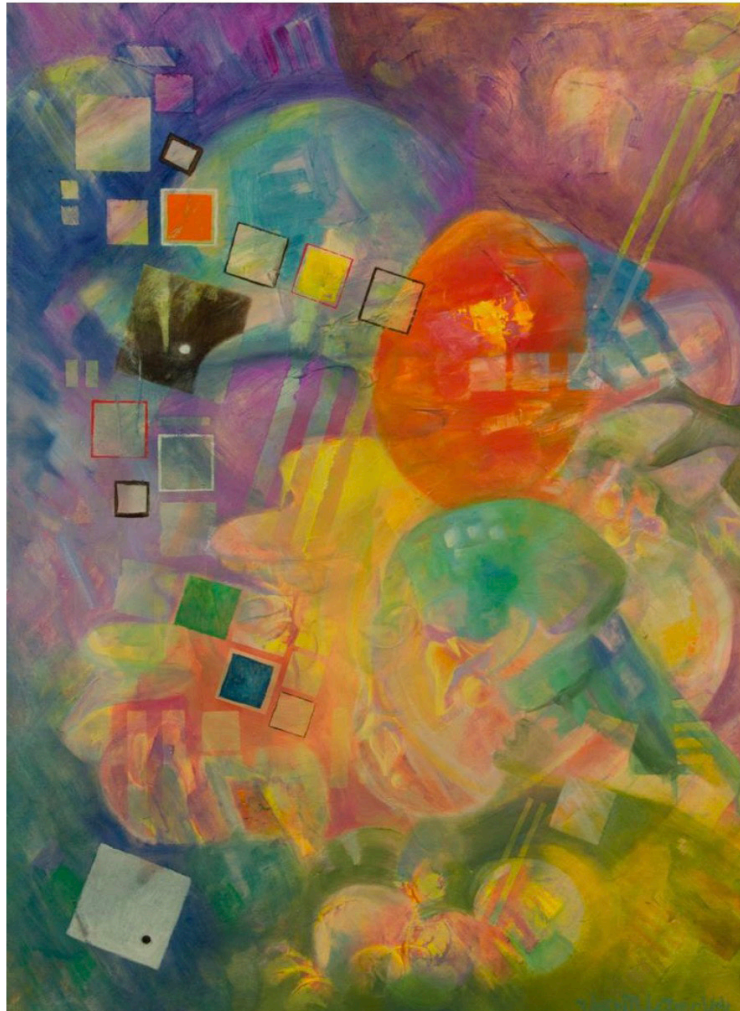




The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 31, 2022  
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



ECCLESIASTES 3 BY GINA VALENTI-LAZARCHIK

## Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary

*Be Thou My Vision*

Paul Manz

*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 your phones.

✠ Call to Worship Rev. John M. Semmes

Listen, all who seek the Holy One; God is calling us; God has called us together.

**O give thanks to God, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

God is eager to put loving arms around us. God is waiting to satisfy our hunger and thirst.

**God leads us to a new identity, to new life. We seek renewal in the image of our Creator.**

**Let us worship God!**

✠ Hymn 687 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

✠ Call to Confession Rev. John M. Semmes

✠ Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, our lives are far from holy. Our thoughts have often erupted into hurtful words and deeds. We have not avoided lies and slander. We have given in to pessimism and suspicion. Our hearts focus upon the things we can accumulate more than on**

**your mission, in which we can abundantly share. Lead us, O God, toward love for all people, that our attitudes may be reshaped and a right relationship with you restored, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

✠ Kyrie (Hymn 851) *Come, Bring Your Burdens to God* WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO  
(PLEASE SING TWICE.)

**Come, bring your burdens to God;  
come, bring your burdens to God;  
come, bring your burdens to God,  
for Jesus will never say no.**

✠ Assurance of Pardon

✠ Passing of the Peace

✠ Response (Hymn 700 Stanza 1) *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

**I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

*During the response hymn, children and youth are invited to come forward for The Blessing of the Backpacks.*

Blessing of the Backpacks

Susan Landrum and Sam Phillips

## Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Kathy McCloud

First Lesson

Psalm 90:1-6,13-17

Kathy McCloud

Second Lesson

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

Sermon

“Eat, Drink, and Be Merry?”

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

*Silence and Stillness*

## Responding to the Word



Affirmation of Faith

FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH, 10.2

Rev. John M. Semmes

**In Christ, God gave us a glimpse of the new creation God has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time, we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God’s good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new, and the fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected.**

Offertory Sentence

Rev. John M. Semmes

Music at the Offertory

*Turn! Turn! Turn!*

Pete Seeger

(BASED ON ECCLESIASTES 3)

Dave Martyn, guitar and vocals; Janet Abercrombie, vocals



At the Presentation

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**



Prayer of Dedication

Rev. John M. Semmes

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Traditional Version

**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.**

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World



Hymn 450

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE



Benediction

Rev. Jasiel Hernández García

Closing Voluntary

*Final Variation on Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Wilbur Held

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

## 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. The service is also live streamed on both YouTube and our website, [www.cpcatlanta.org](http://www.cpcatlanta.org).

**Learning:** We have multiple classes to connect on Sunday mornings and during the week. Check our website and weekly e-news for updates.

**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!

## Participating in Worship Today

Tower Bell Ringer, Steve Fey  
Guitar and vocals, Dave Martyn  
Vocals, Janet Abercrombie  
Lector, Kathy McCloud

### 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  
Susan Landrum, Interim Director of Youth  
Sam Phillips, Interim Director for Family Ministry  
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  
Sam Patton, Audio Engineer  
Bo Brewers, Audio Engineer  
Kurt Vogel, A/V Assistant

### Hospitality Team

Beth Grashof  
Ben Evans  
Bettie Hardin  
Em McNair  
Kathy Harben  
Kaye Carmichael  
Mike Sizemore

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## There's still time to register for Montreat!

Our annual All Church Retreat takes place September 3 to 5 and is filled with an array of events and activities!

You can register with your Realm account. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact Linda Massengill at [lmassengill@cpcatlanta.org](mailto:lmassengill@cpcatlanta.org).

