



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 30, 2024
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Love, Robert Indiana

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Improvisation
Mason Copeland, Organ

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Kate Culver

Ringing 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 Susan Landrum

Listen! Listen for the voice of God, naming us all: Holy. Beloved. Cherished. Valued.

We believe you delight in us!

Make us people who recognize and proclaim your beauty and goodness in unexpected places.

Surprise us. Challenge us. Transform us.

We trust in you, Holy One, to reveal to us the sacredness of every life, of every way of being, of every physical manifestation of your Spirit.

May it be so!

✠ Hymn 31 *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind* MONKLAND

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession

God of justice, God of compassion, we have so much still to learn. By your grace, we have come to know love more deeply – its mess, its complexity, its stubborn and tender truths that transform us more each day. But still, O God, we struggle to trust in you. And so, when we are afraid. Or hurt. Or weary...Search our hearts, O God, and see if there is any fear within us. Meet us there with your good news that sets the captives free. Forgive us from the harm we have done as we seek to harm no more.... (Silent Confession) Amen

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

✠ Passing of the Peace

✠ Hymn 59 *The Steadfast Love of the Lord* THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.**

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

Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children Susan Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Mike Coleman

First Lesson Psalm 145:10-18

Second Lesson Galatians 3:23-29 Rev. Dr. Randal Maurice Jelks

Sermon The Power of Faith

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 716 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

✠ Affirmation of Faith
CONFESION OF 1967, 9.15 Rev. Kate Culver

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. We ascribe to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals God's love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *Shall We Gather At The River* arr. Robert Lau
Thomas Chafin, Piano

✠ 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 Rev. Kate Culver

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 320 *The Church of Christ in Every Age* WAREHAM

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Dr. Randal Maurice Jelks

Postlude *Lebhaft from Sonate No. 2* Paul Hindemith
Mason Copeland, Organ

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Mike Coleman
Tower Bell Ringer: Kristeen Sorrells
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director

Hospitality Team

A faithful group of Central members

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner,
Senior Pastor & 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
Karen Brown, Pianist, Bethlehem & Jerusalem Choir
Courtney Anne Henry, Children & Youth Fellow
Thomas Chafin, Music Intern
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant

Give

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



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Rev. Dr. Randal Maurice Jelks

Central is excited to have Rev. Dr. Randal Maurice Jelks as our guest preacher today.

Rev. Dr. Jelks was ordained in the Chicago Presbytery and represented the PC (USA) at the sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches as a delegate and represented the denomination at the All Africa Council of Churches in Lome, Togo.

Jelks began his ministry serving a new Church start in the Lake Michigan Presbytery, Jubilee Presbyterian in Grand Rapids Michigan before embarking on his ministry as an academic historian and writer. In the summer time Jelks loves preaching in various pulpits around the United States.

Jelks has preached at The Riverside Church New York City and other esteemed pulpits in large cities. He is excited about preaching at Central because of his high regard for Shannon Kershner who served at 4th Presbyterian Church in Chicago before becoming the senior pastor at Central.

Lastly, he is excited to preach in Atlanta, a city where he has spent time writing books on two famous global Atlantans, Benjamin Elijah Mays, *Schoolmaster of the Movement: A Biography*. (2012) and *Letters to Martin: Meditations on Democracy in Black America*. (2022)



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