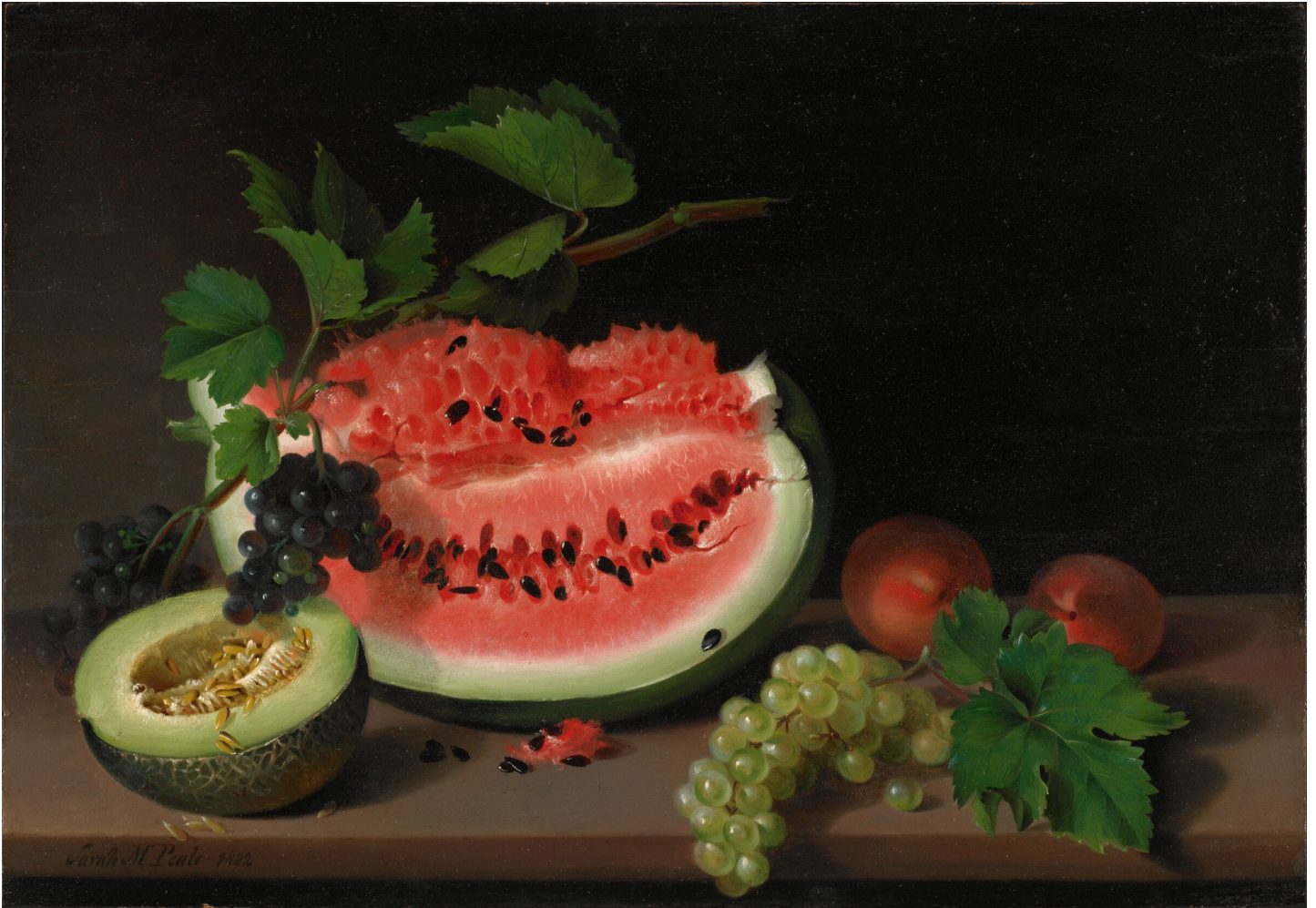




Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Still Life with Watermelon by Sarah Miriam

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 1, 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

Kind im Einschlumm

Robert Schumann
Mallory Bernstein, piano

Welcome

Louise Westfall

Gathering Music

arr. Wil Smith



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

(from Philip Newell, *Praying with the Earth*)

You are the love of each living creature, O God.

You are the warmth of the rising sun.

You are the sturdy presence of the moon at night.

You are the life of the growing earth.

You are the strength of the waves of the sea.

Speak to us this day, O God; speak to us your truth.

Dwell with us, O God, in work and worship, in play and pleasure.

Dwell with us in love.

*Hymn 462 ~

I Love to Tell the Story

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have rebelled against the love that is your essence and ours; we have broken ourselves against your law; we have failed to love one another. Forgive us. Heal and free us for joyful service in the beloved community to which we belong. We pray in Jesus' 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 tender 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!**

Time With Younger Church

[Children gather at the Table and take the light of Christ into the Bible Story Chapel for listening and learning.]

