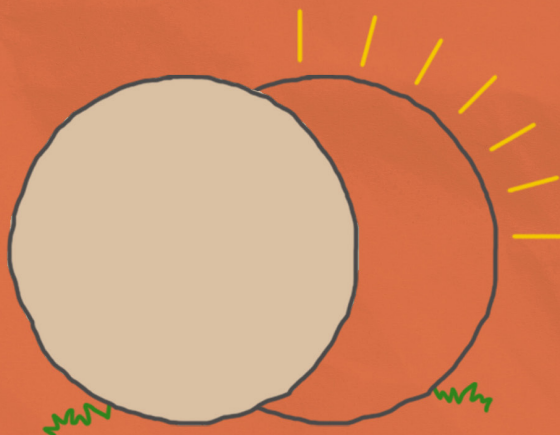


ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 5, 2026
First Sunday of Easter

7:00AM



EASTER SUNDAY

Life Triumphant



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Central

Get connected
at Central



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 hope to see you again! To learn more about Central or let us know you were here, scan the QR code or visit the Welcome table. We would love to connect with you and answer any questions you might have.

Easter at Central

Services today on Central's campus at 9am and 11am.

Worship with us
next Sunday

Services at 8:30am & 11:15am

Children are always welcome in our services! We also have nursery care available for children ages 8 weeks through 3 years during both services and we offer Children's Worship during the sermon for kids ages 3 through kindergarten.

Sunday School (all ages): 10am

Prayer

At Central, we believe in the power of prayer. You are invited to submit your prayer requests online at centralpres.com/prayer. You can also email your prayer requests to prayer@centralpres.com.

Easter

During Easter, we focus on celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead as the foundation of God's victory over sin, suffering, and death. The immortal life of the risen King is the source of salvation that gives us power for enduring life's struggle in the present and historically-grounded hope for life beyond death in God's eternal kingdom when heaven and earth become one and he makes all things new.

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Chancel Choir

Standing (if able)

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who is the resurrection and the firstborn from the dead.

Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,
the Root of David, has conquered,
and the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

He died for us that we might live for him.

Traditional Tanzanian

from Revelation 5:5; 19:6

Introit

God Calls Us To Worship

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

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.

The Resurrection of the Christ

John 20:1-10

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

The resurrection of the Christ. He is risen!

He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day, Al - - le - lu - ia!
2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done,

Sons of men and an - gels say, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Dy - ing once He all doth save,
Death in vain for - bids Him rise,

Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth re - ply, Al - - le - lu - ia!
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Christ the Lord Is Risen Today'. It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff has lyrics underneath it. The lyrics are: 1. Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day, Al - - le - lu - ia! 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Sons of men and an - gels say, Al - - le - lu - ia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - - le - lu - ia! Dy - ing once He all doth save, Death in vain for - bids Him rise, Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth re - ply, Al - - le - lu - ia! Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise,

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739
Tune: EASTER HYMN from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

We Praise God

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

The Appearance of the Christ

John 20:11-18

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

The appearance of the Christ. He is risen!

He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives!
2. He lives to si - lence all my fears. He lives to wipe a - way my tears.



He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ev - er liv - ing Head. (to verse 2)
He lives to calm my trou - bled heart. He lives all bless - ings to im - part. (to chorus)

Chorus



To our King be high - est praise ris - ing through e - ter - nal



days. Just and faith - ful he shall reign: Je - sus shall reign!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1725

Tune: DUKE STREET; John W. Hatton, 1793

Chorus words & music: Keith & Kristyn Getty, Ed Cash

© 2017 Getty Music Publishing

Seated

John 20:19-23

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

The mission of the Christ. He is risen!

He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

We Praise God

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

The Mission of the Christ

God Calls Us To Confess Our Sin

from John 11:25; James 4:8, 10

Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in him, though he die, yet shall he live. Therefore, draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

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.

Eternal Father, you have raised Jesus from the dead and crowned him the Lord of life.

But we confess that we often live as if Jesus were dead.

**In trials we doubt that you will sustain us,
and so we lose touch with the joy and power
of Jesus' resurrection life in us,
giving us strength to endure today
and bright hope in the weight of glory to come.**

**We are prone to seek our purpose and hope
in our work, our wealth, and our strength.**

**And we forget that you have made us for so much more,
for eternal glory with you in a world made new
by Jesus' resurrection life and healing power.**

Lord, have mercy on us.

