

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: Come Little Children! Central has resumed its nursery for children ages 3 months to four-years-old during our Sunday School and worship hours (9:30 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!

SUMMER SERIES: MAKING AND MEANING. All Church Sunday School meets Sundays, **9:45 am to 10:45 am** in the OAC Atrium every Sunday through **August 9**. Together we'll explore the connections between faith and creativity through conversations with theologians, artists, architects, and musicians from our Central family. Join us for a summer of beauty, wonder, and reflection on the creative life of faith.

SUMMER PICK-UP CHOIR - JULY 26. All are invited to join our final Summer Pick-Up Choir of the season! We'll meet in the sanctuary at 10:20 AM to briefly rehearse. No robes—just come as you are!

NOMINATE SOMEONE TO SERVE. It is time to begin considering congregational leadership for the next classes of new elders and deacons. The first step in that process is to elect a Nominating Committee. Read more about the process and share your nominations for the next All Church Nominating Committee by **July 31, 2026**. Scan the QR code to do your nominations or drop the cards in the Narthex in the offering plates.



MISSION OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE. This summer we're highlighting Foreverfamily (an organization selected by Central's Pollard & Covenant Grant Committee), which serves children and families impacted by parental incarceration. Central is partnering with Foreverfamily's Back-to-School Drive, and we invite you to help by donating much-needed school supplies by July 24. Needed items include:

Backpacks	Lunch Boxes	Pencil boxes/pouches
No. 2 Pencils	Colored Pencils	Permanent markers
Scissors	Highlighters	Markers
Spiral Notebooks	Permanent Markers	Index Cards
Tissue Boxes or packs	Loose-Leaf Paper	Erasers
Hand Sanitizer	Calculators	Rulers
Two Pocket Folder	Three-ring Binders	Pens

SUMMER SINGERS OF ATLANTA. Mark your calendars for a wonderful afternoon of music on **Sunday, August 2nd, 4 pm** at the Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church. The Summer Singers of Atlanta will present Arthur Honegger's 1923 symphonic psalm KING DAVID. The work is highly dramatic and features soprano, mezzo and tenor soloists, chorus, wind ensemble, and a narrator. Tickets available at the door or at www.festivalsingers.org/concerts.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. We will be having a congregational meeting to vote on new members for the Nominating Committee on **August 16** immediately following worship.

ALL CHURCH RETREAT REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Join us for a weekend of fellowship, community-building, and fun in beautiful Montreat! Central Presbyterian Church will host our annual All-Church Retreat at the Montreat Conference Center in beautiful western North Carolina on **September 5 through 7**. This is a time to refresh, rejuvenate, and commune with Central friends - new and old. This year's theme for the retreat is "Exploring Sabbath in a Chaotic World." There will also be plenty of time for unstructured fun and relaxation! Dr. Ryan Bonfiglio, Candler School of Theology, will be our featured speaker. **Please go to Realm to register.**

Special Participants in Today’s Worship

Lector: Glenn Rainey
Tower Bell Ringer: Trica Berrett
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

