

Memorial Acclamation
Hymn 553 *Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen* LAND OF REST

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.

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.

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.

Prayer After Communion

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

- ✠ Hymn 853 *We Are Marching in the Light of God* SIYAHAMBA
- ✠ Charge and Benediction
- ✠ Postlude *Wie shoen leuchtet der Morgenstern* Flor Peeters
Mason Copeland, organ

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 (9:00 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!

Special Participants in Today's Worship

- Lector: **Lucy Baum**
- Tower Bell Ringer: **Kristeen Sorrell**
- Deacon of the Day: **Name**
- Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director
- Hospitality Team
Beth Grashof
Kevin Byers
Tricia Downing
Martha Kimes
Em McNair
Isabelle Werber

This Week at Central
January 5 - 12, 2025

- Sunday, January 5**
8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School Hour
Youth Sunday School Hour
Issues in Theology Class (Greene Room)
Sojourners Class (Brotherhood Room)
- Monday, January 6**
9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)
- Tuesday, January 7**
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting (Zoom)
- Wednesday, January 8**
9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)
5:00 p.m. Chancel & Bell Choir Rehearsals
6:30 p.m. Foot Clinic
- Thursday, January 9**
10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. WMA Committee Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Administration
- Sunday, January 12**
8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry
9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens
9:30 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School Hour
Youth Sunday School Hour
Issues in Theology Class (Greene Room)
Sojourners Class (Brotherhood Room)
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
4:30 p.m. Youth Group



The Second Sunday of Christmas
January 5, 2025
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Star of Bethlehem, Hannah Garrity

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
- Dorran Nickerson, Video Assistant
- Hala Hess White, Communications Associate

Give

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



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie Maurice Durufle
Mason Copeland, organ

Welcome and Announcements Susan Landrum

Ringing 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 Kimberly Parker
Gather us in, all people from all places.
Gather us in, to remember we are God's beloved.
Gather us in, to sing of God's works.
Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.
Gather us in, to worship and wonder.
Gather us in, to know of God's love.

✠ Hymn 401 *Here in this Place* GATHER US IN
Please join us in singing the hymn with the words printed below to honor the intention of the song's inclusivity with an update to the language.

**Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, to sing and proclaim;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession
Gather us, your children who run and hide, your beloveds who ignore your Word. We trade your goodness for ashes. We trade your peace for control. We trade your promise for certainty. Gather us to

**you and return us to your abundant mercy; may it flow over us, re-
newing our weary souls.... (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 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 Susan Landrum

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Psalm 147b from Psalter for Christian Worship Psalter
Text: Michael Morgan
Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBY

Cantor will sing the first four lines of text, congregation please join on the bolded text.

Sing, Jerusalem, God's favor;
Shout, Out to Zion, God's goodwill;
Who, in time of tribulation,
Shall be our Defender still.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let your praise God's temple fill!

God brings peace within our borders;
Fills our barns with finest grain;
Snow, like fleece, the fields may cover,
But with spring, new life they gain.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Faithful shall our Lord remain.

For all times God's Word is with us;
Ever swift the Lord's decree;
Steadfast always to the nations
Who to God shall faithful be.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Constant is our praise to Thee.

Second Lesson John 1: 1-18 Susan Landrum

Sermon

Responding to the Word

✠ Hymn 657 *Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness* GLENDON

✠ Affirmation of Faith Rev. Kate Culver
In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Offertory Sentence

Music at the Offertory *Walk in the Light* Traditional,
Chancel Choir, Mason Copeland, piano arr. André Thomas

✠ At the Presentation

✠ Prayer of Dedication Rev. Kate Culver

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...
It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise.
...who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Sanctus Hymn 552 *Holy, Holy, Holy* LAND OF REST

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
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.

... Great is the mystery of faith!

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