



Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Tree of Gratitude, Bahadur Singh

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 20, 2022 | 10:30am

Centered by our myriad and shared spiritual journeys toward God, we strengthen each other to practice love in action with hand and heart. We strive to be a nurturing center dedicated to demonstrating God's love to one another, our community and the world.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, a community where you belong. Whether you're with us for the first or thousandth time, whether you're in doubt or are devout, no matter who you are, what experience you bring, or what questions you have, you are welcome here. God welcomes us all.

Hearing assistance devices are available from the sound booth.

Bold signifies congregation participation.

*Rising as able

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Prelude

Ave Maria

Astor Piazzolla
Allison Drenkow, cello
Mallory Bernstein, piano

Welcome

Louise Westfall

Gathering Music

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given

Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich"

Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 98) Chris Gibson

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Come into the Divine presence with thanksgiving;

Make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

It is good to give you thanks, gracious God;

To sing praises to your name, O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

and your faithfulness throughout all generations.

*Hymn 367

Come Ye Thankful People Come

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, thank you. We live surrounded by your gifts and immersed in your grace. Our most eloquent words cannot approach the wonders of your love. But help us try, not with words alone, but with lives dedicated to your redemptive work in all the world. As we have generously received, so may we generously give; we pray in your name.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, take hold of the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored to new life!

*Response



*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

[Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.]

***This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine (3x)
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!***

Bible Story

[Children gather at the Table and carry the light of Christ into the Chapel to hear and engage the story]

Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:11-20 (p. 107)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Louise Westfall

A Future with Hope (3): Whole Again

Moments for Silence

An Offering of Thanksgiving and Praise

Anthem

All Good Gifts from Godspell Stephen Schwartz
Terrence McKenzie, tenor
Allison Drenkow, cello

Dedication of 2023 Financial Commitments

Mark Williams

Praise God!

Praise God, O my soul!

I will praise God as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Don't put your trust in rulers, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

Happy are those whose hope is in God, creator of heaven and earth.

The God who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The God who sets the prisoners free; who opens the eyes of the blind, and lifts up those who are bowed down;

God watches over strangers, and upholds the orphan and the widow.

God will reign forever, our God, for all generations!

Praise God!

[Please use the bulletin insert to write words or draw pictures that express your thanks to God. When invited, please bring your thanksgivings, offering, and 2023 pledge and place in the offering plates on the Communion Table. Please lift your hand to indicate that you would like a plate brought to you.]

Offering of Thanks, Gifts, and Pledges

*Hymn 643

Now Thank We All Our God

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the Church

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

God of compassion,

We offer these prayers to you.

*Hymn 643

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Prelude in C Major, op. 12, No. 7 Sergei Prokofie
Mallory Bernstein, piano

Central is hosting La Puente's Positive Actions Lead to Success (PALS) children's program onsite Monday, November 21. The children and their chaperones will bunk here at Central on Nov 21 and enjoy time in Denver. We will serve them dinner and breakfast. Please let Molly Brown know if you would like to contribute to their menu: molly@centraldenver.com

Faith Formation Special Event

Amy Frykholm

Today, November 20, After Worship

In the Sanctuary

Author and Christian Century editor Amy Frykholm will discuss her new book *Wild Woman*, and her journey to uncover ancient wisdom from an elusive (and misunderstood) saint, Mary of Egypt.

2023 Cuba Trip Meeting

Wednesday, December 7, 7:00pm

Via Zoom

Central will return to Cuba in 2023: June 12 – 19. Please join us for an informational and question/answer session with Trip Leaders: Chris Primus, Lisa Schmidt, Patrick Malone. Email molly@centraldenver.com for the Zoom Link.

Central's on the Wisdom Path: Perspectives, Narratives, and Conversations

Rev. Rebecca "Toddie" Peters

Sunday, November 20, 6:00pm

In the East Classroom

We welcome Rev. Rebecca "Toddie" Peters, Professor of Religious Studies and Founding Director of the Poverty and Social Justice Program at Elon University for a discussion on her work in reproductive justice and her book, *Trust Women: A Progressive Christian Argument for Reproductive Justice*.

