

Central Happenings

SUNDAY –September 3

10:00am Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

MONDAY – September 4

Office Closed (Labor Day)

WEDNESDAY – September 6

10:00am WOW (Fitch Parlor)

12:00pm Charity Knitters (Discipleship)

5:30pm Bell Practice (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY – September 7

7:00am Choir Practice (Rehearsal Hall)

The Congregational Letters today are for Pat Stuckey, Don Nead and Shirley West. Please add your name and best thoughts to the letters found at the back of the sanctuary.

The Christian Education survey has resulted in announcing that Sunday School is back. Starting September 17 at 9:00am a series of four classes on planning and living a good end will take place every other week in the Fitch Parlor. These classes will help you develop and communicate your plans to your loved ones, professional services and the church. No need to sign-up. See you there.

Mark your calendar for a special worship service on September 24. We will be gathering in the Columbia Street parking lot for a Blessing of the Animals Service. You are encouraged to bring your pets. If you are not comfortable in doing so, you could bring a picture of a current or past pet for recognition and blessing. We will provide chairs for people and water stations for pets. Invite your family and neighbors.

Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice. Central will use 25% of this offering with local peace mission partners. 25% will join with other Presbytery/Synod churches for regional ministries. 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency for work being done around the world. Central is collecting the Peace and Global Witness offering now through October 8. Please mail your contributions to the church or drop them in the offering basket with “Special Offering” in the memo line.

Pastor: Wil Reinowski
Adult Music & Organist: Jeffry Stearns
Adult Handbells: Janice Spitalniak
Celebration Music: Paul Foster
Custodian: Bob Hill

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
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Central Presbyterian Church

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Daughters of the Most High: Women’s Voices in Scripture
September 3, 2023



Welcome

Prelude

“Big House”

(Blair, et.al.)

*Call to Worship

Cris King

Leader: There are different spiritual gifts,

People: but the same Spirit.

Leader: There are many of us,

People: but the same Spirit who gives to us all.

Leader: There are different ministries,

People: and the same Lord.

Leader: There are many places for us to serve,

People: and the same Lord who calls to us all.

Leader: There are different activities,

People: but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

Leader: There are many of us,

People: and one God who calls and equips us for service.

*Hymn

“Let the Whole Creation Cry”

679

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy, Parent, you call us to justice, but we do what feels comfortable. Forgive us if our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to continuing powerlessness in people’s lives. Forgive us if our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to whether people feel welcomed into, or excluded from, our fellowship. Forgive us if our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to whether we are “salty” followers of Jesus or not.

Strengthen us all to witness to our faith with a freshness that attracts; a sincerity that convinces, and an integrity which confirms our allegiance to Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: We have confessed our sins to one another, and to God, and we believe that prayer is powerful and effective. In that belief, I declare to you, in Jesus Christ we are healed and forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Congregational Response**

“Glory to God in the Highest” back cover Hymnal

***Passing of the Peace**

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Psalm 26:1-8

Anthem “Lord, Speak for Me, for I Am Yours” (Post/Sowerby)

Second Reading Esther 7:1-6

Message “For Such a Time as This” Rev. Wil Reinowski

***Hymn** “Will You Come and Follow Me” 726

Lord’s Supper

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The prayer continues, ending with “sing to the glory of your name...”

Response “Holy, Holy, Holy” back cover Hymnal

The prayer continues with an invitation to the Lord’s Prayer. Please join in the language God has it on your heart.

The Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Lord’s Supper

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn** “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether” 529

Invitation to Offering

The offering basket is located at the back of the west aisle of the sanctuary. Feel free to make your offering at any time.

Offertory “All Who Are Thirsty” (Brown, Robertson)

***Doxology** 606

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

Merciful God, the gifts we bring are so small in comparison to the vast needs in our world— nowhere near enough to save the thousands dying of starvation all around the world, or even to meet the needs of the hungry and homeless in our city. Yet we have brought what we can. As You once multiplied the five small loaves and two fish, multiply these gifts as well, so that, once again, the hungry may receive all they need, and more. Amen.

***Hymn** “God of Grace and God of Glory” 307

***Benediction**

Postlude “Festival Finale” (Malcolm Archer)

** Please stand as you are able.*

In Our Prayers ✨

We pray for healing, health and peace for Pat Stuckey, Shirley West, Bill Walthour, Peg Wier, Hal Lefever and Don Nead. We also pray for our Special Care friends Kitty Mills and Marilyn Prior.