



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship
January 29, 2023
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

Devotional Piece (Dom Paul Benoit)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord's Supper, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.

* **HYMN #177** I Will Come to You

CALL TO CONFESSION

Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called. In this time of confession, this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, hear our prayer:
For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;
For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us;
For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist;
For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us;
We pray for the courage to admit our fault,
The strength to amend our actions,
And the hope that your grace awaits us.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Please take this time for personal confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, and freed to love and serve.

Alleluia! Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
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

Micah 6:6-8

⁶“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Forever Blessed (Edward and Maxine Alstrom) - The Chancel Choir

*The comfort of knowing that I'll be comforted in times of grief;
The courage of feeling that my reward will be for my belief;
The feeling of courage that comes with kindness as my quest;
I am forever blessed.*

*The blessings I know will follow me ever if my heart is pure;
And no matter my road to righteousness, my deliverance is sure.
And when life's slings and arrows plague me, I elude the stress;
I am forever blessed.*

*A Child of God, I strive for peace. God sets me free, by faith I find release.
A Child of God, I practice mercy. And blessed I'll be, for God is merciful to me.*

*The grace I'm shown each time I face the evil word or sword;
The strength I've known in knowing that my deed is my reward.
I'll keep rejoicing and be glad 'til I'm at last at rest;
I am forever blessed, remain forever blessed. I am forever blessed.*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Wilkinson

SERMON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

Confession of 1967

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are , at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church 's worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church 's evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church 's fidelity.

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

In-person and virtual giving opportunities:

- 1) Place offerings in the trays as they are passed
- 2) Online at our Easytithe site -
<https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/centralmontclair>



OFFERTORY Offertoire (Cesar Franck)

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offering Prayer

O God, through the offering of these gifts, we become a more open people—open-minded in hearing your word and wisdom, open-hearted in healing a broken world, open-handed in heeding your call to charity and enacted love. With thanks for all good gifts, we present a portion of our substance and the whole of ourselves. Amen.

* **HYMN #300** We Are One in the Spirit

* **CHARGE/BLESSING**

POSTLUDE Sortie (Cesar Franck)

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.

January Birthdays

- 2 Gus Arndt
- 6 Erin Norton
- 10 C.C. Fitzgerald
- 12 Sidney Moulongo
- 13 Lisa Hoyt
- Roald Mitchell
- Trevor White
- 17 Meyling Cabezas
- 18 CeCe Mitchell
- 19 Jonathan Ali
- 22 Jane Speer
- 31 Charlotte Worth

Sanctuary Wifi: CHURCH 5.0GHZ
 Password: john316central
 Education Building Wifi: CPC_Guest
 Password: lettherebelight
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