



# Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 14, 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

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## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### Prelude

*Gymnopedie No. 1*

Erik Satie  
Mallory Bernstein, piano

### Welcome

Louise Westfall

### Gathering Music

God be the love to search and keep me, God, be the prayer to  
move my voice; God be the strength to now up-hold me;  
O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

### Call to Worship

Chris Primus

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Draw near to the Risen One, who is here among us.

**Rejoice in the Risen One, whose steadfast love endures forever.**

Remember all that Jesus has said and done;

**In Christ the promises of God are fulfilled.**

### \*Hymn 254

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you sent Jesus to show us that **nothing—not even death—can separate us from your love. In the resurrection, you show us that Jesus rules over all powers of this earth, and summons us to witness to this truth. We confess it's difficult to embrace this good news in the face of fresh graves, endless violence, and our own selfish choices. Forgive and renew your good purposes in us, that we may find grace to be bright examples of Easter people. 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

All those who are of ten-der heart, for -  
giv-ing oth-ers take your part, sing God's prai-ses, Al-le - lu-ia!  
Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears, so  
ev-en in the midst of tears, sing prai-ses, Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-  
lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

#### \*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 Margaret Lelia Crane, daughter of Tom and Teresa, born September 29, 2019. Elder Rob Habiger 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.**

*[the people are seated.]*

### Prayer of Thanksgiving for Water

## The Baptism

### Presentation

Margaret Lelia Crane 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 488

*I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

### Scripture Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### Sermon

*Still Wondering?*

Louise Westfall

### Moments for Silence

### Offering

*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

*God Is Our Refuge and Strength*

Allan Pote  
Mallory Bernstein, piano

### \*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 246

*Christ Is Alive!*

### \*Charge and Blessing

### Postlude

*Joyful Day*

Mark Hayes  
Mallory Bernstein, piano

-indicates a favorite hymn of a Central member

## Faith Formation Classes TODAY

Please join Rev. Evan Amo for Decolonizing Christianity Series on April 14 and 21 after Worship in the West Classroom.

In Decolonizing Christianity, Rev. Amo will help us to identify the histories and dimensions of colonialism within the living history of Christianity, and seek to rediscover a pre-imperial Christian imagination, pursuing the heart of Jesus and the Kingdom he has brought near.

## UPCOMING CLASSES

**Sunday, April 28th at 11:45am** in the East Classroom, Central will host a presentation of an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) slideshow created by Colorado Ceasefire to help raise awareness. ERPOs help to reduce the daily loss of life due to firearm violence, including gun suicide, but the law is not widely understood. The presentation explains how ERPOs work, plus addresses myths and misunderstandings, and includes time for Q&A.

### **Sunday, May 5 at 11:45 am**

*Embodied Presence, Sacred Belonging* – Alfredo Kemm will lead this class that focuses on living an open-hearted Christian path with space for interpersonal relationships, companion experiences, connections, and identity.

### **Sunday, May 12 at 11:45 am**

*Preserving Identity Through Life* – Kristin Staudt will lead this class that explores maintaining one's sense of self and identity as we age.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 monthly get-togethers are open to all women for friendship building, refreshments and conversation. For more information, contact Carol Farnsworth at [carol.farnsworth@gmail.com](mailto:carol.farnsworth@gmail.com) or 720.838.5901.

### Men's Night Out

Gather in participants' homes for conversation, food and drink, with Central men of all ages. Our next gathering will be April 25, 6PM, at the home of Hugh Brown near downtown. Hugh may be contacted at 303-845-2495 or [hughbrown4@gmail.com](mailto:hughbrown4@gmail.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](http://centraldenver.com) for access to the Zoom Link.

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## Staff Directory

### Pastor, Louise Westfall

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### Director of Mission & Faith Formation, Molly Brown

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### Facilities Manager, Jon Dreux

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### Digital Production Manager, Aaron Black