



**CENTRAL**  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CHURCH**

**RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**  
**EASTER DAY**

April 5, 2026

Worship begins at 11 a.m.



*Lily, Laura C. Martin*

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Victory!* Jeffrey Honoré  
Geneva Handbell Choir

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 worshipping God.*

Choral Introit *Litany for Easter* Gordon Young  
Chancel Choir

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Alleluia!  
Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!

† Call to Worship Rev. Kate Culver

For all of us with questions, resurrection is not an argument;

**not an idea to which you agree or not and move on unchanged.**

Resurrection is a weed. Her roots crack into concrete—

**finding a way where there is no way.**

Resurrection is not an argument. It is the dogged stubbornness that says: “if it is a bad ending, it is not the ending.”

**It is a song sung in another tongue that somehow still brings tears to flow.**

Resurrection is life and stepping into life when all you know for sure is the shadow of death. Resurrection reveals death for what it really is:

**the possibility for love to rise again. And love will rise**

**and He is Risen!**

**He is Risen Indeed!**

Alleluia!

Amen!

† Processional Hymn 232 *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

God of resurrection and new life, we confess that we have lived as though death still has the final word. We cling to fear, return to what is familiar, and resist the new life you offer. We look for you among the dead instead of trusting the hope of your resurrection. Forgive us. Roll away the stones we cannot move, and call us into your light and life....  
*(Silent Confession)* In the name of the Risen Christ, 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* CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Alleluia'. The first staff is in treble clef, G major (one sharp), and 6/8 time. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second staff is identical to the first. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the first staff, and 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the second staff.

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

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

*Victory!*  
Geneva Handbell Choir

Jeffrey Honoré

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

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.*

Choral Introit

*Litany for Easter*  
Chancel Choir

Gordon Young

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Alleluia!  
Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!



Call to Worship

Rev. Kate Culver

For all of us with questions, resurrection is not an argument;

**not an idea to which you agree or not and move on unchanged.**

Resurrection is a weed. Her roots crack into concrete—  
finding a way where there is no way.

Resurrection is not an argument. It is the dogged stubbornness that says: “if it is a  
bad ending, it is not the ending.”

It is a song sung in another tongue that somehow still brings tears to flow.

Resurrection is life and stepping into life when all you know for sure is the shadow of  
death. Resurrection reveals death for what it really is:

**the possibility for love to rise again. And love will rise**

**and He is Risen!**

**He is Risen Indeed!**

Alleluia!

Amen!



Processional Hymn 232

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN



Call to Confession



Prayer of Confession

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though death still has the final word. We cling to fear, return to what  
is familiar, and resist the new life you offer. We look for you among the  
dead instead of trusting the hope of your resurrection. Forgive us. Roll  
away the stones we cannot move, and call us into your light and life....  
*(Silent Confession)* In the name of the Risen Christ, 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*

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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

# Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children

Rev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for Illumination

Charlie Richards

First Lesson

Psalm 118:21-29

Second Lesson

John 20:1-18

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon

**Jesus' Journey through John**  
*Hearing Her Name*

## Responding to the Word

✦ Hymn 240

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

✦ Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Susan B. Landrum

FROM A SANCTIFIED ART

In the dark before dawn,  
we believe that God is alive.

In the midst of our grief,  
we believe the Spirit is at work.

In the chaos of our broken world,  
we believe that love is on the loose.

For no stone could keep God at bay,  
and no violence could keep God's love from us.

So today we sing,  
Alleluia!

For somewhere in between our belief and doubt,  
hope lives.

Christ has died,  
and Christ has also risen. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory

*Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!*

Michael Burkhardt

Chancel Choir, Don Papenbrock, organ  
Averil Taylor and Matthew Lindsay, trumpets  
Emanuel Johnson and Jordan Johnson, trombones

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

Trumpets resounding in glorious light,

Splendor, the Lamb, Heaven forever!

Oh, what a miracle God has in sight,

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Walking the way, Christ in the center

Telling the story to open our eyes;

Breaking our bread, giving us glory:

Jesus, our blessing, our constant surprise,

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Weeping, be gone; Sorrow be silent;

Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.

