

ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 23, 2025
Third Sunday in Lent

8:30AM

repent
turn
live



LESSONS FROM THE CHURCHES IN REVELATION



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Central

Get connected at Central



Sundays at Central

Worshipping as a Family

Accessibility

Welcome Registry

Prayer

Lent

Whether you're just beginning to explore the Christian faith or a longtime believer, we're glad you're here and pray you will experience the love and grace of Jesus today. Central is for anyone who wants to learn more about Jesus Christ and grow together in real community.

Especially if this is your first time as our guest, welcome. We are thrilled you are here, and would love to connect with you. You are encouraged to fill out a connection card at one of our welcome tables in either lobby or in the Fellowship Hall, or simply scan the QR code.

Worship: 8:30am & 11:15am

Sunday school: 10:00am-11:00am

Children are always welcome to participate in worship with their families.

During both services, nursery care is available for families with children ages 8 weeks through 3 years. The nursery entrance is on the first floor.

A nursing mother's room is located on the first floor off of the Fellowship Hall.

For kids ages 3 through kindergarten, we offer "children's worship" during the sermon. After worshipping with their family during the first part of the service, kids ages 3 through kindergarten will be invited to join our leaders at the front of the sanctuary. After the sermon, the kids return to the sanctuary to meet their parents.

Large print bulletins are available from our ushers. Amplification devices are also available from the ushers at the rear of the sanctuary.

Located in each pew is a "Welcome Registry." We encourage you to please use this to let us know you worshiped at Central today. After putting your name down, please pass the book down your pew.

At Central, we believe in the power of prayer. You are invited to submit your prayer requests using the cards located in the pew, or online at centralpres.com/prayer. You can also email your prayer requests to prayer@centralpres.com. If you would like to pray with someone today, please visit the prayer room after either service.

The colors at the front of the church are purple to mark the season of Lent. During Lent we focus on Christ's suffering as he sacrificed himself to serve a fallen world even to the point of death on a cross. We also lament the brokenness of ourselves and our world, and we renew our commitment to follow Jesus on the path of suffering service for the sake of God's kingdom that he first walked on our behalf as the Suffering Servant-King.

Consolation No. 2 in E Major

F. Liszt

Prelude

Standing (if able)

from John 1:29; Revelation 1:5-6

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Suffering Servant,
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
To Jesus who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood
and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father,
to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
Hallelujah, Amen!

God Calls Us To Worship

God gathers us before his heavenly throne for a special time to renew our relationship with him together.

We Praise God

We respond to God's
call by honoring his
majesty and goodness
in song.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come.
2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure.
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight are like an eve - ning gone,
5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream bears all its sons a - way.
6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home.
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
They fly for - got - ten, as a dream, dies at the op - 'ning day.
be Thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719
Tune: ST. ANNE; William Croft, 1708

We Pray For God To Help Us Worship

We ask the Lord to work
in us by his Holy Spirit
to give us the desire and
ability to respond to him
in worship.

Christ humbled himself to give his life for us.
Therefore God has highly exalted him!

Seated

from Revelation 3:19; Proverbs 28:13

Jesus said, “Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.”
Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

**Most holy and merciful Father,
we confess that our hearts are bent toward evil,
and we are too easily lured by sinful desires
to wander from your way like lost sheep.
We have often closed our hearts to you,
refusing to repent and return to you
when your Spirit convicts and guides us.
We have ignored or delighted in sins
that we should have hated and put to death,
and we have willingly broken your holy law
in thought, word, and deed
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
Lord, we are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. Have mercy on us.**

(silent prayers of confession)

Gracious Father, turn our wandering hearts back to you in true repentance and faith in Christ. Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit so that we may hate our sin with godly sorrow and turn to you with confidence in your mercy, with delight in your will, and with new commitment to walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Standing (if able)

from 1 Peter 2:24; Romans 8:1-2

Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God’s gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

God Calls Us to Confess Our Sin

We Confess Our Sin

Together as the people of God, we acknowledge honestly to God what is wrong and broken in us and ask for his forgiveness and transforming grace.

God Declares Our Forgiveness

God responds joyfully to our confession by declaring his forgiveness and the security of his grace and delight in us as his beloved daughters and sons.

We Praise God

Having been assured of God's favor, we offer thanks and praise for salvation from sin and reconciliation with God through Jesus Christ.

Grace



1. Your grace that leads the sin - ner home from death to life for - ev - er
2. Your grace that reach - es far and wide to ev - ery tribe and na - tion
3. Your grace that I can - not ex - plain, not by my earth - ly wis - dom,
4. Let praise rise up and o - ver - flow, my song re - sound for - ev - er,



and sings the song of righ - teous - ness by blood and not by mer - it. *(to verse 2)*
has called my heart to en - ter in the joy of your sal - va - tion. *(to chorus)*
the prince of life with - out a stain was trad - ed for this sin - ner. *(to chorus)*
for grace will see me wel - come home to walk be - side my Sav - ior. *(to chorus)*



By grace I am re - deemed, by grace I am re - stored,



and now I free - ly walk in - to the arms of Christ, my Lord.

Text and tune: Nikki Shepherd, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
© 2016 Getty Music Songs

Seated

Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal

Chancel Choir

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore,
As I near those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar.
Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM.

