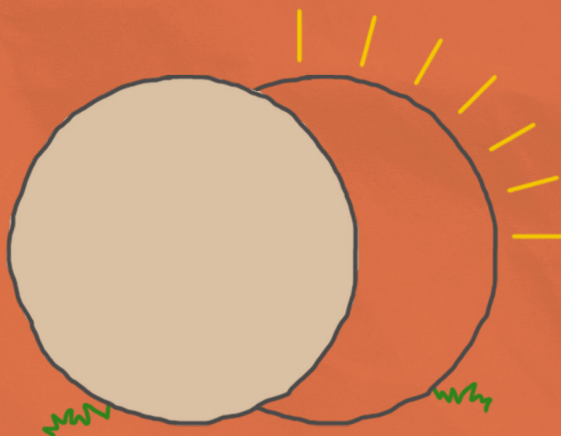


ORDER OF WORSHIP  
April 5, 2026  
First Sunday of Easter

9:00 &  
11:00AM



EASTER SUNDAY

*Life Triumphant*



CENTRAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Welcome to Central

**Get connected  
at Central**



**Easter at Central**

**Worship with us  
next Sunday**

**Worshiping as a  
Family**

**Accessibility**

**Welcome  
Registry**

**Prayer**

**Easter**

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: 9:00am & 11am**

**Services at 8:30am & 11:15am**

**Sunday School (all ages): 10am**

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 and a play area for young children is located on the stage in the Fellowship Hall. The service is streaming on monitors in both locations so parents and caregivers may continue worshipping when young children need to be taken out of the service.

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](http://centralpres.com/prayer). You can also email your prayer requests to [prayer@centralpres.com](mailto:prayer@centralpres.com). If you would like to pray with someone today, please visit the prayer room after either service.

The colors in the church are white and gold to mark the season of 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.

## Passacaglia

Central Brass Ensemble

G. F. Händel; arr. Ben Roundtree

## This Joyful Eastertide

Chancel Choir

Text: G. R. Woodward, Fr. M. Owen Lee

Tune: Dutch Carol; arr. Charles Wood

*Standing (if able)*

Choir: Christ has conquered, Christ, our Sovereign; Christ reigns forevermore!

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

from Revelation 5:5; 19:6

**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!**

Choir: Christ has conquered, Christ, our Sovereign; Christ reigns forevermore!

Joseph Noyon; arr. G. Hancock

## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Hymnal #217



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,
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,



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,  
Fol - l'wing our ex - al - ted Head,



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,  
Made like him, like him we 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,  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739

Tune: EASTER HYMN from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

## Prelude

## 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 Praise God

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

**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.

**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.

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

**He died for us that we might live for him.**

*Seated*

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.

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)

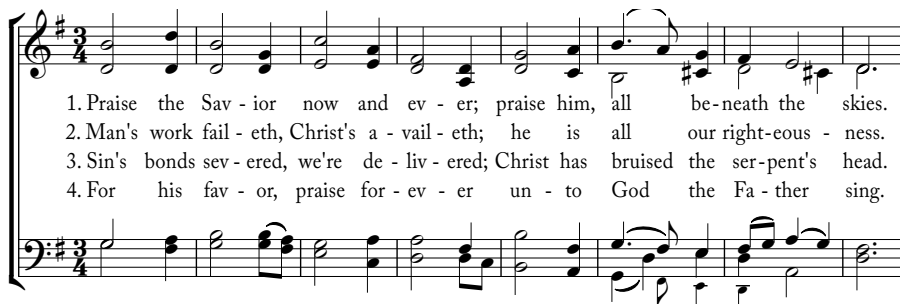
from 2 Timothy 1:9-10

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.

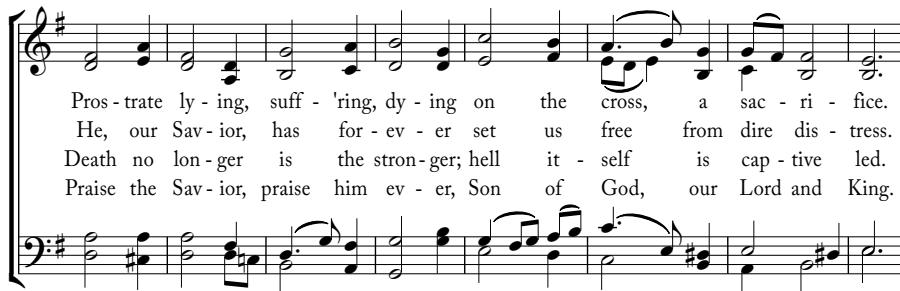
For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

**Hallelujah, Amen!**

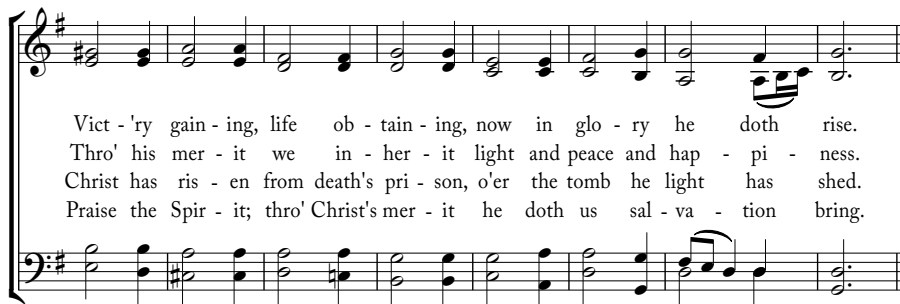
**Praise the Savior, Now and Ever**



1. Praise the Sav - ior now and ev - er; praise him, all be - neath the skies.  
2. Man's work fail - eth, Christ's a - vail - eth; he is all our right - eous - ness.  
3. Sin's bonds sev - ered, we're de - liv - ered; Christ has bruised the ser - pent's head.  
4. For his fav - or, praise for - ev - er un - to God the Fa - ther sing.



