

WELCOME TO CENTRAL! During your visit we hope you feel the presence of the Spirit and the love of Christ as we worship God together. Please fill out the Friendship Pads in the pews, especially if you are a visitor or have prayer concerns or life updates.

THE NURSERY IS OPEN: Come Little Children! Central has resumed its nursery for children ages 3 months to four-years-old during our Sunday School and worship hours (9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m each Sunday). Children are always welcome in our sanctuary, but for those parents or caregivers who prefer their little ones to be in a bright, safe, playful environment, please join us in the nursery!

CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP.

Join us for lunch and fellowship in Tull Hall on Sunday, May 4th following worship. We will also be viewing and learning about the art of our talented member artist, Althea Brown. The menu for lunch will be: Bone in baked chicken; Mac-n-cheese; Collard greens; Black-eyed peas; Green Peas; Fresh Fruit Medley; Cookies, Tea, Lemonade. You can use the QR code to sign up or visit your Realm Connect app or the email you received.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. Please join us for the congregational meeting that will occur on Sunday, May 11 immediately following worship. This will be a short meeting to elect new Elders and Deacons.

CENTRAL MEN COOK! Central Men, headed up by Oscar McCloud are planning a fundraiser where they serve lunch after church on May 18th after worship. Save the date and look for more information coming soon.

JULIE MURPHY AND JONATHAN VAN NESS IN CELEBRATION OF LET THEM STARE. Charis Books and More + Charis Circle will welcome Julie Murphy and Jonathan Van Ness in celebration of *Let Them Stare*, a bighearted story about friendship, love—and discovering the secrets and beauty of your own hometown. This event will take place here at Central in our sanctuary. The doors will open at 6:00 pm and the event will take place from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. You can use the QR code to signup.



Special Participants in Today’s Worship

Lector: Harry Suazo
Tower Bell Ringer: Kristeen Sorrells
Deacon of the Day:
Dean Hammond, Volunteer
Technology Director

Hospitality Team
Beth Grashof
Ben Evans
Bettie Hardin
Kathy Harben
Rachel Hull
Mike Sizemore

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor
Susan Landrum, Director of Children & Youth
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
Naomi McQuiller, Children & Youth Intern
Thomas Chafin, Music Intern
Kelly Grba, Music Intern
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant
Sarah Anderson, Video Assistant
Hala Hess White, Communications Associate



2nd Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Road by the Sea, Frank McClure

Give

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



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude	<i>Andante Tranquillo</i> Mason Copeland, organ	Felix Mendelssohn
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Kate Culver
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
Easter is not an event that has occurred,
it's an adventure that has begun,
**not a place that we have visited,
but a path on which we stand**
Easter is the season of wild hope,
of potent promise
**not just for you and me,
but for all people, in all places.**
Risen Christ,
walk with us this day,
**be our companion and guide,
be our teacher and friend,
be our host and servant,
bringing your gifts of faith, peace and hope,
and deep joy as always.**
Let us worship God! Amen.

✠ Hymn 254 *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession
O God, your love is boundless and your grace exceeds our imaginations. You keep finding ways to be among us, even when the doors of our hearts are locked. Graciously, you seek us out. We cannot hide, but we can confess that sin has us in its grip. It has led us from your ways and corrupted our best intentions, tempting us to believe that you don’t notice, that you aren’t even present. Correct our vision. Cleanse our hearts. Create in us a place where we can welcome you and receive the fullness of what you have given us in Jesus Christ... (Silent Confession) Amen.

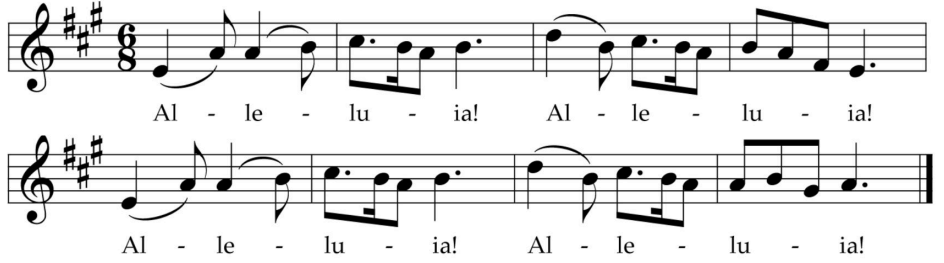
✠ Assurance of Pardon
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

✠ Passing of the Peace

✠ Hymn 587

Alleluia
(since twice)

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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 and Naomi McQuiller	
Prayer for Illumination	Harry Suazo	
First Lesson	Exodus 16:1-18	
Second Lesson	Luke 24:13-35	Rev. Kate Culver
Sermon	Following Jesus through the Gospel of Luke	

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 817 *We Walk By Faith* DUNLAP'S CREEK

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP
This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* arr. Mark Hayes
Thom Dixon, soloist; Mason Copeland, piano

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

✠ 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
**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 231	<i>Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers</i>	SUO GAN
✠ Charge and Benediction		Rev. Kate Culver
Postlude	<i>Procesion Alegre</i> Mason Copeland, organ	Gary Cornell

This Week at Central
April 27 - May 4, 2025

Sunday, April 27 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary	Saturday, May 3 Church Office Closed
Monday, April 28 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)	Sunday, May 4 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:15 a.m. Doughnuts in the Youth Suite 9:30 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes
Tuesday, April 29 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)	Issues in Theology: Shakespeare and Theology (Greene Room) Lamenting Racism (Brotherhood Room) The Gospel of John (The Parlor)
Wednesday, April 30 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 3:30 p.m. Endowment Meeting (Zoom) 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 12:00 p.m. Congregational Lunch (Tull Hall) 2:30 p.m. Kristeen Sorrell's Student Recital (Rand Chapel)
Thursday, May 1 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)	4:30 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Suite)
Friday, May 2 12:00 p.m. Church Office closes	

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