The legal and ethical approach to abortion has become narrowly tailored as an "allowance" provided to women on the basis of "justification" for the need for an abortion. However, a reproductive justice paradigm recognizes the primacy of each and every woman's personal judgment regarding her ability to have children, to not have children, and to sustainably raise and nurture the children she has. In the context of an individual's life, the moral consequences of having a child may be greater than the moral consequences of having an abortion because the moral requirements of motherhood are so enormous.

Central's All-Church Christmas Party returns December 10 after a two-year absence due to Covid. All, including children, are welcome! Rob and Celeste Habiger have graciously agreed to host at their home, 4730 W Costilla Place, Littleton 80128. RSVP to Carol Farnsworth, 720.838.5901 (text & talk) or carol.farnsworth@gmail.com.

We are glad to be worshipping with you today

and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Central Presbyterian Church.

Free Sunday Parking | 8:00am – 1:30pm

Key Park is located across the street, with its main entrance on 16th Avenue.

Wells Fargo Center Parking Garage. You must get a parking validation ticket from an usher. When exiting garage insert your entry ticket into the exit column followed by the parking validation ticket.

Elderly and differently-abled individuals may park in the three staff parking spaces and the three handicapped parking spaces in front of the church.

Online Giving

Set up one-time or automatic giving for your offerings. www.centraldenver.com/give

Children in Worship

Central values having all generations worshipping together! All children are welcome in the worship space each and every Sunday. We enjoy and expect the joyful noises of children as they are a vibrant part of our faith community.

- Nursery Care for infants and toddlers is available from 9:30-11:45am
- Worship activity bags are available from our staff in the front east box seats in the Sanctuary. Children may remain in that area throughout the service, where staff will be present.

Contact Molly Brown at molly@centraldenver.com with questions or to be added to the Children, Youth and Families mailing list (weekly emails with events and more).

Join Us for Worship Online

For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream our morning worship service at 10:30am: centraldenver.com/livestream. *Those without internet access are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 1.339.207.6673 at the time of the service.*

Weekly Email Newsletter

The best way to stay informed about activities at Central is to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter, which goes out every Thursday at 6:30 pm. Sign up at: www.centraldenver.com/contact

Ways to Connect

Serendipity Women's Group

4th Thursdays

Serendipity, an informal group welcoming all women, meets every fourth Thursday of the month. Friendship is our purpose, so please come!

Men's Night Out

December 1

Combining our last two months' gatherings - we'll meet in Bill Jones' home in Central Park (Old Stapleton) for conversation, White Bean Chicken Chili and New Orleans Gumbo. Please reserve: by email @ wjones6253@gmail.com, or by phone @ (231)714-1981; and let Bill know what you'll bring - Chips with dip/salsa, beer, wine, salad or dessert.

Theology on Tap

Thursdays, 7:00pm

We get together at local breweries to enjoy fellowship and discuss questions of faith. Please contact Pastor Louise to be added to the email list for locations.

Central Connections

Gatherings for couples and singles primarily in their 20's and 30's seeking connections in the city. Contact Pastor Louise to be added to the email list.

Equity Through Action: Now

Equity Through Action: Now (ETA:NOW) has been formed with the collaboration of members from People's Presbyterian Church.

Those interested in signing up for ETA:NOW, may contact Marilyn Eaton (marilyneaton63@gmail.com) or Cindy Widdowson (solitaire601@comcast.net). We meet the second Thursday evening every other month, starting January 2023.

Women's Bible Study

2nd Thursdays, 10:00am

Via Zoom

All women are welcome. Please visit centraldenver.com for access to the Zoom Link.

Staff Directory

Pastor, Louise Westfall

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Director of Mission and Faith Formation, Molly Brown

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Music Director & Church Administrator, Charis Smith

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Nursery Supervisor, Barb Brueggemann