

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.

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.

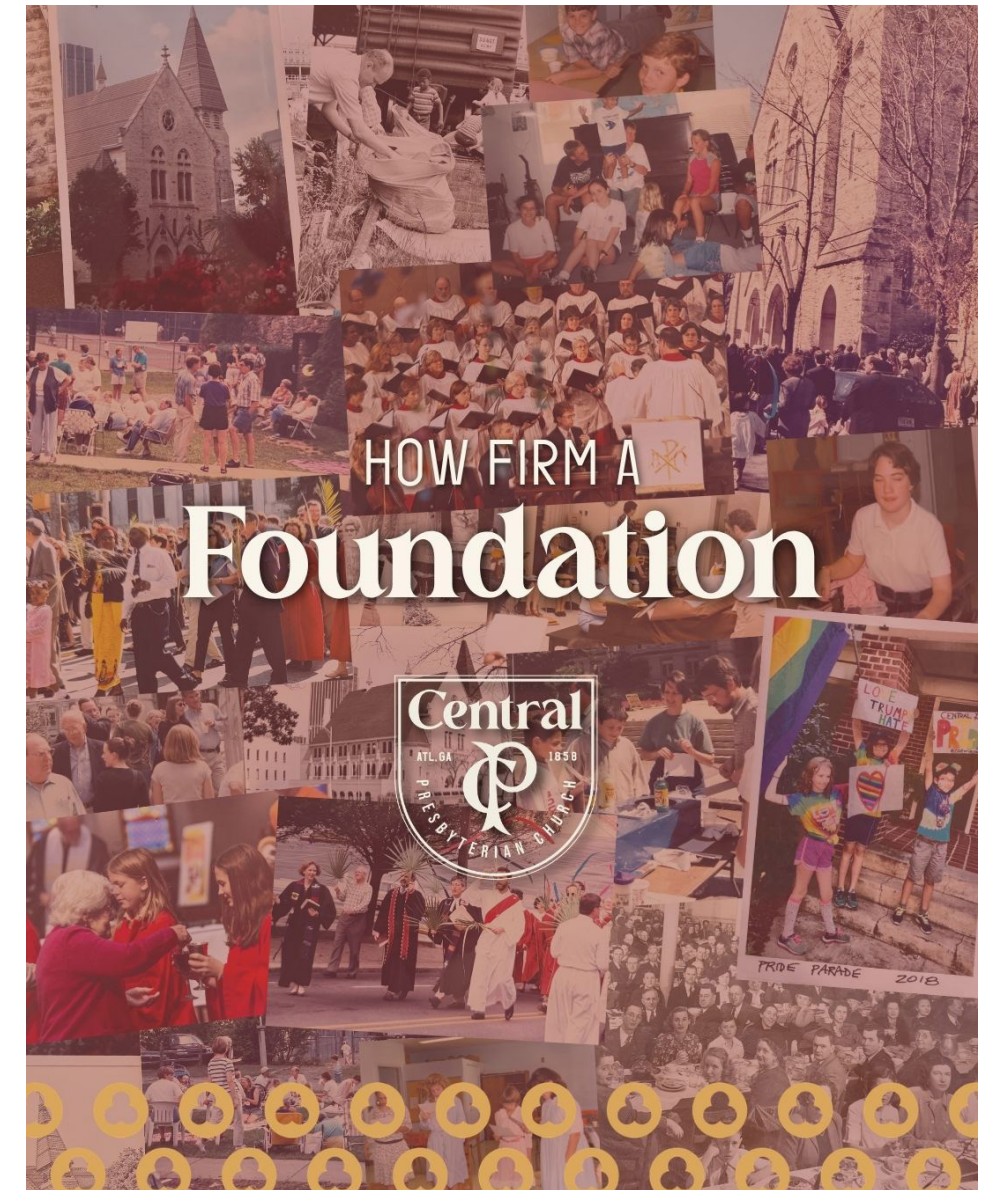
Join us today for Rally Day following worship in Tull Hall! Enjoy a delicious Das BBQ lunch, learn about Central's committees, programs, and fellowship opportunities, and discover ways to get involved and connect with our church community. Come find your place at Central! The playground will be open for the kids, too!

