



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 4, 2024
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Prayer Rug III: Walk Humbly with your G-D, Susan Schapira

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Intermezzo Op. 118 No. 2
Mason Copeland, piano

Johannes Brahms

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 Susan Landrum
God has gathered us to this place,
where we hear those stories which show us what the kingdom of God is like.
God summons us to this place,
where we can learn how to serve our God without reservation, or hesitation.
God will send us from this place,
to tell others of God's hopes and dreams, so they, too, can choose to follow God. Amen.

✦ Hymn 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTRIAN HYMN

✦ Call to Confession

✦ Prayer of Confession
God of unity and love, place within each of us a spirit of hope and community. Have mercy upon us when we speak without love or act without humility. Cleanse us with the living water of your grace. Create in us willing hearts to live in patience and gentleness. Raise us up to be your children, growing toward maturity in faith and love. Strengthen this church, that we may be a model of ministry and unity for all the world to see. In Christ's name, we pray ... (Silent Confession) Amen.

✦ Assurance of Pardon
Friends, believe the good news!
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

Blessing of the Backpacks

Susan Landrum

Prayer for Illumination

Kevin Hackshaw

First Lesson

Psalm 78:23-29

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

Sermon

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 757

Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

✠ Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Kate Culver

CONFESSION OF 1967, 9.15

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. We ascribe to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

Music at Offertory

How Can I Keep from Singing?
Hannah Kershner, soprano, Mason Copeland, piano

Robert Lowry

✠ 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

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Responsive Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift up to the God who welcomes us at this Table.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gracious One, it is right to give our thanks and praise for out of the emptiness of chaos, you brought forth creation, plentiful with all we need. But even after we were offered the place of honor in your good Garden, we filled our souls with worthless lies.

Prophets brought your word of judgment, and your gracious invitation to come home, but we chose not to listen and turned away. But you did not turn your back on us.


Therefore, we come to your Table singing, our voices joining with those in every time and in every place, lifting our glad songs to you:

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
F C F B^b C F




1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)
C F/A Am B^b C Dm



pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F




full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are you, Loving God, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Life.

He came to show hospitality to all the strangers of the world. Deserving of the seat of honor, he humbled himself to serve the guests.


Refusing to let us be left in the ruthless hands of sin and death, he entered fully into their grip, but then broke their hold forever. Great is the mystery of faith!

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G)(A) (D) (A) (D/F#)(F#m)
F C F B^b C F C F/A Am



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

(G) (A)(Bm) (G) (D) (A)(Bm) (Em7) (A)(Dsus)(D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Send your Holy Spirit upon the Bread and the Cup, simple gifts from creation which grace us with your life, and upon those who gather around your Table.

Fed with the finest wheat, may we go forth to fill the lives of all whose emptiness imprisons them.

Having tasted the cup of joy, may we bring the sweet honey of hope to those parched by despair.

Welcomed without question at your Table of grace, may we open our hearts to throw a party for all who have been forsaken by the world.

And when we gather at the Feast in glory, with all the poor, the broken, the prisoners, the oppressed - we will open our mouths to receive your joy and sing aloud to you our praise for all eternity: God in Community, Holy in One.

And hear us as we pray together, saying...

The Lord's Prayer

TRADITIONAL PC (USA)

**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.**

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

We will partake communion via intinction. You may proceed to the station closest to you, pick a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, partake of the elements, and return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, we will serve you while you remain seated.

