This Week at Central August 3 - August 10, 2025

Sunday, August 3

Breakfast Ministry 8:45 a.m. 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens

Summer Series, Criminal Justice 9:45 a.m. & God's Justice (OAC Atrium)

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, August 4

Church of the Common 9:00 a.m. Ground (Courtyard)

Tuesday, August 5

Moments of Movement (Zoom) Endowment Meeting (Zoom) 5:00 p.m. Mission Committee (Zoom

Stewardship Committee (Zoom) 7:00 p.m. Ice Cream Meet-Up (Decatur) Butter & Cream

Wednesday, August 6

Ground (Courtyard)

Meeting (Zoom)

Thursday, August 7

10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)

Friday, August 8

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

Saturday, August 9 Church Office Closed

Sunday, August 10

Breakfast Ministry 8:45 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:00 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Summer Series, Criminal Justice & God's Justice (OAC Atrium)

Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 a.m. Back-to-School Party at the 4:00 p.m. home of Sara Toering &

Dane Jefferson

Church of the Common 9:00 a.m.

7:00 p.m. Children & Youth Volunteers

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!

SUMMER SERIES: CRIMINAL JUSTICE & GOD'S JUSTICE.

This series takes a dynamic look at criminal justice in Georgia and how we are called to respond with God's justice. All sessions are from 9:45 am to 10:45 am in the atrium of the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center. Next Sunday, **August 10th** will be Biblical & Theological Foundations presented by Rev. Ryan Bonfiglio. Questions: Contact Susan Landrum.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS. Please bring your backpack to worship on **Sunday**, **August 10th**. During our time with children, Susan, Shannon and Kate will lead a liturgy to bless each student's backpack as they embark on a new school year! We will also pass out our new backpack tag, a symbol to the world that each student is loved by God and their Central family. This is open to students of all ages!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARTY. On Sunday afternoon, August 10th, come over to the home of Sara Toering, Dane Jefferson, Leland and Quin for a back-to-school party! We'll enjoy fellowship and catching up with one another. We'd love for Central's children, youth, their families and anyone signed up or interested in signing up to support programming this year to join in on the fun! Register in Realm for all details. Event is from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

CALLING ALL SINGERS! Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or just choir-curious, now is the perfect time to jump in! The Central Presbyterian Chancel Choir begins a new program year with a fun, music-filled Choir Camp, a two-day retreat focused on community, connection, and the joy of singing together. **Friday, August 15** at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Central Presbyterian and **Saturday, August 16** at 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Harrington Center Chapel, Columbia Theological Seminary. This is a fantastic chance to explore your voice, meet new friends, and experience the magic of choral singing—no pressure, just joy! Questions? Email Thom at tdixon@cpcatlanta.org Ready to sing? Sign up on Realm today!

REGISTER NOW FOR THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT. Join us for a weekend of fellowship, community-building, and fun in beautiful Montreat! Central Presbyterian Church will host our annual All-Church Retreat at the Montreat Conference Center in beautiful western North Carolina August 30 - September 1. This year's theme for the retreat is "Stories That Shape Us," and together we will share, reflect, and co-create stories guided by our faith and commitment to radical inclusion. And there will also be plenty of time for unstructured fun and relaxation! Dr. Hannah Murphy-Buc and Dr. Yvette Convers will co-facilitate Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning programming. You can find their bios in Realm. Please go to our website or Realm to register.

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Vanessa Hunter Tower Bell Ringer: Kristeen Sorrells Deacon of the Day: Anne Watkins

Hospitality Team Beth Grashof Ben Evans Kathy Harben Rachel Hull Iackie Randolph 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 Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator John White, Facilities Manager Abraha Diedre, Custodian Karen Brown, Pianist, Bethlehem & Jerusalem Choir Kelly Grba, Music Intern Josh Śmith, Audio Engineer Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant Sarah Anderson, Video Production Manager Toby Abrelate, Video Assistant Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director

Give

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







Eighth Sunday after Pentecost August 3, 2025 Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Farm Workers' Altar, Emanuel Martinez

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude Adoro te devote Mason Copeland, organ Gerald Near

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Ringing of the Bell

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

Call to Worship

Rev. Kate Culver

Come, all you who live in a world of striving—

you who measure success by more, who carry the burden of comparison.

We come seeking what truly matters—

not more, but enough; not wealth, but wisdom.

God is speaking—not in riddles or riches,

but with a voice that calls us back to what lasts.

Our lives are not found in possessions but in the love that shaped us and will not let us go.

So let us set down the heavy things we carry—

our fear, our pride, our restless need for control—

and turn our hearts again to God,

our refuge and our joy, our teacher and our treasure.

Come, beloved of God—let us worship. Let us worship the One who gives us life.

\Phi Hymn 612

We Praise You, O God

KREMSER

† Call to Confession

• Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we confess that we have measured our worth by things that fade. We cling to wealth and status, we chase security and recognition, and we forget that life itself is a gift not something we earn, but something entrusted to us.

We confess the smallness of our vision, how we hoard what could be

shared, how we build fences instead of communities, how we seek comfort more than your kingdom.

Forgive us, O God. Reorient our hearts.

Teach us again what it means to be rich toward you and to live with generosity, gratitude, and grace... (Silent Confession)

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

† Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† Passing of the Peace

† Hymn 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

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 Susan Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Vanessa Hunter

Psalm 49:1-12 First Lesson

Luke 12:13-21 Second Lesson Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon

Responding to the Word

† Hymn 509 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly **HOLY MANNA**

Affirmation of Faith Susan Landrum Apostles' Creed, Traditional

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.

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory

Angels of Heaven Central Summer Pick-Up Choir arr. Kevin Siegfried

The angels of heaven are marching around the border of Zion's holy ground. Their music harmonious how it doth ring, and this is the heavenly song they sing:

Holy, holy, holiness unto the Lord, Love ye, love ye, love ye one another.

† At the Presentation

† Prayer of Dedication

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving The Lord be with you

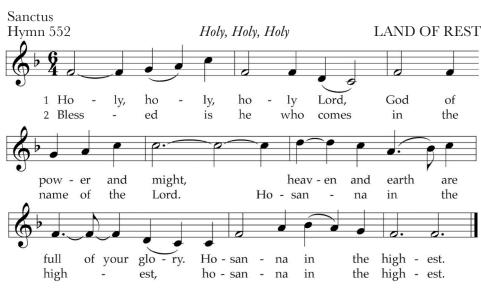
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

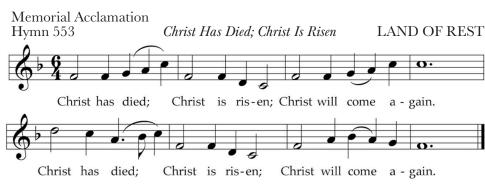
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise. ...who forever sing to the glory of your name.



... Great is the mystery of faith!



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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

We will partake communion via intinction. You may proceed to the station closest to you, pick a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, partake of the elements, and return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, we will serve you while you remain seated.

Prayer After Communion

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

† Hymn 264 At the Name of Jesus KING'S WESTON Charge and Benediction Rev. Shannon J. Kershner **P** Postlude Trumpet Tune in D David Johnson

Mason Copeland, organ