(silent prayers of confession)

Living Lord, open our eyes to the light of your life and truth. Open our hearts to trust in your conquering love and life that lasts eternally. Fix our eyes and our hope firmly on Jesus, who has swallowed up death's sting, and lives that death may die. Amen.

Standing (if able)

from 2 Timothy 1:9-10

God saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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!

John 20:24-31

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The revelation of the Christ. He is risen!

He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

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 Greet One Another with the Grace of Christ

The Revelation of the Christ

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.

Christus Victor



1. O Most High, King of the a - ges, great I AM, God of

2. O Most High, dwell-ing a - mong us, Son of man, sent for



won - ders, by the blood you have re deemed us, led us

sin - ners, by your blood you have re deemed us, spot - less



through might-y wa - ters. Our strength, our song, our sure sal - va - tion:

Lamb, might-y Sav - ior, who lived, who died, who rose vic - to - rious.

Chorus



Now to the Lamb up-on the throne be bless - ing hon - or, glo - ry,



pow - er for the bat - tle you have won. Hal - le - lu - jah!



With ev - ery tribe and ev - ry tongue, we join the an - them of the



an - gels in the tri - umph of the Son. Hal - le - lu - jah! A - men.

Text and tune: Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, Bryan Fowler, Matt Papa
© 2024 Getty Music Publishing, Messenger Hymns, LIVINGHYMNS, Love Your Enemies Publishing

Seated

Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*

Chancel Choir

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ,

And he shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Rev. 19:6; 11:15; 19:16; Music by G. F. Händel

“Jesus Changes Everything” – Rev. Taylor Bruce

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.

Living Hope

1. How great the cha - sm that lay be - tween. us. How high the moun - tain
2. Who could im - ag - ine so great a mer - cy? What heart could fath - om
3. Then came the morn - ing that sealed the prom - ise, your bur - ied bod - y

I could not climb. In des - per - a - tion I turned to heav - en
such bound - less grace? The God of ag - es stepped down from glo - ry
be - gan to breathe. Out of the si - lence, the Roar - ing Li - on

and spoke your name in - to the night. Then through the
to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has
de - clared the grave has no claim on me. *(repeat vs. 3)*
Je - sus, yours is the vic - to - ry! *(chorus)*

dark - ness your lov - ing - kind - ness tore through the shad - ows of my soul.
spo - ken; I am for - giv - en. The King of Kings calls me his own.

The work is fin - ished, the end is writ - ten. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope. *(verse 2)*
Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, I'm yours for - ev - er. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope.

Chorus
Hal - le - lu - jah, praise the One who set me free! Hal - le - lu - jah, death has
lost its grip on me! You have bro - ken ev - 'ry chain. There's sal -
va - tion in Your name. Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope. *(repeat chorus)*

Text and tune: Phil Wickham & Brian Johnson
© 2017 Phil Wickham Music

Standing (if able)

(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. The communion bread is gluten-free.

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.

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.

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 and words of institution)

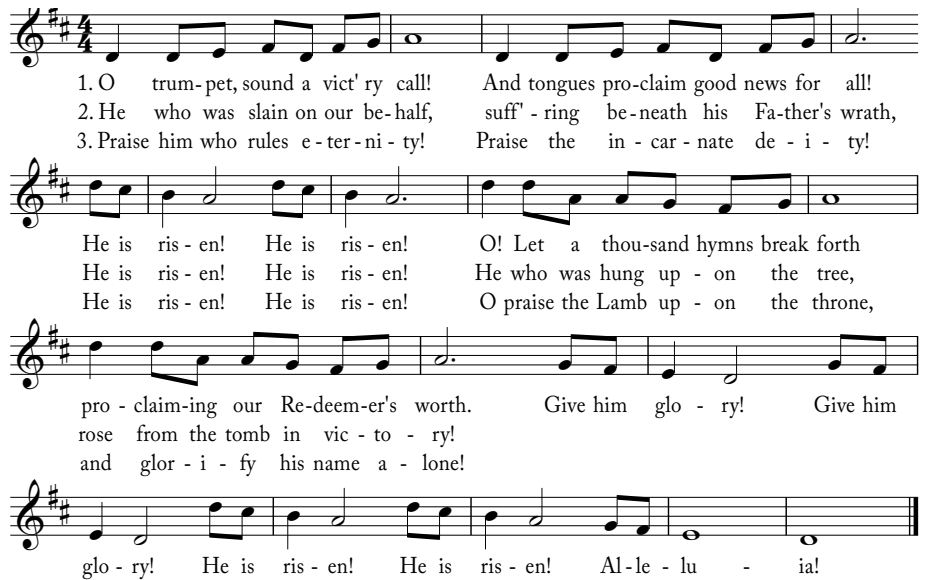
Now let us celebrate the feast of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Standing (if able)

We Praise God

He Is Risen



1. O trum-pet, sound a vict'ry call! And tongues pro-claim good news for all!
2. He who was slain on our be-half, suff' - ring be-neath his Fa-ther's wrath,
3. Praise him who rules e - ter - ni - ty! Praise the in - car - nate de - i - ty!

