

**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!

**A ZOOM STUDY: GILEAD.** This spring, Pastor Susan invites you to read *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson—a beloved and theologically rich novel. The remaining session dates will be **5/13, 5/20 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Over our 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.

**LUCY BAUM'S ORDINATION.** Please join us today at **2:00 p.m.** for the Service of Ordination of Lucy Baum. We invite the entire community to join in celebrating this special day.

**THE NEW SOUTH FESTIVAL SINGERS.** Join us for their annual Bon Voyage Concert before they depart to sing at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, a tradition they've held annually since 1989! Their program will feature favorites from throughout the choir's 2025-2026 season. **Sunday, May 17 at 2:30** in the Central Pres sanctuary. Tickets available at the door or at [www.festivalsingers.org](http://www.festivalsingers.org).

**LEGACY GIVING DINNER.** You're invited to an evening of fellowship, food, and inspiration at Tom and Marcia Holcomb's home on **June 2 at 6:30 p.m.** Enjoy a warm time together and a full buffet dinner, followed by an engaging presentation on legacy giving and how you can make a lasting impact on the future ministries and mission of Central Presbyterian Church. **RSVP by Tuesday, May 19** to Ann Hunter at [annhunter126@gmail.com](mailto:annhunter126@gmail.com)

**TOUR OF SOUTH DOWNTOWN** Join us after worship on **June 7th** as we head to South Downtown to explore the exciting and welcoming changes happening in our own neighborhood. We will walk or take the MARTA-A Line shuttle just a few blocks away. You will have your choice of dining options, including pizza, BBQ, Thai, and more. At 1:30 pm and 2:00 pm, we will have two opportunities for a Q&A and a deeper dive into all that is happening with Jon Birdsong, the CEO of SoDo Atlanta! He and his family will be joining us for worship as well! **Please go to Realm to RSVP.**

**MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE.** Join us for this year's Montreat Youth Conference, week one! **Sunday June 7 to Saturday June 13, 2026.** We'll travel together to Montreat, NC and stay in our own housing. We'll take in all that the conference has to offer, including worship, keynote, small groups, rec events, the variety show and more! This is open to all rising 9th graders through graduated seniors. It will be a blast! **Go to Realm to signup.**

**MAKING & MEANING: A THEOLOGY OF CREATIVITY CENTRAL SUMMER SERIES 2026. Starting June 7th** What does it mean that we are made in the image of a creating God? This summer, we'll explore the deep connections between faith and creativity – from the Holy Spirit's role in our creative lives, to the metaphors we use to speak about God, to the ways our bodies, voices, and built spaces become instruments of worship. Through conversations with theologians, artists, architects, and musicians – many in our very own Central family – we'll ask together: What does it mean to make something? And what does our making say about who we are and who God is? Join us for a summer of beauty, wonder, and deeper reflection on the creative life of faith.

## Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Tina Sizemore  
Tower Bell Ringer: Ed Galloway  
Deacon of the Day: Ed Galloway

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  
Dr. 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, Jerusalem Choir  
Rand Lines, Pianist, Nazareth 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

### Give

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



Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 10, 2026  
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Creation of Malwa, Carol Summers

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Morning Has Broken* Diane Bish  
Don Papenbrock, organ

✠ 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.*

✠ Call to Worship Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

ADAPTED FROM MINISTRY MATTERS

Come and hear, all you who worship God,  
and we will tell what God has done for us.

**God is the Sovereign of heaven and earth,  
maker of this world and all within it.**

God has given to us life and breath and every blessing.

**Bless our God, O peoples!**

Let the sound of God's praise be heard.

**Blessed be God!**

✠ Hymn 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

✠ Call to Confession Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

✠ Prayer of Confession  
**Maker and giver of all, forgive us when we are too preoccupied to notice your presence in our lives: when we walk through this world and fail to see the wonder of you upholding our lives and all creation; when we walk through holy moments and fail to savor your presence, instead feeling abandoned in the vast sweep of life as each day rushes at us with its demands. Open our eyes to your presence, God of love, that we may lean on you—for you uphold all of creation in tenderness and power....** *(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 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* 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.**

## Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children Rev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Tina Sizemore

First Lesson Psalm 66:8-20

Second Lesson Acts 17:22-31 Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon

## Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* TRENTHAM

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Susan B. Landrum

ADAPTED FROM THE THEOLOGICAL DECLARATION OF BARMEN, 1934

**Jesus Christ, as he is attested to us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God whom we have to hear, and whom we have to trust and obey in life and in death.**

**We reject the false doctrine that the Church could and should recognize as a source of its proclamation, beyond and besides this one Word of God, yet other events, powers, historic figures and truths as God's revelation.**

**As Jesus Christ is God's comforting pronouncement of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, with equal seriousness, he is also God's vigorous announcement of his claim upon our whole life. Through him there comes to us joyful liberation from the godless ties of this world for free, grateful service to God's creatures.**

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *If Ye Love Me* Philip Wilby  
Chancel Choir, Don Papenbrock, organ

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
And I will pray the Father,  
And he shall give you another comforter,  
That he may abide with you for ever:  
Even the spirit of truth.  
And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you,  
And shall be in you.  
I will not leave you comfortless.  
I will come to you.  
- John 14 vv.15-18

✠ 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 265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Postlude *Prelude in a Classic Style* Gordon Young  
Don Papenbrock, organ

## This Week at Central

### May 10 - 17, 2026

#### Sunday, May 10

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. Who Has Time for Joy? Rev. Shannon J. Kershner (OAC Atrium)  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
2:00 p.m. Lucy Baum Ordination in the Sanctuary

#### Monday, May 11

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, May 12

10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)  
5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee (Zoom)  
7:30 p.m. Facilities Committee (Zoom)

#### Wednesday, May 13

9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)  
12:00 p.m. *Gilead* Study (Zoom)  
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal  
6:30 p.m. Evangelism Committee (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, May 14

9:00 a.m. Prayer & Parenting Weekly Meet-Up (Zoom)  
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. WMA Committee (Zoom)  
8:00 p.m. Prayer & Parenting Monthly Meet-Up (Zoom)

#### Friday, May 15

12:00 p.m. Church Office closes

#### Saturday, May 16

Church Office Closed  
9:00 a.m. New South Festival Singers Concert Rehearsal

#### Sunday, May 17

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. Who Has Time for Joy? Rev. Shannon J. Kershner (OAC Atrium)  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
12:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting (Tull Hall)  
2:30 p.m. New South Festival Singers Concert in the Sanctuary  
5:30 Youth Group

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

**Please silence your cellphones.**