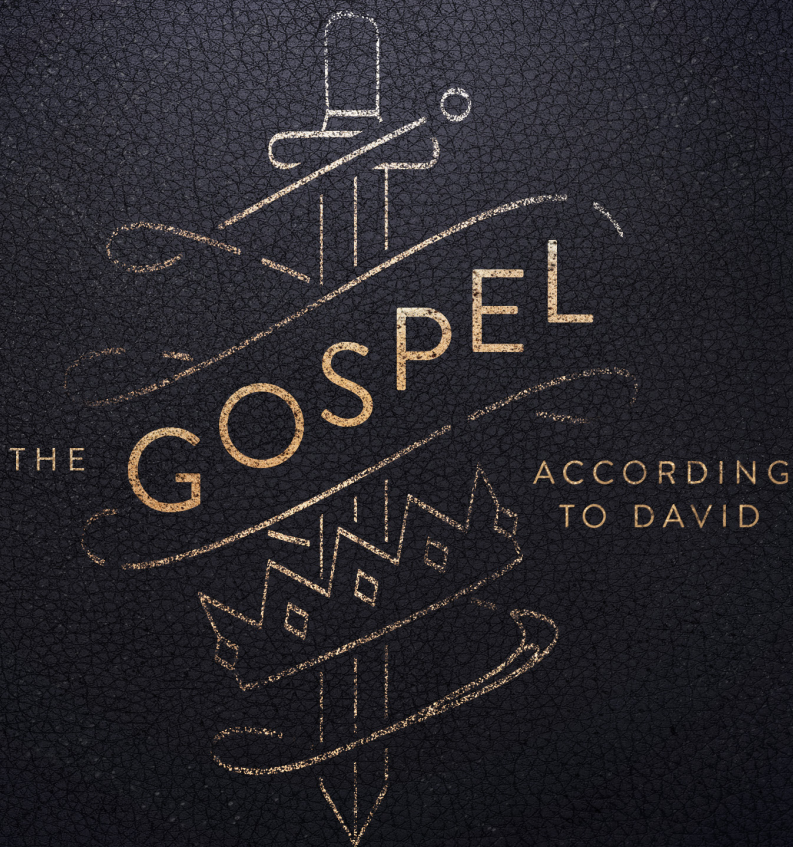


ORDER OF WORSHIP
August 24, 2025

9:00AM



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Central

Get connected at Central



Sundays at Central

Worshiping as a Family

Accessibility

Welcome Registry

Prayer

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 & 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.

Hymn Medley

Richard Johnston, bagpipes

Standing (if able)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

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

Prelude

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 1 John 1:5-6, 8-9

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Our good Father, we have run into temptation,
and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed.**

We have willingly broken your holy laws.

**We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done,
and all without godly sorrow for our guilt
and the damage we have caused.**

**And when your Spirit convicts and guides us,
we have often closed our hearts to you,
refusing to repent and turn to you
by laying aside the sin that entangles us
and striving for a new obedience to you.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

(silent prayers of confession)

Gracious Father, please convict us and lead us into godly grief and true repentance. By the power of your Holy Spirit, turn our wandering hearts back to you, and set us free to walk in your holy ways of righteousness, holiness, and truth in the strength of life in Christ. Amen.

If the Lord should hold our sins against us, no one could stand. But with the Lord there is forgiveness, that he may be feared. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem you from all your sins.

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!

Come, Thou Fount



1. Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace.

2. Here I raise my E - be - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come.

3. O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

4. On that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see thy love - ly face,



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.

And I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.

Let thy grace, now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

full ar - rayed in blood - washed lin - en; how I'll sing thy sov - 'reign grace!



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove.

Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God.

Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

Come, my Lord, no long - er tar - ry! Bring thy pro - mis - es to pass,



Praise the mount, I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.

He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.

Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

for I know thy pow'r will lead me 'til I'm raised with thee at last.

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.

Seated

Speak, O Lord

Vocal Ensemble

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth; plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail, let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us;
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2005 Thankyou Music; arr. John Ferguson

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

**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.

The grass withers and the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

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

“Life in Retrospect” – Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

**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.

He Will Hold Me Fast

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.
 2. Those he saves are his de - light. Christ will hold me fast.
 3. For my life he bled and died. Christ will hold me fast.

When the tempt - er would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.
 Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.
 Just - ice has been sat - is - fied. He will hold me fast.

I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path,
 He'll not let my soul be lost. His prom - is - es shall last.
 Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast,

for my love is oft - en cold. He must hold me fast.
 Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last!

Chorus

He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast,
 for my Sa - vior loves me so. He will hold me fast.

Text: A. Habershon (vv. 1 & 2), Matt Merker (vs. 3) Tune: Matt Merker
 © 2012 Getty Music Publishing and Matt Merker/BMI

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.

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.

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!

We Praise God

The Church's One Foundation

1. The church -'s one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord.
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
5. For she on earth hath un - ion with God the three in one,
She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth.
by schi - sm rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed.
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,
and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride,
One ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
till, with the vis - ion glor - ious, her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great Church vic - tor - ious shall be the Church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Standing (if able)

And all God's people said...

Hallelujah! Amen.

Doxology – Old 100th

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly hosts; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1709

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH; Louis Bourgeois, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Highland Cathedral

Richard Johnston, *bagpipes*

Liturgist: Rev. Cole Lescher

Musicians: Matthew Mazzoni, *piano and organ*; Jill Clayton, Susan Crecelius, Brent Reed, Jonathan Pollmann, *vocals*.

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving honor and memory of her beloved parents, "Tillie" and Houston Herndon, Sr., by their daughter, Helen Louise Herndon.

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.

Fall Neighborhood Picnic

After church on Sunday, September 7, we will be hosting a fall neighborhood picnic right here on campus! Our "Central Smokers" will be grilling up some amazing food along with a range of great sides and beverages. Invite a friend to join us, and let's pray for great weather! Contact us at info@centralpres.com for more information.

New Membership Class Starting September 7

Whether you are here today for the first time or you've been visiting for a while, now is a great time to consider joining Central. We have our next "Discovery and Membership" class beginning on Sunday, September 7 at 10 am. Interested? Contact us at info@centralpres.com to learn more or to register.

Making Sundays Special

As we prepare to start a new ministry year in September, have you ever considered joining our Sunday Morning volunteer team? We have all kinds of ways to be part of what God is doing on Sundays. From greeting to parking, from safety/security to audio/visual, we have a wide variety of ways to get involved. It's a really meaningful way to be part of what God is doing. Contact us at info@centralpres.com to get connected!

CONNECT

GROW

SERVE

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.