Music During Communion

Prayer After Communion

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

✠ Hymn 300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Commissioning

Ximena Leroux

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

✠ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Prelude on MORNING SONG
Mason Copeland, organ

Robert Powell

Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Kevin Hackshaw
Tower Bell Ringer: Althea Brown
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director

Bread and Cup Bearers

Carmen Holden
Freya Holden
Phoebe Hunter

Hospitality Team

Beth Grashof
Kevin Byers
Tricia Downing
Martha Kimes
Em McNair

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner,
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor
Susan Landrum, Director of Family Ministries
Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Mason Copeland, Organist & Music Associate
Kristie Johns, Business Administrator
Mark Wallace Maguire, Director of Communications
Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event
Coordinator
John White, Facilities Manager
Abraha Diedre, Custodian
Karen Brown, Pianist, Bethlehem & Jerusalem Choir
Thomas Chafin, Music Intern
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant

Give

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



Sign up now for the Frontera de Cristo Mission Trip



Central is preparing to head west in September to the U.S.-Mexican border for a mission trip to work alongside our friends with Frontera de Cristo. Frontera de Cristo (FDC) is a unique Presbyterian ministry that seeks to forge relationships that demonstrate God's will and build bridges rather than walls. The trip takes place September 20 to 25.

The trip is being led by Central's Associate Pastor Kate Culver. Kate is pleased to report that

with a slight change to our program and additional funding, we have greatly reduced the cost of our trip to the borderlands. The cost of the trip is now **\$250 per person** plus airfare.

We have a limited number of spots available so if you are interested, please reach out to me directly. The deadline to sign up is August 15. If you have any questions or want to sign up, please contact Pastor Kate at kculver@cpcatlanta.org

Join Centralites for fellowship on Thirsty Thursdays on August 22

Central members meet monthly at 7 p.m. at Manuel's Tavern for a time of informal fellowship. While this event was initially for Young Professionals, the event is open to all ages. Guests are welcome and no RSVP is required! Manuel's is located at 602 North Highland Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, GA 30307. Questions? Contact M.E. Davis at maryelizabeth.pope@gmail.com





All are invited to enjoy fellowship with Central members at the annual Labor Day retreat. Our theme for this year, 'In Times Like These,' reflects our conversations of lament, finding strength, and is a call to action.

It takes place Saturday, August 31 beginning at noon through Monday, September 2 at 11 a.m.

On Saturday afternoon, children will spend the day exploring Montreat and engaging in activities and art with a theme of "Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs." We will use an adapted set of activities from Illustrated Ministry to bring the theme to life and enjoy the gifts of Montreat and community. We will continue this theme on Sunday morning before worship as well during the adult programming block. Children will be led by our seminary intern (more info to share on this soon!) and Val and Pearl - two amazing Black Mountain locals who partnered with us last year.

Youth (grades sixth and up) will join George Rinker and Susan Landrum on Saturday afternoon for a focused time together exploring Montreat and engaging in activities and art incorporating this year's youth group theme of "Caring Connections: Healthy Relationships with Self, Family & Friends." Susan and George are working together to ensure a meaningful and fun afternoon. On Sunday morning, youth will have the option to either create crafts and art or hike Lookout before worship. Those in eighth grade and up will also have the option for an Asheville excursion with Susan during free time on Sunday or they may choose from the other structured free time options in and around Montreat.

Retreat organizers are also enthused to announce that George Rinker, MS, MDiv., LPC has come aboard for multiple activities. He will lead our youth during the Saturday program times with content that aligns with our retreat theme. George is a friend of Central and has previously worked with our youth during All-Church Retreat. You may learn more about him here or via the link below.

Youth are invited to stay together in a special section within Winnsborough with Susan and other chaperones. Plans are also in the works for our youngest Centralites during the Saturday program times. If our parents, children or youth have any special requests for Sunday activities, please reach out to Vanessa Hunter at vegabriele@gmail.com

We will be lead by The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wagner, who serves as the Assistant Professor of Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary, and is a long-time friend of Central.

Lodges available for adults and families will be Reynolds and Winnsborough. We will not have Glen Rock Inn or Apartments. The cost cap for families will be \$415.

Registration fee waivers are available. To learn more, ask questions, or request a waiver, please contact Vanessa Hunter at vegabriele@gmail.com. Please sign up soon to we can get a head count for this special time together! Read more and register via the QR code below:





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