

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

Central has a 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! The nursery is located on the 2nd floor of the Oglesby building, behind the sanctuary.

Join The New South Festival Singers

Join The New South Festival Singers on **Sunday, October 25, at 2:30 p.m.** as they open their 42nd season with "All Creation Sings," a celebration of the beauty, wonder, and interconnectedness of the world around us. Through music spanning generations and traditions, the concert invites us to listen more deeply and celebrate the wonder of creation through song.

Calling all Bookworms

All Centralites are invited! Join Bookworms on **Tuesday, October 27, at 7:30 p.m.** for a fascinating conversation about I Dared to Hope, the memoir of Centralite Oscar McLeod. Oscar and co-author Martin will lead our discussion of Oscar's remarkable life and connections with nationally renowned political and faith leaders. We'll gather at Linda and Martin Lehfeldt's home, 2329 Venetian Dr. SW. **Please sign up on Realm to attend.** Questions? Contact Linda McCord.

Congregational BBQ Lunch

On **Sunday, November 1**, after worship, let's gather around the table for a delicious DAS BBQ meal and a joyful time of fellowship with our Central family. Come share a meal, connect with friends, and celebrate growing together in faith and community! **Please sign up on Realm.** We hope to see you there!

An All Saints' Worship Service

On **Sunday, November 1 at 2:30 p.m.** join us for a beautiful afternoon of music, remembrance, and hope as the combined choirs and clergy of Central, Covenant and Morningside Presbyterian Churches lead us in worship. The service will feature Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*. Come and be renewed through song and community on this sacred day of remembrance at **Morningside Presbyterian, 1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30306.**

Antoine Boyer and Yeore Kim Concert at Central

Join us for a musical evening with guitarist, Antoine Boyer, and harmonica player, Yeore Kim! Blending jazz, classical music, and improvisation, this dynamic duo brings together virtuosity, sensitivity, and a touch of Django Reinhardt and Toots Thielemans. Their intimate, lyrical sound invites listeners to experience music filled with elegance, emotion, and freedom. The concert will be on **Sunday, November 1 at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Volunteer Ushers Needed!** We need 5–6 ushers to help welcome guests. Ushers will enjoy the concert free of charge! To volunteer, contact Melissa Johnson at mjohnson@cpcatlanta.org. **Special Offer:** Members of our community receive 20% off tickets with code CONGREGATION. Scan the QR code for tickets.

Nominations Needed

It's time to nominate Deacons, Ruling Elders, and members of the Nominating Committee! Please pray about whom God may be calling to serve — including yourself. Submit nominations no later than **Thursday, November 5**, by scanning the QR code. The Class of 2030 officers and 2027 nomination committee members will be elected at the Annual Meeting in February.

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Marci Bozeman
Tower Bell Ringer: David Leonard
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
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 Derie, Custodian
Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist
Karen Brown, Pianist, Jerusalem Choir
Rand Lines, Pianist, Nazareth Choir
Aaron Cummings, Music Intern
Josh Smith, Lead Audio Technician
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Technician
Sarah Anderson, Video Production Manager
Toby Abrelat, Video Technician
Christian Davis, Production Technician
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director



Justice (study), William Zorach

Give

You may give via the envelope in the pew, at www.cpcatlanta.org or by using the QR code.

The logo for Central Presbyterian Church Atlanta, featuring a stylized purple flower icon with a yellow center, surrounded by the text "CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" and "ATLANTA, GA".

201 Washington Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
www.cpcatlanta.org

21st Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.

