

**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!

**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) no later than today, **Sunday, April 19**. Space is limited, so early sign-up is encouraged. **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.

**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-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.

**A FOUR-SESSION ZOOM STUDY: GILEAD.** This spring, Susan Landrum invites you to read *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson—a beloved and theologically rich novel. **Session dates will be 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Over our four one-hour Zoom sessions, we'll explore its reflections on grace, faith, and forgiveness, alongside brief excerpts from Calvin. Participants will read about a quarter of the book each week. A study guide will be shared in advance via Realm and email. All are welcome—no theological background needed, just curiosity and conversation. **Go to Realm to Signup,** get the Zoom link and the study guide.

## Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Melanie Bliss  
Tower Bell Ringer: Bobbie Paul  
Deacon of the Day: Peg Richards

Hospitality Team:  
Beth Grashof  
Becky Battle  
Liz Burkhardt  
Philip Covin  
Sandy Hoke  
Linda Massengill  
Chris Sciarrone  
Ellen Thompson

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

Christian Antwi  
Samuel Ayantor  
Lucy Baum  
Ximena Leroux

## Central Presbyterian Church Staff

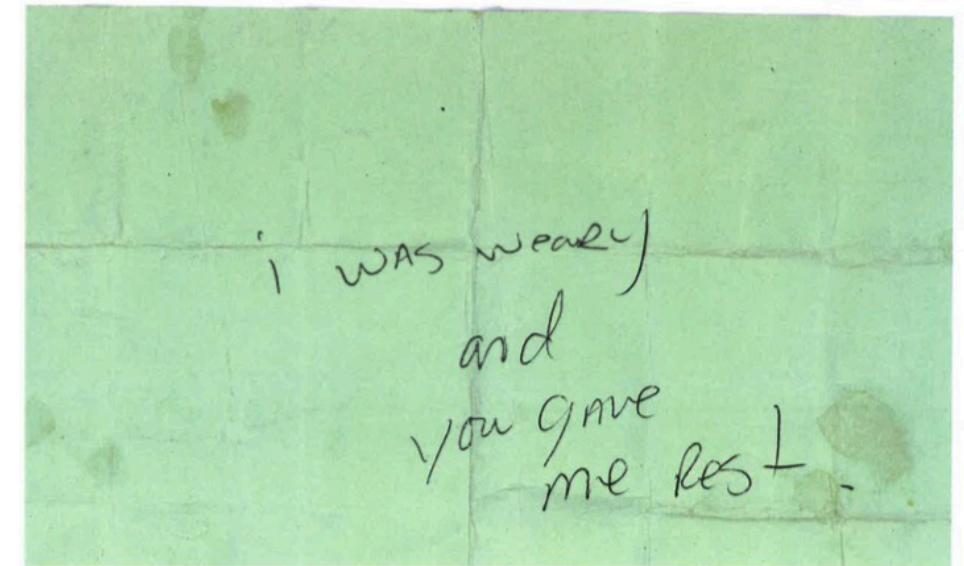
The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff  
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor  
The Rev. Susan B. Landrum, Associate Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Theodore J. Wardlaw, Pastor Emeritus  
Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts  
Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist  
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](http://www.cpcatlanta.org) or using the QR code.



Third Sunday of Easter  
April 19, 2026  
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Guest of Central OAC

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Partita on 'Alle Menschen müssen sterben'* Johann Pachelbel  
Don Papenbrock, organ

✠ Welcome and Announcements Rev. Kimberly J. Parker

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.*

✠ Call to Worship Rev. Susan B. Landrum

BASED ON PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength.

**God is a very present help in trouble.**

Though the earth should change, we will not fear.

**God's steadfast love lasts forever.**

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved.

**God will help us when each morning dawns.**

The Lord of hosts is with us.

**Let us worship the God of presence!**

✠ Hymn 275 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* EIN' FESTE BURG

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, your mercies are new every morning. Your love is steadfast, your compassion abundant. Yet, we forget the depths of your care and think we have to carry our burdens all on our own. We turn away from one another, ignoring the ways we are all connected. Help us to see the face of Jesus Christ in each person we meet. Help us to remember the One who calls each of us by name, the One who grants us rest, and the One who walks with us each step of the way....** *(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.*

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

**Please silence your cellphones.**

# Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children Rev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Melanie Bliss

First Lesson Psalm 46

Second Lesson Matthew 11:28-30 Rev. Kimberly J. Parker

Sermon *Rest for the Weary*

# Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 183 *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler* AUSTIN

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Kate Culver

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 *They'll Know We Are Christians* arr. Lloyd Larson  
Chancel Choir, Kelly Grba, conductor, Don Papenbrock, piano

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

✠ 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 299 *You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim* HANOVER

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Kimberly J. Parker

Postlude *Finale on 'Alle Menschen müssen sterben'* Johann Pachelbel  
Don Papenbrock, organ

## This Week at Central

### April 19 - 26, 2026

#### 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  
12:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting (Tull Hall)  
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir (Jerusalem Choir)  
5:30 p.m. Youth Group

#### Monday, April 20

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

#### Tuesday, April 21

10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee (Zoom)

#### Wednesday, April 22

8:00 a.m. SPLC Event (Youth Suite, Brotherhood Room and Taylor)  
9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)  
9:30 a.m. GA Water Coalition (Taylor)  
3:30 p.m. Endowment Committee (Zoom)  
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, April 23

8:00 a.m. SPLC Event (Youth Suite, Brotherhood Room and Taylor)  
9:00 a.m. Prayer & Parenting Weekly Meet-Up (Zoom)  
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)

#### Friday, April 24

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes  
7:30 p.m. Yamandu Costa Concert (Sanctuary)

#### Saturday, April 25

Church Office Closed  
9:30 a.m. Officer Training (Tull Hall)  
11:00 a.m. Inman Park Festival

#### Sunday, April 26

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. Confirmation Sunday in the Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. Inman Park Festival