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.

Central Women Gathering

Join Central Women for an evening of fellowship and lively conversation about Georgia politics! Our guest speaker, Democratic State Senator Nan Orrock, will share her perspectives on Georgia's political landscape, the recent blue wave, and national politics. Gather with us on **Thursday, November 19**, at the home of Blake and Robbie Ashe in Druid Hills for an engaging and enjoyable evening! Go to **Realm to signup.**

Kasia Smolarek Concert at Central

Join us for a wonderful evening with classical guitarist, Kasia Smolarek, on **Friday, December 4, at 8:00 p.m.** (doors open at 7:15 p.m.). Kasia Smolarek, is a winner of more than 20 international awards. Don't miss this extraordinary performance by one of today's most exciting classical guitarists! **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 20% off tickets with code CONGREGATION. Scan the QR code for tickets.

Deacons are Hosting a Christmas Party

Join the Deacons for a festive Christmas celebration on **December 5 at 1:00 p.m.** at the home of Peg and Charlie Richards. All members age 65 and older are invited to enjoy an afternoon of holiday cheer, fellowship, and fun. Please RSVP to Peg Richards by email or phone. If you plan to attend, please also send Peg a few photos of yourself so she can create a special slideshow for everyone to enjoy! We look forward to celebrating the season together!

Beer & Hymns

Join us at Manuel's Tavern on **December 5 at 7:00 p.m.** for a fun-filled time of fellowship, great food, music, and good cheer! Come enjoy the lively atmosphere, share a few laughs, and connect with friends over a wonderful evening together. We hope to see you there!

Advent Marketplace, Chili Cook-Off and Wreath Making

Join us for a festive afternoon of food, fellowship, creativity, and holiday fun on **December 6** following worship! Browse the Advent Market featuring our mission partners and local arts and crafts, sample delicious entries in the Great Central Chili Cook-Off, and vote for the winner of the coveted Golden Ladle! For $15, create a beautiful Advent wreath to take home while supporting Central's Worship, Music & Arts and Children & Youth Ministries and their partnership around the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. Come shop, eat, create, and celebrate the season of Advent with your Central family! **Go to Realm to signup and make your donation!**

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Caroline Tusher
Tower Bell Ringer: Ed Galloway
Deacon of the Day: Linda Massengill

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

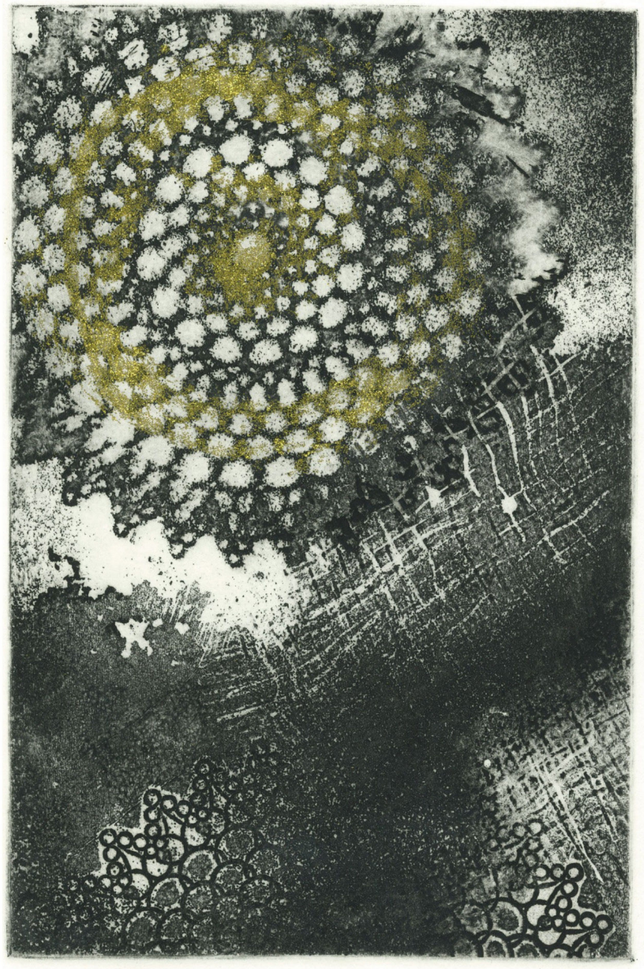
The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Susan B. Landrum, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Theodore J. Wardlaw, Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Kristie Johns, Director of Financial Operations
Melissa 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

Give

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

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

Central
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ATLANTA



Kingdom, Power, Glory, Edie Mae Herrel

25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude — *Prelude on 'Kremser'* — Craig Phillips
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 worshiping God.