Gathering Around the Word			Proclaiming the Word			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.		
Prelude	<i>Boundless Hope</i> Geneva Handbell Choir	Matthew Compton	A Time with Children		Rev. Susan B. Landrum			
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Shannon J. Kershner	Prayer for Illumination		Marci Bozeman			
Ringling of the Bell			First Lesson	Psalm 99				
	<i>As the tower bell rings, may it call out to the city and the world that Central Presbyterian Church is worshipping God.</i>		Anthem	<i>Prayer</i> Geneva Handbell Choir	Arnold B. Sherman			
Centering Prayer Hymn 466	<i>Come and Fill Our Hearts</i> CONFITEMINI DOMINO (sing four times)		Second Lesson	Matthew 22:15-22	Rev. Shannon J. Kershner			
	Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!		Sermon					
			Responding to the Word			Bearing and Following the Word into the World		
❖ Call to Worship		Rev. Kate Culver	❖ Hymn 697	<i>Take My Life</i>	HENDON	❖ Hymn 726	<i>Will You Come and Follow Me</i>	KELVINGROVE
The Holy One reigns; let the people rejoice. We come to worship the God of justice and mercy. God meets us in the midst of a complicated world and calls us to lives of courage, wisdom, and faithfulness. We bring our questions, our hopes, and our whole selves before God. We belong not to fear, nor to the powers that compete for our loyalty, but to the One whose image we bear. Come, let us worship the God who is holy, faithful, and near.			❖ Affirmation of Faith 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.			❖ Charge and Benediction (Please sing along if you would like.) May God bless you and keep you. May God make God's face to shine upon you. May God be gracious and give you peace forever and ever.		
❖ Hymn 716	<i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending</i>	BEACH SPRING	Offertory Sentence			Postlude	<i>Rhapsody on the Sursum Corda</i>	T. Frederick H. Candlyn Don Papenbrock, organ
❖ Call to Confession			Music at the Offertory	<i>Grace on Grace</i> Chancel Choir, Don Papenbrock, piano	William Beckstrand	This Week at Central October 18 - 25, 2026		
❖ Prayer of Confession	Holy and gracious God, we confess that we do not always give you what belongs to you: our trust, our loyalty, our love, and our lives. We are easily shaped by the powers around us, quick to protect what is ours, and slow to remember that every person bears your image. Forgive us when we confuse power with faithfulness, when we value possessions more than people, and when our lives fail to reflect your justice and mercy. Shape us again in your image, that we may live with wisdom, courage, and love.... (Silent Confession) Amen.			The law, the law through Moses came. Grace on grace, grace on grace. But God sent love, our life to claim. Grace on grace, grace on grace on...		Sunday, October 18 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. Nazareth Choir 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes 9:45 a.m. Issues in Theology Class (Greene Room) 10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand Chapel) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 5:00 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Suite)		
❖ Assurance of Pardon	Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!			Grace and truth in Jesus' name! Grace on grace on grace. God sent love, our life to claim. Grace on grace on grace.		Thursday, October 22 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)		
❖ Passing of the Peace				The glory of the Word became in flesh, like us, but not the same, for in his fullness all receive grace on grace, grace on grace. God sent love, our life to claim. Grace on grace on grace on grace; grace on endless grace.		Friday, October 23 12:00 p.m. Church Office closes		
❖ Hymn 329	<i>God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength</i>	WINCHESTER OLD	❖ At the Presentation	<i>Doxology</i>	LASST UNS ERFREUEN	Saturday, October 24 Church Office Closed		
	God is our refuge and our strength, our ever-present aid, and therefore, though the earth be moved, we will not be afraid;			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!		Sunday, October 25 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. Nazareth Choir 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes 9:45 a.m. Issues in Theology Class (Greene Room) 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) 2:30 p.m. New South Festival Singers Concert (Sanctuary)		
	Though hills amid the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar, yea, though the mighty billows shake the mountains on the shore.		❖ Prayer of Dedication			Monday, October 19 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)		
<i>During the hymn response, the children are invited to come forward for A Time with Children.</i>						Tuesday, October 20 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom) 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee (Zoom)		
						Wednesday, October 21 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Committee (Zoom) 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.			Music is printed under Onelicense.net AA-710014 CCS License No. 11974 CCLI License No. 1950421					