

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!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PARTY. This 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!

WEAVING OUR CULTURE TOGETHER is a vibrant Memorial Drive Ministries fundraiser that celebrates diversity and unity, likened to a colorful quilt where each piece represents a unique culture, story, or tradition. The event aims to bring people together from different backgrounds to strengthen the community. Key goals include: Sharing stories to foster empathy and understanding; Celebrating diversity through food, music, dance, and fashion; Building bridges among partner churches, and the Shalom community; and Supporting the future by raising funds to empower the Shalom community and its mission in Clarkston. The fundraiser will be held on **August 24, 2025** at 5:00 p.m. To RSVP for this fundraiser, scan the QR code.



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 Conyers 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: Mary Sidney Kelly
Tower Bell Ringer: Althea Brown
Deacon of the Day: Nancy Wilkes

Hospitality Team
Beth Grashof
Martha Haythorn
Kathy Kohn
Norm Kohn
Kathy McCloud
Isabelle Werber

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 Smith, Audio Engineer
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant
Sarah Anderson, Video Production Manager
Toby Abrelate, Video Assistant
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 10, 2025
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Shepherdess with Her Flock, Eugène-Joseph Verboeckhoven

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>Prelude in Classic Style</i> Mason Copeland, organ	Gordon Young
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Kate Culver
Ringling of the Bell		
	<i>As the tower bell rings, may it call out to the city and the world that Central Presbyterian Church is worshipping God.</i>	
✠ Call to Worship		Susan Landrum
	Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; In God our hearts are glad! Let us go forth, as God approaches, with alleluias clear. In God our hearts are glad! The feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand, With hearts and hands uplifted, Let us worship our Creator, In God our hearts are glad!	
✠ Hymn 402	<i>How Lovely, Lord</i>	MERLE'S TUNE
✠ Call to Confession		
✠ Prayer of Confession		
	FROM CALL TO WORSHIP God of the ages, God of the old, old story, we hear of our ancestors and are astounded by their faith. They trusted you, but we waver. They believed your promise, but we cling to our own ideas. Forgive us and free us from our fear, that we may follow with joy wherever you may lead; through Jesus Christ our Lord.... <i>(Silent Confession)</i> Amen.	
✠ Assurance of Pardon		
	Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!	
✠ Passing of the Peace		
✠ Hymn 582	<i>Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me</i>	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
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS		
Prayer for Illumination		Mary Sidney Kelly
First Lesson	Isaiah 1:1, 10–20	
Second Lesson	Luke 12:32–40	Rev. Kate Culver
Sermon		

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 684	<i>Faith Begins By Letting Go</i>	LUX PRIMA
✠ Affirmation of Faith		Susan Landrum
	ADAPTED FROM THE CONFESSION OF 1967, 9.32–33 The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to all people commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.	
Offertory Sentence		
Music at the Offertory	<i>My Lord, What A Morning</i> Spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh Chip Blankinship, soloist, Mason Copeland, piano	
	My Lord, what a morning, My Lord, what a morning, Oh my Lord, what a morning, When the stars begin to fall, When the stars begin to fall.	
	Done quit all my worldly ways, Joined that heavenly band. Done quit all my worldly ways, Joined that heavenly band.	

	Oh! My Lord, what a morning, My Lord, what a morning, Oh my Lord, what a morning, When the stars begin to fall.	
✠ At the Presentation	<i>Doxology</i>	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.	
✠ Hymn 13	<i>The Mighty God, With Power Speaks</i>	KINGSFOLD
✠ Charge and Benediction		Rev. Kate Culver
Postlude	<i>Improvisation</i> Mason Copeland, organ	

This Week at Central August 10 - 17, 2025

Sunday, August 10 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:45 a.m. Summer Series, Criminal Justice & God's Justice (OAC Atrium) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 4:00 p.m. Back to School Party at Sara Toering & Dane Jefferson's home 6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee	Thursday, August 14 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom) 6:00 p.m. WMA Potluck 7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee (Zoom) 7:00 p.m. Administration Committee (Zoom)
Monday, August 11 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 5:00 p.m. Central in the City Meeting (Zoom) 6:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting (Zoom)	Friday, August 15 12:00 p.m. Church Office closes 7:00 p.m. Choir Camp @ Central
Tuesday, August 12 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom) 5:00 p.m. Children & Youth Committee (Zoom)	Saturday, August 16 Church Office Closed 9:30 a.m. Choir Camp @ Columbia Theological Seminary
Wednesday, August 13 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sunday, August 17 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:30 a.m. Doughnuts in the Youth Suite 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children & Youth 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 1:00 p.m. Pool Party @ the Lums 5:00 p.m. New Member Dinner