



**CENTRAL**  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CHURCH**

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 29, 2024  
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



*Esther, Mary Ascher*

# Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

*Prelude Modal*  
Mason Copeland, organ

Jean Langlais

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 Naomi McQuiller  
We gather in this place seeking to live in faithful community and asking God to guide us.  
**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might lift each other up.  
**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might order our communities in ways that lead us toward love.  
**Lord, revive our souls!**

✠ Hymn 641 ENGLEBERG  
*When In Our Music God Is Glorified*

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession  
**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. For you are our rock, and yet we place our faith in sinking sand. You are our redeemer, and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves. You are our source of unity, and yet we isolate ourselves in every way we can. You are our fount of forgiveness, and yet we fear that we will be condemned. Forgive us, O Rock. Forgive us, O Redeemer, and show us what it means to forgive one another... (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 447 WE ARE FORGIVEN  
*We Are Forgiven*

**We are forgiven.  
We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God.  
Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven.  
We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God.  
Thanks be to God.**

*During the hymn response, the children are invited to come forward for A Time with Children.*

## Proclaiming the Word

A Time with Children

Naomi McQuiller

Prayer for Illumination

Camille Gaffron

First Lesson

Psalm 124

Second Lesson

Esther 7:1-6; 9-10; 9:20-22

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

Sermon

## Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 445

*God, How Can We Forgive*

LEONI

✠ Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Kate Culver

APOSTLES' CREED, TRADITIONAL PC(USA)

**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

*My Faith, My Hope*  
Chancel Choir, Mason Copeland, organ

Gwyneth Walker

✠ 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

Rev. Kate Culver

Prayers of the People and 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.**



# Bearing and Following the Word into the World

✦ Hymn 320

*The Church of Christ in Every Age*

WAREHAM

✦ Charge and Benediction

Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

✦ Choral Benediction

*The Peace of the Earth Be With You*  
Chancel Choir & Congregation

John L. Bell

**The peace of the earth be with you,  
the peace of the heavens too;  
the peace of the rivers be with you,  
the peace of the oceans too.  
Deep peace falling over you;  
God's peace growing in you.**

Postlude

*Festive Trumpet Tune*  
Mason Copeland, organ

David German

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## Special Participants in Today's Worship

Lector: Camille Gaffron  
Choir Guild Member: Kathy McCloud  
Tower Bell Ringer: Althea Brown  
Deacon of the Day: Betty Carroll  
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director

### Hospitality Team

A faithful group of Central members.

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## Central Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner,  
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff  
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor  
Susan Landrum, Director of Children & Youth  
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  
Naomi McQuiller, Children & Youth Intern  
Thomas Chafin, Music Intern  
Kelly Grba, Music Intern  
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer  
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant  
Renton Hinderer, Video Assistant  
Dorran Nickerson, Video Assistant  
Hala Hess White, Communications Associate

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