Cherubim sing: "O grave, be open!"

Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light,

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia!

City of God, Easter forever,

Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,

River of life, Saints and archangels,

Sing with creation to God the I AM!

Jesus is risen and we shall arise:

Give God the glory! Alleluia! Amen!

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

## 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.

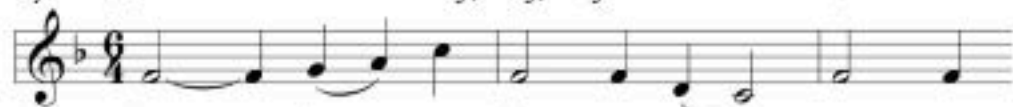
...who forever sing to the glory of your name.

## Sanctus

Hymn 552

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

LAND OF REST



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the  
 2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the



pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

... Great is the mystery of faith!

## Memorial Acclamation

Hymn 553

*Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen*

LAND OF REST



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

## 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.**

# This Week at Central

## April 5 - 12, 2026

### Easter Sunday, April 5

- 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens
- 9:45 a.m. Biscuits and Coffee (Tull Hall)
- 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

### Monday, April 6

Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, April 7

- 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
- 5:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting (Zoom)

### Wednesday, April 8

- 8:00 a.m. Leadership Group (Tull Hall)
- 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)

### Thursday, April 9

- 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
- 7:00 p.m. WMA Committee Meeting (Zoom)
- 7:30 p.m. Facilities Committee (Zoom)

### Friday, April 10

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

### Saturday, April 11

Church Office Closed

### Sunday, April 12

- 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens
- 9:15 a.m. Doughnuts in the Family Lounge
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Choir (Nazareth Choir)
- 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes
- 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Tom Leslie Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

## Central Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Susan B. Landrum, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Theodore J. Wardlaw, Pastor Emeritus

Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts

Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist

Kristic Johns, Director of Financial Operations

Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator

John White, Facilities Manager

Abraha Diedre, Custodian

Karen Brown, Pianist, Bethlehem & Jerusalem Choir

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

### Give

You may give via the envelope in the pew, online at [www.cpcatlanta.org](http://www.cpcatlanta.org) or using the QR code.



201 Washington St. Atlanta, Ga. 30303  
[www.cpcatlanta.org](http://www.cpcatlanta.org)



## SANCTUARY FLOWER FUND

During Lent, the pedestals in our sanctuary hold curly willow stems to remind us of the solemn and contemplative nature of the season. As we look toward Easter and the return of flowers to the sanctuary, we had the opportunity to contribute to the Sanctuary Flower Fund.

The following persons have donated money to the Flower Fund and their gifts will enable us to enhance the beauty of the sanctuary on Easter, as well on communion Sundays and other special occasions.

Kitsy Battle  
In Memory of Bob, Kate, Bob Jr. and Betsy

Tricia and Bob Berrett

The Catteral Family  
In memory of Robert Catterall

Vicki and Dan Collier

Ben Evans

Camille Gaffron

Susan Goger

Rick and Hilary Hargreaves

Marcia Hunter  
In gratitude for our gifted pastors

Ann and Rod Hunter

Hugh Landrum  
In memory of Shirley Landrum

Debbie and Jerry Miller

Julie Moore  
In honor of Bill and Lucy Moore

Karen and Danny Mosteller  
In memory of Howard Hunnicutt

Kimberly Parker and Ellen Dunn  
In memory of Jane Parker

Beth and Pete Paulsen  
In memory of Stephen M. Paulsen

Glenn Rainey

Charlie & Peg Richards

Frances St John

Ben, Sam and Finley Sutton  
In honor of Katie Sutton

Betsy Smalley, Steve Young & Family

*Dear God, we pray for the strength*

*to heed your charge to bring*

*justice to our hurting world.*

*Help us advocate for what is right,*

*that through our words and actions,*

*all people will know of your love.*

*Amen.*





**ONE GREAT  
HOUR OF SHARING**

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in responding to Christ's call to ministries of compassion for the most vulnerable around the world. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

**WAYS TO GIVE** — Through your congregation:

 dropping a check in the offering plate with a note for OGHS

 scan the QR code to give online

