

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!

IN THEIR SHOES. Join us in Tull Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, April 18 at 9:00 a.m.** for our annual fundraiser walk. Together we will walk two miles at a leisurely pace through the neighborhood while learning about several of the places where OAC guests go to seek additional services and support. This experience offers a meaningful glimpse into the daily journey many of our neighbors take. All are welcome to participate. **Go to Realm to sign up.**

CONCERTS IN AMERICA: YAMANDU COSTA. We will host Yamandu Costa at Central in the Sanctuary on **Friday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m.** This Grammy Award-winning artist is widely regarded as one of the world's greatest 7-string guitar virtuosos, known for his intense performances and flawless technique. **We are seeking six volunteer ushers.** Please contact Melissa Johnson to sign up—volunteers will receive two complimentary tickets.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS! CONGREGATIONAL ART SHOW! We invite submissions for our upcoming Congregational Art Show. All visual art forms are welcome, including painting, drawing, ceramics, fabric, mixed media, and photography. To participate, please complete the submission form (one per piece) by **Sunday, April 19.** Space is limited, so early sign-up is encouraged. **Go to Realm to sign up.**

NEW OFFICER TRAINING. We will be having our new officer trainings for our new Elders and Deacons on **Saturday, April 25** from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** and **Saturday, April 9** from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** in Tull Hall. Please mark your calendar.

INMAN PARK FESTIVAL. The festival will happen on **April 25 and 26th** and we want to have Centralites staff our booth (including youth and kids) to help spread the word about Central's mission and participate in our activities like face painting, arts and crafts, and/or games. **Please go to Realm to sign up.**

BOOKWORM GATHERING. Bookworks will meet on **April 28** at the home of Julie and Wade Boggs, 1507 Peachtree Battle Avenue, 30327, at 7:30 p.m., when we will discuss *Happy Land* by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. Inspired by the true story of a secret community of formerly enslaved people in the Appalachians, the novel tells two stories, one from the perspective of Happy Land's queen, Luella, in the late 19th century, and the other from the point of view of Nikki, Luella's great-great-great-great granddaughter, as she uncovers her family's ties to this remarkable community, blending fact and fiction in themes of family, memory, and resilience. Questions? Email Linda McCord.

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Kerri Shannon
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

Centralites Under Care of the Session As They Prepare for Ordained Ministry

Christian Antwi
Samuel Ayantor
Lucy Baum
Ximena Leroux

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
Kristie 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 or using the QR code.



Second Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Doubting Thomas, Mary Jane Miller

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Easter Carol on 'Vruechten'* Alan Bullard
Don Papenbrock, organ

✠ 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 Rev. Susan B. Landrum
We gather today as people who know what it is to hide behind closed doors.
Yet into our locked rooms, Christ comes.
We come with our questions, our doubts, our need to see and touch before we believe.
Yet Christ meets us where we are, and calls it faith.
We come bearing wounds of our own — wounds the world has given, wounds we have given each other.
Yet the risen Christ shows us his wounds, and makes them a sign of hope.
Come, let us worship the God who breathes peace into fearful places, who sends us out as we have been sent, who is alive and present even now.
Thanks be to God!

✠ Hymn 664 *Morning Has Broken* BUNESSAN

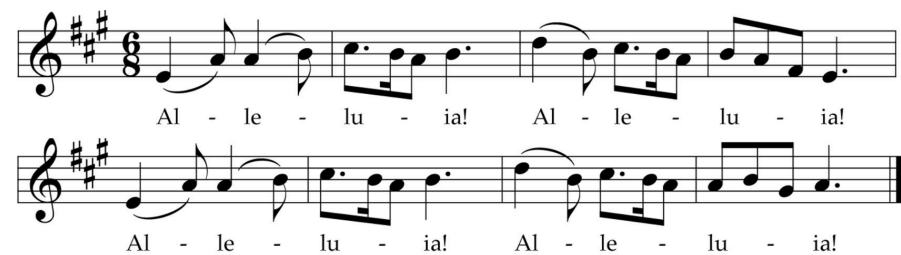
✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession
Gracious God, we come to you like the disciples behind locked doors – afraid, uncertain, and slow to believe. We confess that we have hidden away when the world needed us to go out in your name. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have failed to see your risen presence in one another and in the world you love. Breathe your Spirit into us again, that we might receive your peace, not as the world gives, but as only you can. We pray in the name of the one who meets us in our doubt and calls us beloved.... (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* 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 Rev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Kerri Shannon

First Lesson Genesis 2:4b–9

Second Lesson John 20:19-31 Rev. Kate Culver

Sermon **Jesus' Journey through John**

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 250 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* PROMISE

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Shannon J. Kershner
1 COR. 15:1–6; MARK 16:1–9; MATT. 16:16; REV. 22:13; JOHN 20:28
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 *"O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion" from MESSIAH* G. F. Handel
Kelly Grba, soloist, Don Papenbrock, organ

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion get Thee up into the high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem lift up thy voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God!
Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. (Isaiah 40:9, 40:1)

✠ 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 252 *Day of Arising* RAABE

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Kate Culver

Postlude *Postlude on 'Truro'* Michael Bedford
Don Papenbrock, organ

This Week at Central

April 12 - April 19, 2026

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)

Thursday, April 16

9:00 a.m. Prayer & Parenting Weekly Meet-Up (Zoom)
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)

Friday, April 17

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

Saturday, April 18

Church Office Closed
9:00 a.m. OAC In their Shoes (Tull Hall)

Sunday, April 19

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
9:45 a.m. Theology of the Honey Bee, Rev. Kate Culver (OAC)
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting (Tull Hall)

Monday, April 13

9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)
11:00 a.m. Rebekah Circle (Zoom)
5:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, April 14

10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee (Zoom)
5:00 p.m. Central Children & Youth Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

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