

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 its nursery open for children ages 3 months to four-years-old during our Sunday School and worship hours (9 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!

ATTENTION ALL BOOKWORMS! Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, Bookworms will not meet in November. Our next meeting will be December 2 at 7:30. We will gather at the home of Rod and Ann Hunter, where they will lead our conversation about *James* by Percival Everett, a response to Huckleberry Finn told from the perspective of Twain's enslaved character Jim. Questions? Contact Linda McCord. If you can help provide refreshments, please contact Ann Hunter.

ADVENT MARKETPLACE & CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH
Join us for our Annual Advent Market and Congregational Lunch! Come enjoy a festive afternoon of good food, fellowship, and holiday spirit. Lunch will be provided by Bantam & Biddy, featuring delicious gluten-free chicken fingers, fresh salads, and tasty sides. Please register for the lunch in Realm or scan the QR code. The Advent Market is free—so be sure to stop by, browse, and shop with our wonderful mission partners!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS
Each week during the seasons of Advent and Christmas, Central enjoys beautiful flower arrangements in the sanctuary as a visual reminder of the beauty and spirit of the seasons. If you would like to honor or remember a loved one, a gift to the Flower Fund is a great way to do it. A portion of your gift will also be used throughout the coming year continuing to bring joy and beauty to our worship services. You may choose to make your gift in honor or in memory of someone, and your name will be listed in the December 21 bulletin.

ADVENT IS HERE!
Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, and we’re excited to begin this season together. Below is a quick look at the upcoming Advent events at Central. For full details, please visit the CPC website calendar or check Realm. We hope you’ll join us for these meaningful moments of worship, fellowship, and celebration!

Sunday, November 30		Advent Devotional Emails Start
Saturday, December 6	6:00 p.m.	Children & Youth Potluck
Sunday, December 7	12:00 p.m.	Advent Marketplace & Lunch
	6:00 p.m.	Session Christmas Party
Monday, December 8	11:00 a.m.	Rebekah Circle Christmas Gathering
Friday, December 12	6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Garden Lights & Dinner
Saturday, December 13	2:00 p.m.	Deacon's Christmas Tea
	5:30 p.m.	Choir Christmas Party
Sunday, December 14	12:00 p.m.	AMIS Christmas Lunch
	12:30 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group Christmas Party
Thursday, December 18	7:30 p.m.	Glenn Rainey & Paul Tate Present a Christmas Concert and Fundraiser for the OAC
Sunday, December 21	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Pageant
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Lunch
Wednesday, December 24	4:00 p.m.	Coffee & Connection
	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Worship
Thursday, December 25		Christmas Day

Special Participants in Today’s Worship

Lector: David York
Tower Bell Ringer: Bobbie Paul
Deacon of the Day: Larken McCord

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 Christian Formation & Congregational Life
Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist
Kristie Johns, Director of Financial Operations
Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator
John White, Facilities Manager
Abraha Diedre, Custodian
Karen Brown, Pianist, Nazareth & Jerusalem Choirs
Kelly Grba, Music Intern
Aaron Cummings, 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



1st Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Hope, Gabby Szymanski (Central Youth & Confirmand, 7th grade)

Give

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



Prelude	<i>Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme</i>	J.S. Bach
	Don Papenbrock, organ	
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Kate Culver
Ring 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>	

Live in the hope of the Lord.
God's house will be most holy.
People of God,

Live in the hope of the Lord.
All nations will come to God's holy place.
People of God,

Live in the hope of the Lord.
People in God's holy place will not fight; they will grow and love.
People of God,

Live in the hope of the Lord.
We give thanks that this place is part of God's holy place, where we grow and love.
People of God,

Live in the hope of the Lord.
We light the first candle, praying for God's hope, God's coming kingdom.
People of God,

Live in the hope of the Lord.

✠ Call to Confession Susan Landrum

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

Hymn 137 *He Came Down* HE CAME DOWN

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

A Time with Children		Susan Landrum
Prayer for Illumination		David York
First Lesson	Isaiah 2:1-5	
Second Lesson	Luke 1:5-20	Rev. Kate Culver
Sermon	Bit Parts in the Biggest Story	

Affirmation of Faith
ADAPTED FROM THE CONFESSION OF 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as man 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 the sufferings of humankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of all people in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on humankind's inhumanity to one another and the awful consequences of our 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 our mutual 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. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
Jesus, Redeemer, save us all,
and hear your servants when they call.

At whose great name, majestic now,
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
all things celestial you shall own,
all things terrestrial, Lord, alone.

To God, Creator, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, might, and glory be
from age to age, eternally.

All praise, eternal Christ, to thee,
whose advent sets thy people free;
once more upon thy people shine,
and fill the world with love divine.
Amen.

Postlude	<i>Proclamation on 'Wachet auf'</i> Don Papenbrock, organ	A.D. Miller
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Sunday, November 30		Friday, December 5	
8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Ministry	12:00 p.m.	Church Office closes
9:00 a.m.	Nursery Opens	Saturday, December 6	
9:15 a.m.	Doughnuts in the Family Lounge	Church Office Closed	
9:30 a.m.	Children's Choir (Nazareth Choir)	6:00 p.m.	Children & Youth Potluck
10:00 a.m.	Pageant Rehearsal (Rand Chapel)	Sunday, December 7	
11:00 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary	8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Ministry
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir (Jerusalem Choir)	9:00 a.m.	Nursery Opens
5:30 p.m.	Youth Group (Youth Suite)	9:15 a.m.	Doughnuts in the Family Lounge
Monday, December 1		9:30 a.m.	Children's Choir (Nazareth Choir)
9:00 a.m.	Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)	9:45 a.m.	Issues in Theology Class (Greene Room)
Tuesday, December 2			Bible Study (Brotherhood Room)
7:00 p.m.	Bookworm Gathering	10:00 a.m.	Pageant Rehearsal (Rand Chapel)
Wednesday, December 3		11:00 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)	12:00 p.m.	Advent Marketplace & Lunch (Tull Hall)
7:00 p.m.	Evangelism Committee (Zoom)	6:00 p.m.	Session Christmas Party
5:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal		
7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal		
Thursday, December 4			
5:30 p.m.	Stewardship Committee (Zoom)		

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