



# Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Come Thou Font* by Mike Moyers

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

### **JANUARY 5, 2025 | 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

*Impromptu in Gb Major, Op. 90, no. 3* Franz Schubert  
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 (from Isaiah 42)

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen in whom my soul delights.

**I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.**

A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

**He will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth.**

Thus says God, who created the heavens and earth, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

**I am God, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you;**

I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

**To open the eyes that are blind, to bring out from the prison those who sit in darkness.**

I am God, that is my name;

**See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare.**

### \*Hymn 401

*Gather Us In*

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in baptism you name us “beloved”, and promise forgiveness and new life, making us a new community in Christ. We confess that we are preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. Thank you for freeing us in these waters that we may rise in power. Thank you for feeding us at this table of nourishment. Help us, Holy One, to live together in peace. 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!**

#### Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 12:27-31

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

## Sermon

Louise Westfall  
*Into the Future (1): Build Vital Community*

### Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

Who are you? **I am a child of God.**

What does it mean to be a child of God? **That I belong to God, who loves me.**

Who are we? **We are children of God, the family of faith.**

What does it mean to be children of God? **We belong to God who loves us and calls us God's own. In life and death we belong to God.**

When we baptize, we show that all of us are children of God and the Spirit seals us in God's love. **Thanks be to God!**

**Witness**      Fire + Light Campaign      Derek Jones

### 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

*Auf ein altes Bild (On an old painting)*      Hugo Wolf  
Elizabeth Mirandi, soprano  
Mallory Bernstein, piano

In the summer haze of a green landscape,  
By cool water, rushes and reeds,  
See how the Child, born without sin,  
Plays freely on the Virgin's lap!  
And ah! growing blissfully there in the wood,  
Already the tree of the cross is turning green!

### \*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

### The Feast of God's Family

### Invitation

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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.**

### Sharing the Bread and the Cup

### Prayer after Communion

#### \*Hymn 686 ~

*God of Our Life*

### Charge and Blessing

### Postlude

*To God Be The Glory*

arr. Mark Hayes  
Mallory Bernstein, piano

## CENTRAL CONNECTIONS January 12

Enjoy brunch at the home of Pastor Louise, noon. RSVP to her ([louise@centraldenver.com](mailto:louise@centraldenver.com)) and get directions and building code.

Central Connections is a fellowship group for folks primarily 20-45, single, coupled, with or without children.

### SAVE THE DATE

*THIS IS THE DAY:* A cantata in 4 movements commissioned as a celebration of Pastor Louise Westfall's life and work, will be performed at Central during worship on Sunday, January 26th. Central's Chancel Choir will perform with full orchestra conducted by the composer, M. Roger Holland II, to celebrate Pastor Louise's last Sunday at Central. After this musical offering featuring many special guests and Central friends from years past, lunch will follow for all in the Narthex complete with a time to share stories and reflect on the goodness of God and the blessing Pastor Louise has been to Central for the past nearly 14 years. You won't want to miss this!

## 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 in the Narthex.

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 6:30pm. 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

Serendipity, an informal group for all women, resumes monthly meetings in the New Year. Anne Bond hosts at her home January 9. 1:30-3:30pm. We meet on second Thursdays, January through April at 1:30pm and May through November at 6:30pm.

### Men's Night Out

Gather in participants' homes for conversation, food and drink, with Central men of all ages. Please contact Larry Armstrong 303.875.7808 or [Larry@larrydarmstrong.com](mailto:Larry@larrydarmstrong.com) for more information.

### 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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### 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

### Facilities Assistant, Joshua Ortega