He is ris - en! He is ris - en! O! Let a thou-sand hymns break forth
He is ris - en! He is ris - en! He who was hung up - on the tree,
He is ris - en! He is ris - en! O praise the Lamb up - on the throne,

pro - claim-ing our Re-deem-er's worth. Give him glo - ry! Give him
rose from the tomb in vic - to - ry!
and glor - i - fy his name a - lone!

glo - ry! He is ris - en! He is ris - en! Al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Eric Schumacher, 2004
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN; *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1623

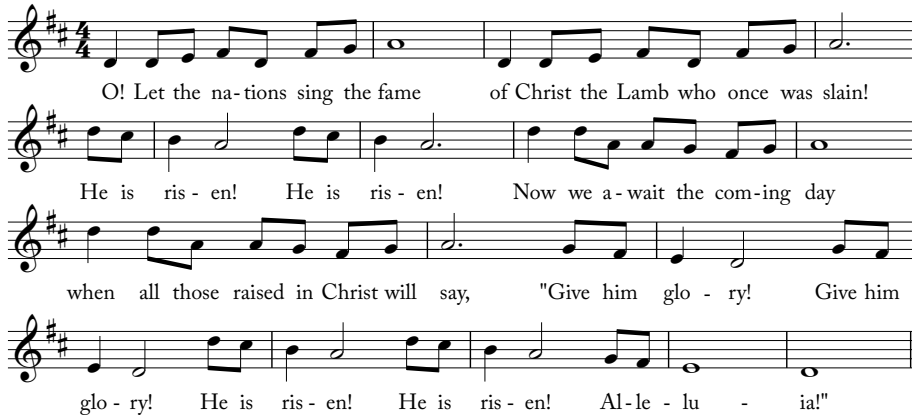
And all God's people said...

Hallelujah! Amen.

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.

Easter Doxology



O! Let the na-tions sing the fame of Christ the Lamb who once was slain!
He is ris - en! He is ris - en! Now we a - wait the com - ing day
when all those raised in Christ will say, "Give him glo - ry! Give him
glo - ry! He is ris - en! He is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia!"

Text: Eric Schumacher, 2004

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN; *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1623

We Praise God

Liturgist: Rev. Cole Lescher

Musicians: Matthew Mazzoni (director), *keyboard*; Carl Sasse, *guitar, vocals*;
Romondo Davis, *bass*; Pete Johnson, *percussion, vocals*; Emmaus Tzeng, *keyboard*;
Kristi Williams, *vocals*

Readers: Shomar Black, Molly Bruce, Mary Compton, Asafe Cristino

Find your next step at Central

Easter is just the beginning. Whether you're here for the first time or the first time in a long time, Central is a place where you can take your next step. We return to our regular **Sunday worship** schedule at **8:30am and 11:15am**, with **Sunday School for all ages at 10am** in between services—an easy way for every generation to grow together. You'll also find Bible studies throughout the week to help you go deeper in your faith, and **Community Night on Wednesdays at 5pm** with dinner and activities for kids, students, and adults—a simple, welcoming way to get connected. As we begin our new sermon series, **Kingdom on the Move**, you're invited to keep walking with us as we discover the renewing work of Jesus in everyday life.



Scan
the QR
code
for
details.



Upcoming Events

Join us for Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on Friday, May 1, at 7:30pm

Don't miss the last concert of our 2025-2026 season as Central's Chancel Choir, joined by orchestra and soloists, tells this compelling story! Mendelssohn's magnum opus—the powerful oratorio, *Elijah*—follows the account of the Biblical prophet, revealing themes of faithfulness and righteousness through scenes of God's provision and power.

Mark your calendars: Our Spring All-Church Picnic is Sunday, May 17!

Bring the whole family and join us for food, fun, and fellowship right after second service at Shaw Park. Keep your eyes on centralpres.com/spring for more details.