Centering Prayer
Hymn 466 — *Come and Fill Our Hearts* — CONFITEMINI DOMINO
Choir will sing melody first, then please join four times through.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!

✥ Call to Worship — Rev. Kate Culver
If God is for us, who can be against us?
Nothing can separate us from the love of God.
Not hardship or distress, not uncertainty or fear,
not the powers of this world or anything yet to come.
In all things, the love of God holds us fast.
We come to worship not because life is easy, but because God is faithful.
With confidence and hope, let us worship God.

✥ Hymn 336 — *We Gather Together* — KREMSER

✥ Call to Confession

✥ Prayer of Confession
God of steadfast love, you promise that nothing can separate us from you, and still we live as though we are alone. We let fear shape our choices. We allow disappointment to narrow our hope. We forget that those we struggle to understand are held by the same love that holds us. Forgive us when we trust too much in our own strength and too little in your grace. Free us from the fears that bind us, from the divisions we deepen, and from the voices that tell us love is scarce. Root us again in your love, a love stronger than fear, wider than our divisions, and more enduring than anything we face…. (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 441 — *Hear The Good News of Salvation* — NETTLETON

Hear the good news of salvation:
Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me.
Love me still and cleanse within.

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 — Caroline Tusher

First Lesson — Psalm 136:1-18

Second Lesson — Romans 8:31, 35, 37-39 — Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon — **From the Church, with Love**
To Those Harmed by the Church

Responding to the Word

✥ Hymn 435 — *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* — IN BABILONE

✥ Responsive Affirmation of Faith — Rev. Susan B. Landrum
Based on Psalm 139, Genesis 1, John 10, Ephesians 2, Acts 2, Isaiah 56, 1 John 4, Romans 8
We believe in God, who knit each of us together in the womb, who looked on all that God had made and called it very good.
We are fearfully and wonderfully made.
We believe in Jesus Christ, who ate with those the world pushed aside, who broke down the walls that divide us, and who came so that all might have abundant life.
In Christ there are no outsiders. We all belong.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, who came like wind and fire at Pentecost and spoke to each person in their own language, meeting every one of them right where they were.
God's Spirit is poured out on all people.
We believe God's promise spoken through Isaiah: to those shut out and cut off, God gives an everlasting name and a place within God's house.
God's house is a house of prayer for all people. We believe that God is love, and perfect love casts out fear. We are convinced that neither death nor life, nor anything in all creation, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore we rejoice in the Lord always. Amen.

Liturgy for Receiving New Members — Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Offertory Sentence — Chris Sciarrone

Music at the Offertory — *Hymn of Mercy* — Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir, Don Papenbrock, piano

Gracious Lord, Thy mercy filleth all the earth below;
And from heaven's throne it falleth when to Thee I go.

Mercy flowing, swift pursuing like a river strong.
Sympathizing with my weakness; Mercy suff'ring long.

Mercy calling with compassion: "Oh, return to Me."
Wounded are the hands extended, Loving is the plea.

How can I refuse Thy mercy? Whither would I flee?
From my idol shrine I turn, Lord. Reaching up to Thee.

Tender mercy of the Savior gently drawing nigh
With the blood that cleanseth sinners, ready to apply.

Gracious Lord, Thy mercy filleth all the earth below;
And from heaven's throne it falleth When to Thee I go.

✥ 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 — Chris Sciarrone

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 697 — *Take My Life* — HENDON
Please bring your pledge cards to the table as we commit our gifts for 2027

✥ Litany of Dedication
The Creator of all life and love has given our earth bountiful blessings.
God created humanity to share in the wonder of these blessings and to steward them for the purposes of God.
All thanks be to God, Giver and Receiver of all that is good.
We return to God portions of what God has given us: our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment.
May the giving from the fullness of our lives be acceptable in God's sight.
May the gifts we bring show that God's rule is at hand—both now and to come.
We dedicate our promise toward the ministry God has given us.
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

✥ Charge and Benediction — Rev. Shannon J. Kershner
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.

Postlude — *Postlude on 'Lobe den Herren'* — Craig Phillips
Don Papenbrock, organ

✥ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please stand as you are comfortable.
Please silence your cellphones.

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