Pros - trate ly - ing, suff - 'ring, dy - ing on the cross, a sac - ri - fice.  
He, our Sav - ior, has for - ev - er set us free from dire dis - tress.  
Death no lon - ger is the stron - ger; hell it - self is cap - tive led.  
Praise the Sav - ior, praise him ev - er, Son of God, our Lord and King.



Vict - 'ry gain - ing, life ob - tain - ing, now in glo - ry he doth rise.  
Thro' his mer - it we in - her - it light and peace and hap - pi - ness.  
Christ has ris - en from death's pri - son, o'er the tomb he light has shed.  
Praise the Spir - it; thro' Christ's mer - it he doth us sal - va - tion bring.

## 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.

**We Confess Our  
Faith In God**

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all ages,  
God from God, light from light, true God from true God,  
begotten not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sits on the right hand of the Father.  
And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And we believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come.**

\* "catholic" here means  
universal, not Roman  
Catholic.

*Seated*

**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.

**John 20:1-18**

Pew Bible page 906

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

This is the living and abiding word of God.  
**Lord, you have the words of eternal life.**

1 Peter 1:23; John 6:68

## Trinity Te Deum

Chancel Choir

We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee: the Father everlasting.  
To thee all Angels cry aloud: the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.  
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim: continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.  
The holy church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;  
The Father of an infinite Majesty;  
Thine honorable, true and only Son;  
Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.  
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb,  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory everlasting.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.  
Holy, Holy, Holy.

Text: Latin hymn, 4th C.; Music: Ēriks Ešenvalds

## 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.

## "The Triumph of Life" - Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

Give electronically at [centralpres.com/giving](http://centralpres.com/giving), or by texting CENTRALPRES to 77977

## Worship Christ the Risen King

Hymnal #225



1. Rise, O Church, and lift your voi - ces, Christ has con- quered death and hell.
2. See the tomb where death had laid Him, emp - ty now, its mouth de - clares,
3. Hear the earth pro - test and trem - ble, see the stone re - moved with pow'r.
4. Doubt may lift its head to mur - mur, scof - fers mock and sin - ners jeer,
5. We ac - claim your life, O Je - sus, now we sing your vic - to - ry.



Sing as all the earth re - joi - ces, re - sur - rec - tion an - thems swell.  
"Death and I could not con - tain Him, for the throne of life he shares."  
All hell's min - ions may as - sem - ble but can - not with - stand his hour.  
but the truth pro - claims a won - der throught - ful hearts re - ceive with cheer.  
Sin and hell may seek to seize us, but your con - quest keeps us free.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the ris - en King!  
Come, and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ the ris - en King!  
He has con - quered, He has con - quered, Christ the Lord, the ris - en King!  
He is ris - en, He is ris - en, now re - ceive the ris - en King!  
Stand in tri - umph, stand in tri - umph, wor - ship Christ the ris - en King!

Text: Jack Hayford, 1986  
Tune: REGENT SQUARE; Henry T. Smart, 1866

## *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](mailto: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!**

## We Praise God

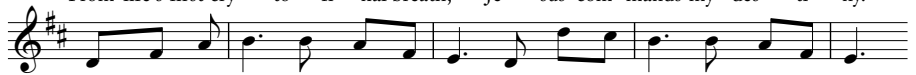
### In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a-lone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength, my song;  
2. In Christ a-lone, who took on flesh, full-ness of God in help-less babe!  
3. There in the ground his bo-dy lay, light of the world by dark-ness slain.  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death- this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



this cor-ner-stone, this so-lid ground, firm through the fierc-est drought and storm.  
This gift of love and right-cous-ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.  
Then burst-ing forth in glor-ious day, up from the grave he rose a-gain!  
From life's first cry to fi-nal breath, Je-sus com-mands my des-ti-ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings cease!  
Till on that cross as Je-sus died, the wrath of God was sat-is-fied.  
And as he stands in vic-to-ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev-er pluck me from his hand;



My com-for-ter, my all in all- here in the love of Christ I stand.  
For ev-'ry sin on him was laid- here in the death of Christ I live.  
For I am his and he is mine- bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.  
till he re-turns or calls me home- here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Text and tune: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  
© 2001 Thankyou Music

## Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*

We invite you to sing along – music can be found in the Hymnal at #37

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.

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

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.

## Toccata from *Symphony for Organ No. 5*

C. M. Widor

## Postlude

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Mike Farley

Musicians: Matthew Mazzoni (director), *piano and organ*; Allen Stith, Pat Stark, Peter Baartman, *trumpet*; Madeline Rowland, *horn*; Paul Arrington, Susan Griesedieck, Richard Johnston, *trombone/euphonium*; Austin Winkleman, *tuba*; Amy Camie, *harp*; Zach Cairns, *timpani/percussion*; William Sullivan, *organ*.

# 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](http://centralpres.com/spring) for more details.