All Centralites are invited to join us as our book club, Bookworms, meets on **Tuesday, September 22**, for dinner and a conversation about *Family of Spies: A World War II Story of Nazi Espionage, Betrayal, and the Secret History Behind Pearl Harbor*, Christine Kuehn's 2025 memoir detailing her 30-year investigation into her family's hidden past as Axis spies. We'll gather at **7 p.m.** at the home of Julie and Wade Boggs, 1507 Peachtree Battle Ave., NW. After our potluck dinner, Wade will lead our discussion about this intriguing story. To sign up to contribute to the potluck dinner, **go to Realm to signup for the dinner**. If you have questions, email Linda McCord.

Hospitality Team:
Beth Grashof
Martha Haythorn
Kathy Kohn
Norm Kohn
Kathy McCloud
Isabelle Werber
Dane Jefferson

Christian Antwi
Samuel Ayantor
Ximena Leroux

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*
 Josh Smith, *Audio Engineer*
 Jamel Morris-Barclay, *Audio Assistant*
 Sarah Anderson, *Video Production Manager*
 Toby Abrelate, *Video Assistant*
 Dean Hammond, *Volunteer Technology Director*



Worship begins at 11 a.m.

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



Gathering Around the Word

PreludeMeditation on 'I've Got Peace Like a River'Brenda PortmanDon Papenbrock, organ

Welcome and AnnouncementsRev. Shannon J. Kershner

Ringling of the BellAs the tower bell rings, may it call out to the city and the world that Central Presbyterian Church is worshipping God.

Centering PrayerBe Still and AwareSally Ann MorrisSing three times

Be still and a-ware of God's pres-ence with -
in and all a - round.

❖ Call to Worship
This is the day that God has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Give thanks to God, whose steadfast love endures forever.
God meets us with mercy and welcomes us with grace.
Come, let us enter the gates of thanksgiving.
Let us worship God with open hearts and grateful praise.

❖ Hymn 403Open Now Thy Gates of BeautyUNSER HERRSCHER

❖ Call to Confession

❖ Prayer of Confession
Merciful God, you open the way to life, yet we confess that we do not always follow. We cling to what is familiar, overlook the gifts you place before us, and fail to trust that your love is still at work. Forgive us when fear keeps us from hope, when pride keeps us from gratitude, and when we fail to recognize your presence in people or places we did not expect. Open our hearts again. Lead us in the way of mercy, courage, and love, that our lives may bear witness to your grace.... *(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 623I've Got Peace like a RiverPEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

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

Proclaiming the Word

A Time with ChildrenRev. Susan B. Landrum

Prayer for IlluminationEllie Harbert

First LessonPsalm 118:1-16

Second LessonPsalm 118:17-29Rev. Shannon J. Kershner

SermonHow Firm a FoundationWhat Endures

Responding to the Word

❖ Hymn 463How Firm a FoundationFOUNDATION

❖ Affirmation of FaithRev. Susan B. Landrum
SELECTIONS FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH
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 God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, people of all genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. 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!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

Music at the OffertoryPrayer to JehovahMolly Ijames
Chancel Choir, Don Papenbrock, piano

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of Heaven, feed me til I want no more;
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven, feed me til I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream o'erflow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield.
Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

❖ At the PresentationDoxologyLASST 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

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 687Our God, Our Help in Ages PastST. ANNE

❖ Charge and BenedictionRev. Shannon J. Kershner

PostludeFestive Fanfare on 'In dir ist freude'Brenda PortmanDon Papenbrock, organ

This Week at Central

September 13 - 20, 2026

Sunday, September 13 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:15 a.m. Doughnuts in the Family Lounge 9:30 a.m. Nazareth Choir 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes 9:45 a.m. Issues in Theology (Greene) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 12:00 p.m. Rally Day & Lunch (Tull Hall) 12:30 p.m. Jerusalem Bell Choir 5:00 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Suite)	Thursday, September 17 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom)
Monday, September 14 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard)	Friday, September 18 12:00 p.m. Church Office closes
Tuesday, September 15 10:00 a.m. Moments of Movement (Zoom) 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee (Zoom)	Saturday, September 19 Church Office Closed
Wednesday, September 16 9:00 a.m. Church of the Common Ground (Courtyard) 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Evangelism Committee (Zoom) 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sunday, September 20 8:45 a.m. Breakfast Ministry 9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:15 a.m. Doughnuts in the Family Lounge 9:30 a.m. Nazareth Choir 9:30 a.m. Session Meeting for New Members (Taylor Conf. Room) 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Classes 9:45 a.m. Issues in Theology (Greene) 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary 12:30 p.m. Jersalem Bell Choir 12:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting (Tull Hall)