



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship
September 18, 2022
Rev. Peter Wilkinson

* If you are able, please stand



We invite you to use this portal as a way to let us know you are here and for any joys or concerns you want to share with us.

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.
We come to you, O God, to cry out for what is wrong.
We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.
We come to you, O God, with aching hearts and glad souls.
Let us worship God.

* HYMN #327 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

1. From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. In every land begin the song;
to every land the strains belong:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In cheerful sound all voices raise
and fill the world with joyful praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
 eternal truth attends thy word:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
 till suns shall rise and set no more.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:
 The fear that stifles us,
 The prejudice that blinds us,
 The ignorance that hobbles us,
 The doubt that plagues us.
 Help us, we pray, that we will
 Find courage in unlikely places,
 See the world with new and gracious eyes,
 Move to those places where love is needed,
 Have faith that you are with us.
 This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Please take this time for personal confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(If you are participating today through Facebook, please register your peace for each other now.)
 Since God has forgiven us in Christ,
 we also should forgive one another.
 The peace of Christ be with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. May we approach your Word today, Holy God, with the reverence and respect it deserves. Let us be intentional in our listening and focused in our minds as we hear your Word read and proclaimed today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Let the Song go Round the Earth (Buryl Red) - The Chancel Choir

*Let the song go round the earth, Jesus Christ is Lord!
Sound His praises, tell His worth, Be His Name adored.
Every clime and every tongue, Join the grand, the glorious song!
Let the song go round the earth! Where the summer smiles;
Let the notes of holy mirth Break from distant isles!*

*Inland forests, dark and dim, Icebound coasts give back the hymn.
Let the son go round the earth! Jesus Christ is King!
With the story of His worth, Let the whole world ring!
Him creation all adore, Evermore and evermore!*

SERMON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 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.

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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord's Prayer

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.

OFFERING

Virtual and in-person giving opportunities:

- 1) Online at our Easytithes site -
<https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/centralmontclair>
- 2) Place offerings in the trays at the doors of the sanctuary as you depart.

Offering Prayer



* **HYMN #81** Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2. Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which God gives them when they pray.

3. See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows, their thirst to assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.

* **CHARGE/BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Central's Mission Statement:

“As disciples of Jesus Christ and good stewards of God’s Grace, we are a caring, inclusive congregation that strives to grow in Christian faith, proclaim the Good News, and provide service in ministry to each other, our diverse community, and the world.”

Central Presbyterian Church is a Covenant Network congregation, a community within the Presbyterian Church, USA, that seeks to be inclusive, particularly with regard to welcoming LGBT persons as members and leaders.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good.’ Used with permission.

September Birthdays

- 1 Alice Sturzinger
- 3 Kara Beth Johansen
- 6 Emma Justice
- 15 Heather Rose Woodward
- 23 John Finney
- 28 Ruth Ann Dodd
- 29 Doug Ewertson

Sanctuary Wifi: CHURCH 5.0GHZ
Password: john316central

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