



Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Andante in D Major

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

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.

✠ Call to Worship O.J. Flowers

We gather together to worship God.

God is the one who,

created us,

redeems us,

walks besides us,

and calls us to follow and believe.

Let us worship God.

✠ Hymn 727 *Will You Let Me be Your Servant* THE SERVANT SONG

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession

Ever present God, you are always with us. You love us even when we don't seem to love you. You show up for us even though we refuse to acknowledge you. You call us even though we turn deaf ears to you. You appear before us and yet we ignore the visible signs of your presence. You walk beside us even when we try to go the other way. Forgive us for not believing, trusting, or being open to recognize your daily presence; (*Silent Confession*)... Amen.

✠ Assurance of Pardon
Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✠ Passing of the Peace

✠ Hymn Response 582 *Glory to God* GLORY TO GOD

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

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

Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children

O.J. Flowers & Susan Landrum

Prayer for Illumination

Melanie Bliss

First Lesson

Isaiah 41:1-10

✠ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please stand as you are comfortable.
Please silence your cellphones.

Second Lesson

John 20:24-29

Sermon

“Is God Real?”

Kimberly Parker

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 741 *Guide My Feet* GUIDE MY FEET

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH

The people of God have often misused God’s promises as excuses for doing nothing about present evils. But in Christ the new world has already broken in and the old can no longer be tolerated. We know our efforts cannot bring in God’s kingdom. But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord!

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Mack Wilberg
Chancel Choir; Thom Dixon, conductor; Mason Copeland, piano
Lara Dahl, oboe; Jim Zellers, flute

✠ At the Presentation *Doxology* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

✠ Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Traditional PC (USA)

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 39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

✠ Charge & Benediction Kimberly Parker

Postlude *Fugue in G Major* Felix Mendelssohn

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Lector: Melanie Bliss
Choir Guild: Ellen Thompson
Tower Bell Ringer: Jason Bliss
Chancel Choir
Dean Hammond,
Volunteer Technology Director
Lara Dahl, Oboist
Jim Zellers, Flautist

Hospitality Team

Beth Grashof
Becky Battle
Philip Covin
Liz Burkhardt
Sandy Hoke
Linda Massengill
Chris Sciarrone

Give

You may give via the envelope in the pew, online at www.cpcatlanta.org or using the QR code.



The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner,
Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor
Susan Landrum, Director of Family Ministries
Thom Dixon,
Director of Music & Worship Arts
Mason Copeland, Organist/Music Associate
Kristie Johns, Business Administrator
Mark Wallace Maguire,
Director of Communications
Melissa Johnson,
Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator
John White, Facilities Manager
Abraha Diedre, Custodian
Alex Johns, Communications Associate
Karen Brown,
Pianist, Bethlehem & Jerusalem Choir
Courtney Anne Henry, Children & Youth Fellow
Thomas Chafin, Music Intern
Elizabeth Daly, Music Intern
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer

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