



Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 17, 2024 | 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

Bach Toccata and Fugue

arr. Stuart Young
The Quintet

Welcome

Louise Westfall

Gathering Music (seated) Hymn 314 v.1 and refrain

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

Call to Worship

(from St. Patrick of Ireland)

Emily Nease

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity, by invocation of the same, the Three in One, and One in three.

I bind unto myself today the virtues of the star-lit heaven, the glorious sun's life-giving ray, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks, the stable earth, the deep salt sea around eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself today the power of God to hold and lead, God's eye to watch, God's might to stay, the wisdom of my God to teach and give me speech.

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

That in every moment of the day we may know your life-giving presence.

Open our eyes to this moment that we may know you as the One who is always here.

*Hymn 1

Holy, Holy, Holy~

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, Brother Jesus, Living Spirit: Holy One, we give you thanks for creating us in your image and calling us your beloved children. We confess our reluctance to live fully into our identity. We prize independence and individualism, when you call us into beloved community and deep connection. We center "self" and choose our own way, rather than worshiping and serving you. Wash us again in baptismal waters that we may remember your love and grow in our ability to love; 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

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord (2x)
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored;
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

*The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*[Please share signs of peace with one another]
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

The Sacrament of Baptism

We rejoice in the presentation of Leo Andrew Berv, son of Alex and Lauren, born June 10, 2023. Elder Chris Wineman assisting.

Promises of the parents, congregation and children

*Affirmation of Faith

At the heart of Christian faith and the life of the Church are the two great commandments. Please rise as able, to affirm them together.

God is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Water The Baptism

Presentation

Leo Andrew Berv has been received into the one Church. See what love God has for us, that we should be called “Children of God,” and that is what we are.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ’s church and this congregation’s life and mission.

Hymn (seated) 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Scripture Reading

John 12:1-8

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Towards a Wholehearted Faith (5): Living Water
Louise Westfall

Moments for Silence

Offering and One Great Hour of Sharing

Green Prayer Request Cards and Welcome Cards are located in the pew racks. Please put them and your offering in the collection plates as they are passed.

To give via sms, please text “centraldenver” (no spaces) to 73256. You will be asked to enter your credit card info. Thank you for your gifts.

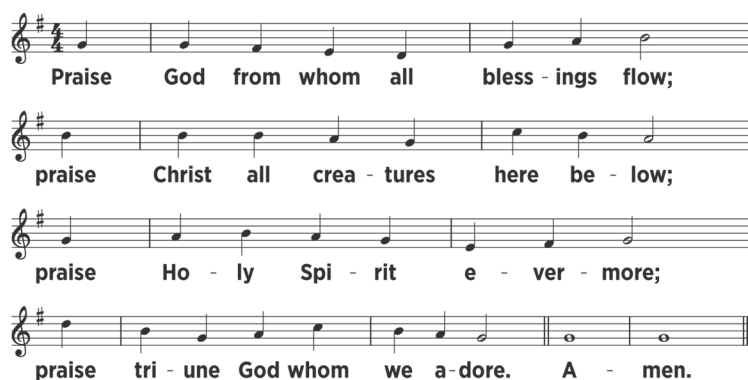
Offertory

Trio on Wondrous Love

arr. Maureen Briare
The Quintet

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow;
praise Christ all crea - tures here be - low;
praise Ho - ly Spi - rit e - ver - more;
praise tri - une God whom we a - dore. A - men.

Prayers of the Church

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
God of compassion, **we offer our prayers to you.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

*Hymn 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me~

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

A Closer Walk with Thee

arr. Ken Abeling
The Quintet

The Quintet

Colleen McCracken—Flute
Zach Gnall—Oboe
John Griffin—Clarinet
Stuart Young—Bassoon
Lee Cyphers—Horn

~ Indicates a favorite hymn of a Central member.

Transition Team

The Transition Team invites you to two approaching opportunities to share your questions and feedback about Central’s pastoral transition. Those opportunities are:

Today in the East Classroom following worship or Wednesday, March 20th at 7pm via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85427351186?pwd=TTThyb2gvb1ZWUE1ZcFhMMWwwTG05QT09>

Easter flower and card delivery

Delivering a blooming plant and card to members not able to attend services is a beloved tradition at Central. The Deacons invite you to participate by volunteering to take a plant and card on Palm Sunday to deliver within a few days. This Easter we have 31 deliveries and would love to have your help.

Please contact Carol Farnsworth at 303.875.7808 or carol.farnsworth@gmail.com to volunteer. Plants and cards also may be picked up at the church March 25-27.

Maundy Thursday Communion

We will gather for worship with Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7 pm. “Maundy” is from the Latin root for commandment and refers to the “new commandment” Jesus gave his disciples to love one another through service. Please bring the nail you received on Ash Wednesday; there will also be nails available for use in worship.

Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama

This pilgrimage includes time in Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery. Our dates are June 10 – 13, 2024. Approximate cost per person is \$1250.

Contact Molly Brown for full itinerary and any questions: molly@centraldenver.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

The deadline for copy for the bulletin and the eVoice is 10am on Tuesday morning. Any submissions after this deadline will be featured in the following week's publication.



Ways to Connect

Serendipity Women's Group

Our informal monthly get-togethers for conversation and friendship building are on the second Thursday of the month. Through April, we meet at 1:30, and starting in May, at 6:30. For more info, please contact Carol Farnsworth, 720.838.5901.

Men's Night Out: Now March 21st

Given that our regular fourth Thursday in March falls on Maundy Thursday, we'll meet for a belated St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage meal at Larry Armstrong's home in East Denver, gathering at 6:00 PM. All men are welcome for good food, drink, conversation and fellowship. Please RSVP to Larry, letting him know what you'd like to bring, ie: salad/dessert/beverage. Larry@LarryDArmstrong.com

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.

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

louise@centraldenver.com | 303.567.6281

Director of Mission & Faith Formation, Molly Brown

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Music Director & Church Administrator, Charis Smith

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Facilities Manager, Jon Dreux

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Concert Manager, Glenn Ross

concerts@centraldenver.com

Digital Production Manager, Aaron Black