

WELCOME TO CENTRAL! During your online visit today, we hope you feel the presence of the Spirit and the love of Christ as we worship God together. Please fill out the online Friendship Pads, 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 (9:30 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!

SUMMER SERIES: MAKING AND MEANING. All Church Sunday School meets Sundays, **9:45 am to 10:45 am** in the OAC Atrium through **August 2**. Together we'll explore the connections between faith and creativity through conversations with theologians, artists, architects, and musicians from our Central family. Join us for a summer of beauty, wonder, and reflection on the creative life of faith.

CENTRAL CLEAN-UP DAY. Join the Facilities Committee on **Saturday, June 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** for a fun morning of sprucing up our church home. Whether you can stay for an hour or the entire morning, your help is welcome as we work together to keep Central organized, welcoming, and beautiful. Come lend a hand, enjoy fellowship, and help care for the place we share!

WORSHIP & MUSIC CONFERENCE - JUNE 21 - 26. We're excited to take a group of Centralites to the Worship & Music Conference at Montreat Conference Center this summer! Please go to Realm to register and pay for yourself, your family or your youth to attend! The registration cost covers your registration fee, housing and food. If you have questions or need help, please contact Rev. Susan Landrum or Thom Dixon.

ONLINE-ONLY WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL – JUNE 21

Due to the FIFA match on June 21, all worship and Sunday School activities will be held online only. There will be no in-person gatherings that day. Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. via YouTube, our website, or Facebook Live. Those who prefer to listen by phone may call 678-719-7050. If you need assistance accessing the service, please email dhammond@cpcatlanta.org.

Our Summer Series will also meet **online via Zoom on June 21**. The discussion will be moderated by Rev. Susan B. Landrum. Please visit Realm for the Zoom link and meeting details.

SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR. All are invited to join our final Summer Pick-Up Choir on **Sunday, June 28!** We'll meet in the sanctuary at **10:20 AM** to briefly rehearse *Offertory* by John Ness Beck, before helping to lead worship at 11:00 AM. No robes—just come as you are! We'll follow our usual loft routine and help lead congregational hymns. This is a great opportunity to sing without a commitment. If you've been singing along in the pews this year, it's time to join us! Choir members, feel free to bring a friend (or two!) who might be interested in joining us. Email Thom at tdixon@cpcatlanta.org if you'd like a copy of the music beforehand.

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: David York
Tower Bell Ringer: Tricia Berrett
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
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
Kristie Johns, Director of Financial Operations
Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator
John White, Facilities Manager
Abraha Diedre, Custodian
Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist
Karen Brown, Pianist, Jerusalem Choir
Rand Lines, Pianist, Nazareth Choir
Aaron Cummings, Music Intern
Kelly Grba, Music Intern
Kirk Louis, Sunday Operations Coordinator
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.



Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 14, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Tree of Hope, Julie Leuthold

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Festival Voluntary* Flor Peeters
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. Kate Culver
In the heat of the day, beneath the oaks, God came near.
In the stranger, in the meal, in the promise, God came near.
The Holy One still meets us in unexpected places,
at the threshold, at the table, in the question we are afraid to ask.
Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?
God has heard our voices. God has inclined an ear to us.
What shall we return to the Lord for all the goodness we have received?
Let us offer our thanks in the presence of God's people.
Let us worship the God of mercy, promise, and surprising joy. Praise the Lord!

✠ Hymn 643 *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession
Holy and merciful God, you come to us in the stranger, in the unexpected interruption, in promises too large for us to believe. But we confess that we often miss you. We are slow to offer hospitality. We guard our tables, our time, our comfort, and our hearts. We laugh at the possibility of change, not with joy, but with disbelief. We assume that what has been will always be, and we forget that nothing is too wonderful for you. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes to your presence. Open our hands in welcome. Open our hearts to hope. Teach us to receive your grace, and to respond with lives of gratitude, courage, and love.... *(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.

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. Kate Culver

Prayer for Illumination David York

First Lesson Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19

Second Lesson Genesis 18:1–15 Rev. Kimberly J. Parker

Sermon **In the Beginning- Sermons on Genesis**
Laughter

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 815 *Give to the Winds Thy Fears* FESTAL SONG

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Kate Culver
THE 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.

Liturgy of Ordination and Installation Rev. Kimberly J. Parker
Rev. Kate Culver
Clerk of Session, Janet Abercrombie

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *Still, Still With Thee* John Ness Beck
Aaron Cummings, soloist
Don Papenbrock, piano

Still, still with Thee, when purple morning breaketh,
When the bird wakens, and the shadows flee;
Fairer than morning, lovelier than daylight,
Dawns the sweet consciousness, "I am with Thee."

When sinks the soul, subdued by toil to slumber,
Its closing eyes look up to Thee in prayer;
Sweet the repose beneath Thy wings o'ershading,
But sweeter still to wake and find Thee there.

So shall it be at last in that bright morning,
When the soul wakens, and life's shadows flee;
O in that moment, fairer than daylight dawning,
Shall rise the glorious thought, "I am with Thee."

✠ 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 754 *Help Us Accept Each Other* BARONITA

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Kimberly J. Parker

Postlude *Trumpet Tune in D* Flor Peeters
Don Papenbrock, organ

This Week at Central

June 14 - 21, 2025

Sunday, June 14
8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
9:30 a.m. Nursery Opens
9:45 a.m. Summer Series (OAC)
10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand Chapel)
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Oscar McCloud's Lunch and Book Talk

Monday, June 15
9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)

Tuesday, June 16
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)

Wednesday, June 17
9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)

Thursday, June 18
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
3:00 p.m. Endowment Committee (Zoom)

Friday, June 19
12:00 p.m. Church Office closed for Juneteenth Holiday

Saturday, June 20
Church Office Closed
9:00 a.m. Central Clean-Up Day

Sunday, June 21
8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand Chapel)
9:45 a.m. Summer Series (Zoom)
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary (Livestream only)