And my soul though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.
Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM.

Souls have crossed before me saintly, to that land of perfect rest;
And I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.
Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah! Glory to the great I AM.

Traditional American tune: arr. Alice Parker

Children ages 3 - kindergarten are invited to Children's Worship and will return during the offering.

Revelation 2:18-29

pew Bible page 1029

The Lord teaches the humble his way.

My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.

Psalm 25:9; 119:81

“Turn Away from Self-Indulgence” – Rev. Charles Godwin

God Instructs Us In Scripture Reading

God speaks to us through the Bible to instruct, encourage, correct, comfort, and equip us to know, love, and follow him.

We respond to God by affirming our trust in his word.

God Instructs Us In Preaching

God speaks to us to explain what his word means and how to respond to him with loving obedience in our daily lives.

We Offer Ourselves in Gifts and Song

We respond to God's word by offering ourselves to God with renewed love and commitment both in song and in gifts of money to support God's mission in the world.

We Pray For The Church And The World

We respond to God's word by asking him to transform our lives, our communities, and the world through the renewing work of Jesus with the Lord's Prayer as a summary prayer for the mission of God's kingdom.

Give electronically at centralpres.com/giving, or by texting CENTRALPRES to 77977

The Solid Rock

1. My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and right-eous-ness.
2. When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace.
3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the whelm-ing flood.
4. When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in him be found,

I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
In ev -'ry high and storm-y gale my an-chor holds with - in the veil.
When all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
dressed in his right - eous - ness a-lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.

On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is
sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Standing (if able)

Text: Edward Mote, 1834
Tune: SOLID ROCK; William B. Bradbury, 1863

(prayers for the church and the world)

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.

Seated

Central welcomes all Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not ready to receive communion, we invite you to meditate on one of the prayers below.

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of new belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared believe, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Is your child interested in receiving communion for the first time? Please email family@centralpres.com for more information.

Please hold the elements until all have been served, and we will eat and drink together as directed by the pastor. The communion bread is gluten-free.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Therefore, with the whole company of heaven and the whole church on earth, we give you thanks for your great glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

(prayer of thanks & words of institution)

Now let us celebrate the feast of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

God Feeds Us at His Table

We celebrate Jesus' triumph over sin, Satan, and death through his death and resurrection by eating and drinking symbols of Jesus' body and blood. The Holy Spirit works through this act to nourish us by the life of Jesus, to unite us with God and with one another in friendship, and to give us a foretaste and promise of Jesus' return to make all things new.

There Is a Fountain



1. There is a foun-tain filled with blood, drawn from Im-man - uel's veins,
2. The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that foun - tain in his day,
3. E'er since by faith I saw the stream thy flow - ing wounds sup - ply,
4. Dear dy - ing Lamb, thy pre - cious blood shall nev - er lose its power



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guil - ty stains,
 and there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way,
 re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die,
 till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more,



lose all their guil - ty stains, lose all their guil - ty stains.
 washed all my sins a - way, washed all my sins a - way.
 and shall be till I die, and shall be till I die.
 be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;



And sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guil - ty stains.
 And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.
 Re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.
 till all the ran - somed church of God be saved to sin no more.

Text: William Cowper, 1772
 Tune: CLEANSING FOUNTAIN; Early American melody

And all God's people said...

Hallelujah! Amen.

This Is My Father's World

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "This is my Fa-ther's world, O let me ne'er for-get that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ru-ler yet. This is my Fa-ther's world: the bat-tle is not done. Je-sus who died shall be sat-is-fied, And earth and heav'n be one." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901
Tune: TERRA BEATA; Traditional English melody

Toccata

G. Bélier

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Mike Farley

Musicians: Matthew Mazzone (director), *piano* and *organ*; Young Kim, *piano*.

God Blesses Us And Sends Us Out

God sends us out into the world with his blessing to live with him and serve the mission of his kingdom.

Postlude

Connect, Grow, Serve

At Central, we seek the transformation of our lives, communities, and the world through the renewing work of Jesus Christ, for the glory of God. This vision becomes more and more a reality when we **connect**, **grow**, and **serve**. Below are a few opportunities coming up for you to belong to God's mission and his work at and through Central.

Community Groups

Starting next Sunday, we will have a couple of opportunities for you to learn more about joining, hosting, or facilitating a community group. There will be a lunch after church on 3/30 and a discussion on Wednesday, 4/2, from 6-7pm. Contact us at info@centralpres.com for more information.

Church-Wide Study Week 3

This week our study on repentance continues, and there are several ways for you to participate:

- On Sunday morning at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall.
- On Sunday afternoons online at 4:00pm
- By watching a recording of the weekly lesson later in the week.

Feel free to contact us at info@centralpres.com for more information or if you need help.

Holy Week and Easter Volunteers

Easter is on Sunday, April 20th this year and planning for our various services and events is underway. There are a wide range of ways to be part of one of our volunteer teams, even in small 1-time ways. Interested? Contact us at info@centralpres.com for more information.

If you would like more information about these or other upcoming opportunities, please scan the QR code to the right, email us at communications@centralpres.com, or call the church office at 314-727-2777.

CONNECT

GROW

SERVE