Scripture Reading

John 3:1-17

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

Sermon

Where Did Our Love Go?

Terry Olthoff

Moments for Silent Prayer

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.

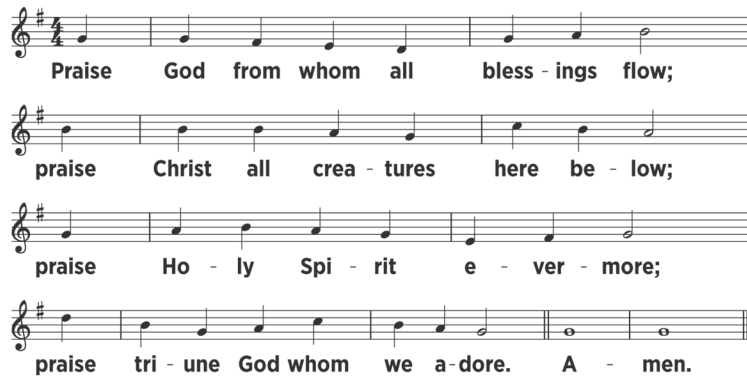
Offertory

Psalm XXIII

Paul Creston
Elizabeth Mirandi, soprano
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 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

All Creatures of our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Mallory Bernstein, piano

-indicates a favorite hymn of a Central member. Please submit your favorites to Pastor Louise for use in an upcoming service.

We welcome the Rev. Terry Olthoff to Central as our guest preacher. Terry retired after a distinguished pastoral ministry and is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination this year! Terry remains active in wider church activities, and he and wife Renee enjoy travel and grandchildren. Thank you, Terry, for bringing the Word to Central today!

THE CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY.

THANK YOU, JON!

We celebrated Jon Dreux's second anniversary as our preeminent Facilities Manager in person last week and simply want to say again how much we appreciate his experience, skills, and passion for Central's mission. On behalf of the congregation and Personnel Committee, Jon, thank you for everything you do to keep this historic building-- and our church--- a vibrant and beautiful downtown space in which to worship, learn, and serve.

CHOIR IS BACK!!

Join us on **Wednesday, September 11th at 7:00pm** in the Choir Room on the 2nd floor for Treats and Tunes.

We have many exciting things this year, including a world premiere, collaboration with a sister choir and special guests throughout the year.

Bring a sweet or savory treat to share and

SEE YOU THERE!!

IT'S HOMECOMING!

Fellowship time will be extended on September 8th to enjoy delicious refreshments, catch up with friends and meet new ones, and check out an array of opportunities to engage with Central through service, worship, faith formation classes and more. We're building Beloved Community together.

SAVE THE DATE

Central's partnership with the Presbytery of Havana, Cuba goes both ways: we travel to Cuba and we receive visitors from Cuba. We are excited to welcome a pastor, Rev. Tirisay Martinez, and youth director, Yosbeni Ochoa, to Central September 10-15. Join us for a welcoming reception and fundraiser at Central on Friday, September 13th, 5:30-7:30pm Rev. Martinez will preach in worship on September 15th, and lead the faith formation class that follows. Youth of all ages will be joined by youth from Wellshire Presbyterian Church for a youth-oriented event at 1pm.

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 in the Narthex.

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 6:30pm. 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

Sherry Kenney hosts the next get-together September 12th, 6:30-8:30pm, at her home in The Waterford, 1900 E. Girard Pl., #600, Englewood, near University and Hampden. There is plenty of parking on the street or in front of the building. RSVPs to 303.523.1936 or clumom49@gmail.com.

Serendipity meets monthly on the second Thursday and welcomes all women to enjoy conversation, refreshments and friendship. Upcoming Serendipity dates include October 10 at the home of Gina Batali-Brooks, November 14 at Mary Halpin's home, and December 12. If you would like to host or co-host in December, please contact Carol Farnsworth, 720.838.5901 or carol.farnsworth@gmail.com.

Men's Night Out

Mark Williams will be hosting Men's Night Out on September 26th at 6:00pm. Hope to have an outdoor cookout with burgers and brats (provided) and sides from my Central brothers. Address is: 7628 Pineridge Terrace, Castle Pines, CO 80108 Please RSVP to me at mark.williams833@gmail.com and let me know if you can come and what you can bring.

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.

Staff Directory

Pastor, Louise Westfall

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Director of Mission & Faith Formation, Molly Brown

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Director of Music & Church Administrator, Charis Smith

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Facilities Manager, Jon Dreux

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Concert Manager, Glenn Ross

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Digital Production Manager, Aaron Black