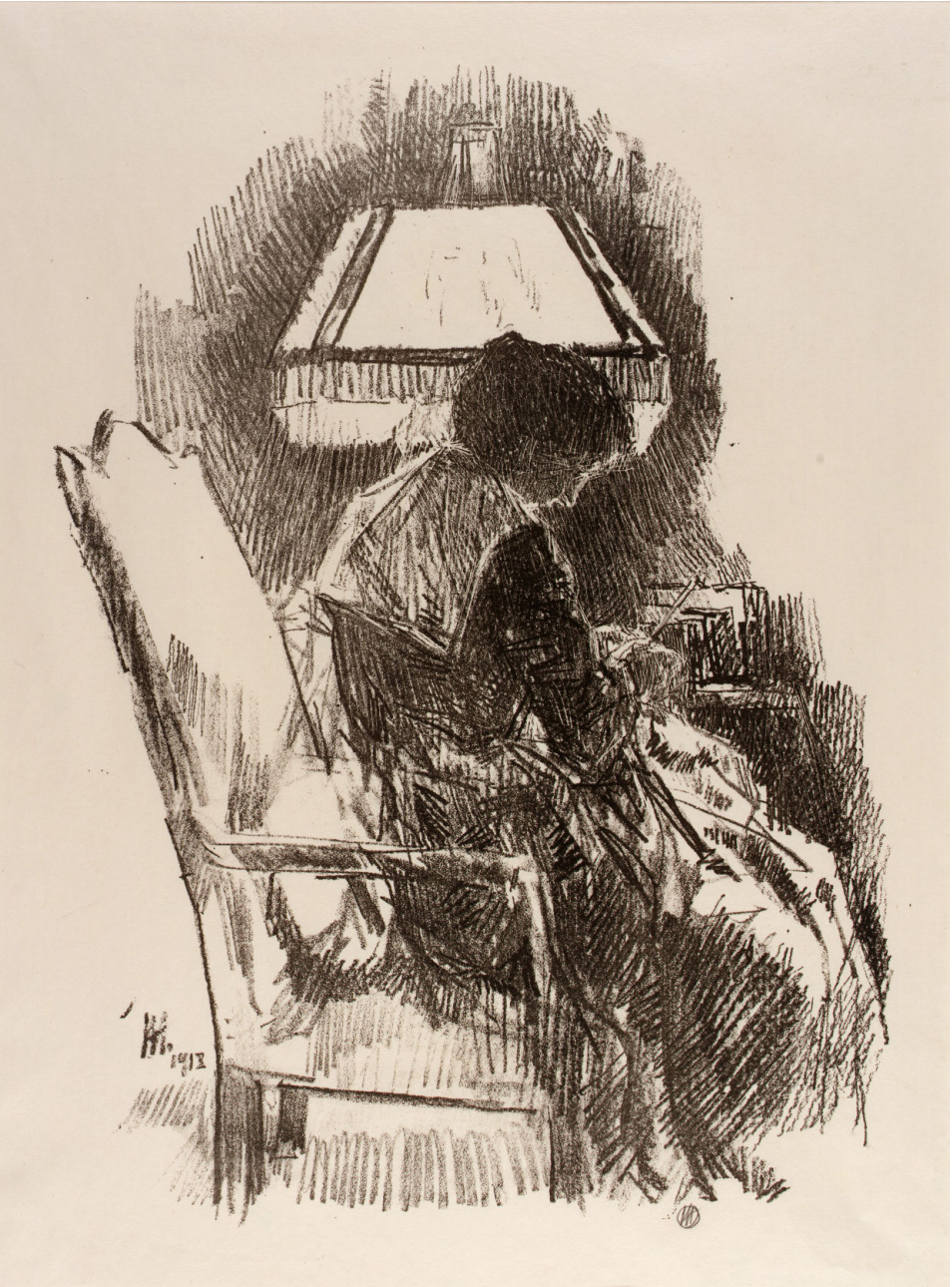
The Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner, Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Kate Culver, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Susan B. Landrum, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Theodore J. Wardlaw, Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Thom Dixon, Director of Music & Worship Arts
Kristie Johns, Director of Financial Operations
Melissa Johnson, Executive Assistant & Event Coordinator
John White, Facilities Manager
Abraha Diedre, Custodian
Don Papenbrock, Organist & Choral Accompanist
Karen Brown, Pianist, Jerusalem Choir
Rand Lines, Pianist, Nazareth Choir
Aaron Cummings, Music Intern
Kirk Louis, Sunday Operations Coordinator
Josh Smith, Audio Engineer
Jamel Morris-Barclay, Audio Assistant
Sarah Anderson, Video Production Manager
Toby Abrelate, Video Assistant
Dean Hammond, Volunteer Technology Director

Give

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



Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 19, 2026
Worship begins at 11 a.m.



Mrs. Hassam, Knitting, Childe Hassam

Gathering Around the Word			Proclaiming the Word			At the Presentation				
Prelude	Voluntary No. 5 - Grave Don Papenbrock, organ	William Walond	A Time with Children	Rev. Susan B. Landrum		Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN				
Welcome and Announcements	Rev. Shannon J. Kershner		Prayer for Illumination	Glenn Rainey		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!				
Ringling 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.		First Lesson	Romans 8:12–25		Prayer of Dedication				
			Second Lesson	Psalm 139:1–12, 23–24		Rev. Shannon J. Kershner				
			Sermon			Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer				
✠ Call to Worship			Rev. Susan B. Landrum							
We’ve gathered together in the presence of God to offer our praise and our prayers. God’s own Spirit is right here with us, praying in us and for us, giving shape to our hopes and longings, and welcoming us to the throne of grace. So let’s come with joy to offer our worship to God who knows and loves us all. Let us worship our Creator!			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.							
✠ Hymn 366	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	HYFRYDOL	✠ Hymn 453			Open Your Ears, O Faithful People				
✠ Call to Confession			✠ Affirmation of Faith			Rev. Susan B. Landrum				
✠ Prayer of Confession			ADAPTED FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, All genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. Loving us always, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, Like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. 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!”							
✠ Assurance of Pardon			Offertory Sentence							
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!			Music at the Offertory			O God, You Search Me				
✠ Passing of the Peace			Chip Blankinship, soloist Don Papenbrock, piano			Bernadette Farrell arr. Christopher Walker				
✠ Hymn 582			Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me			GLORY TO GOD				
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.			O God, you search me, and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down, you are before me, 'Ever the maker and keeper of my days							
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.			You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar. And with love everlasting, you besiege me. In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.							
During the hymn response, the children are invited to come forward for A Time with Children.			Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its meaning through and through. You are with me beyond my understanding. God of my present, my past and future, too.							
			Although your Spirit is upon me, Still I search for shelter from your light. There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you. Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.							
			For you created me and shaped me, Gave me life within my mother's womb. For the wonder of who I am, I praise you. Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.							

This Week at Central		
July 19 - 26, 2026		
Sunday, July 19 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:30 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:45 a.m. Summer Series (OAC) 10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand Chapel) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 2:00 p.m. Memorial Service for The Rev. James H. Irwin, Jr.	Thursday, July 23 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)	
Monday, July 20 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)	Friday, July 24 12:00 p.m. Church Office closes	
Tuesday, July 21 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom) 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee (Zoom)	Saturday, July 25 Church Office Closed	
Wednesday, July 22 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sunday, July 26 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:30 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:45 a.m. Summer Series (OAC) 10:00 a.m. Trinity UMC Worship (Rand Chapel) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary	

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