

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 every Sunday 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.

SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR - JUNE 28 AND JULY 26. All are invited to join our Summer Pick-Up Choir of the season! We'll meet in the sanctuary at 10:20 AM to briefly rehearse. No robes—just come as you are!

NOMINATE SOMEONE TO SERVE. It is time to begin considering congregational leadership for the next classes of new elders and deacons. The first step in that process is to elect a Nominating Committee. Read more about the process and share your nominations for the next All Church Nominating Committee by **July 31, 2026**. Scan the QR code to do your nominations or drop the cards in the Narthex in the offering plates.



SAVE THE DATE! Join us for a weekend of fellowship, community-building, and fun in beautiful Montreat! Central Presbyterian Church will host our annual All-Church Retreat at the Montreat Conference Center in beautiful western North Carolina on **September 5 through 7**. This is a time to refresh, rejuvenate, and commune with Central friends - new and old. This year's theme for the retreat is "Exploring Sabbath in a Chaotic World." There will also be plenty of time for unstructured fun and relaxation! Dr. Ryan Bonfiglio, Candler School of Theology, will be our featured speaker.

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Meg Watson
Tower Bell Ringer: Marci Bozeman
Deacon of the Day: Linda Massengill

Hospitality Team
Beth Grashof
Ben Evans
Kathy Harben
Rachel Hull
Jackie Randolph
Mike Sizemore



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
June 28, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.

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
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.



   
201 Washington St. Atlanta, Ga. 30303
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Sacrifice of Isaac, Jean Charlot

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude *Psalm Prelude: 40:1-3* Craig Phillips
Don Papenbrock, organ

I waited patiently for the LORD; He stooped to me and heard my cry...
He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see, and be in awe, and put their trust in the LORD

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.*

✠ Call to Worship Rev. Susan B. Landrum
ADAPTED FROM PSALM 13
**We come to you O Lord,
seeking answers to our questions.
We come to you O God,
because you are the Creator.**

I have trusted your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord,
because God has dealt bountifully with me.

**We come looking for a song to sing;
We wait for your voice
to call us from beyond our fear.
Let us worship our loving Creator!**

✠ Hymn 49 *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession
BASED ON GENESIS 22
**Loving and Sustaining God, You call us to follow you in all things;
to give up the things we cling to, and to give ourselves
wholeheartedly to your purposes. We confess that we don't
always find this easy to do. We confess that it is often very
difficult to let go of the things we love. But we also know that
you stand ready, at all times, to sustain us, and to accompany us
on the journey you call us into. Give us the courage to faithfully
follow your leading, even when we cannot see the outcome, even
when the path you call us to seems impossible to comprehend.
Help us to trust you in all things, to let go of everything that
would stand in the way of a whole-hearted life in you....
(Silent Confession) In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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.

Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children Rev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for Illumination Meg Watson

First Lesson Psalm 13

Second Lesson Genesis 22:1–14 Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon **In the Beginning- Sermons on Genesis**
A Terrible Text

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 776 *O God, Be Gracious* TALLIS' ORDINAL

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Kimberly J. Parker
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.**

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *Offertory* John Ness Beck
Summer Pick-Up Choir, Don Papenbrock, piano

With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before God with burnt offerings,
Shall I come before God with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give God my firstborn for my transgressions,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

God has shown you, has shown you;
God has shown you what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you
but to do justly and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly, walk humbly with your God?

✠ 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 700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

✠ Charge and Benediction Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Postlude *Paeon* Craig Phillips
Don Papenbrock, organ

This Week at Central

June 28 - July 5, 2026

Sunday, June 28

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
12:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting
(Tull Hall)
12:30 p.m. Deacons Luncheon
(Peg Richards' home)

Monday, June 29

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

Tuesday, June 30

10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)

Wednesday, July 1

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

Thursday, July 2

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

Friday, July 3

Central Closed for July 4th

Saturday, July 4

Central Closed for July 4th

Sunday, July 5

8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
9:30 a.m. Nursery Opens
10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand
Chapel)
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

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

Please silence your cellphones.

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