



Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 24, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.

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

How Can I Keep from Ringing Robert Lowry
Lisa Phillips, Handbell Choir Director

Welcome

Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra

Gathering Music (seated)



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

Bonnie Clarke

Today, the Word of God comes to us in love,

inviting us not to fear, but to trust in God.

Today, the Word of God comes to us in faith,

inviting us to follow the One who knows us.

Today, the Word of God comes to us in hope,

**inviting us to be gracious in our love and service.
Let us worship with joy!**

*Hymn 372

O for a World

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, you call us before we feel ready.
You entrust us with work we sometimes resist.
You see the gifts in us that we overlook.
Forgive us when fear keeps us from
stepping forward,
when doubt dims our sense of belonging,
and when we forget that you are with us.
Shape us again by your grace,
that we may live into our calling with courage
and joy.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news: God's mercy is older than our doubts and stronger than our fears.

Before we spoke, God forgave.

Before we turned back, God welcomed us home.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to
serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*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!**

First Reading

Isaiah 58:9b—14

Second Reading

Jeremiah 1:4—10

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

Sermon

Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra

Belonging, Becoming, Building

***Affirmation of Faith** from the Patmos Abbey,
Order of St. Columba, Australia

**We believe that our lives are held within the
encircling love of God,
who knows our names
and recognizes our deepest needs.
We believe that Christ is
the divine Child of the living God,
and that his grace is like living waters
that can never be exhausted.
We believe in the birthing, renewing,
enabling Spirit of God,
who yearns over our welfare
as a mother yearns for her child.
We believe that our journey has a purpose
and a destination,
and that our path leads to a glory
we cannot yet imagine.
We believe that in the Church
we are fellow pilgrims on the road,
and that we are called to love one another
as God loves us.
This is our faith, and we are humbled to profess it
in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

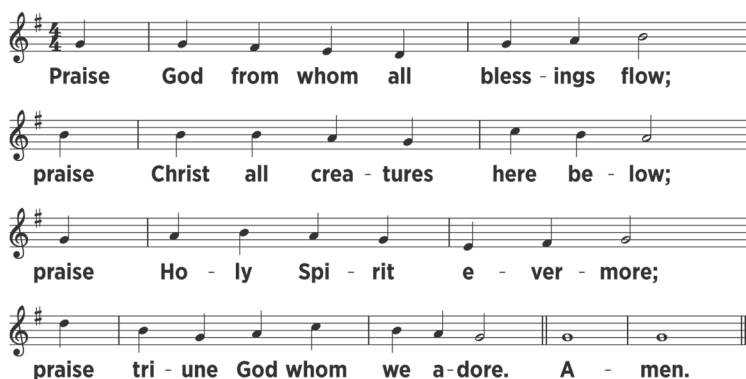
Unity

Kurt Meyer

Central Presbyterian Handbell Choir
Sam LaPorte, Kirsten Schatz, Ahna Smith,
Charis Smith, Leslie Soich; Lisa Phillips, director

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH



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

...praying as Jesus taught us:

**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 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

O Word of God Incarnate

arr. Cindy Berry
Mallory Bernstein, piano

CHOIR IS BACK

YOU ARE INVITED TO CHOIR'S OPEN HOUSE! Join us on Wednesday, September 3, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. We will begin our new year with food, drinks, fun and, of course, MUSIC! All are welcome and no need to bring a thing. Street parking is available, or you may park in the Wells Fargo parking garage at 1700 Sherman Street. See you there!!

SEPTEMBER 7 IS LEGACY SUNDAY

Please plan to join us **Sunday, September 7**, in the Narthex after Worship for a presentation from the Presbyterian Foundation's Rev. Joseph Moore. Together we'll reflect and consider our individual and Central's congregational legacies. How do we value our own personal and shared commitments? Central members will briefly share Central's Endowment position, their families' experiences and processes, along with Rev. Moore's presentation. Also on the agenda: IRS tax-advantaged giving options that can make our gifts go further AND have a substantial tax benefit to the donors.

SAVE THE DATE KICKOFF SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14

Bring your family and friends as we kickoff fall at Central. Join us for lunch and fellowship after worship on Sunday, September 14. You won't want to miss it!

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 | 8:00 a.m.—1:30p.m.
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 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 a.m.—11:45 a.m.
- 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 10:30 a.m.: 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 p.m.. Sign up at: www.centraldenver.com/contact

The deadline for copy for the bulletin and the eVoice is 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday morning. Any submissions after this deadline will be featured in the following week's publication.



Ways to Connect

Serendipity Women's Group

September 11, 6:30 p.m.

Serendipity, an informal group welcoming all women, meets 6:30-8:30p.m, Thursday, September 11, at the home of Lynne Brown in Curtis Park just north of downtown Denver at 29th St. and Champa St. Our agenda? Conversation, refreshments and friendship. RSVPs to lynnebrown001@gmail.com or 303.845.2496.

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 for more information.

Theology on Tap

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

We get together at local breweries to enjoy fellowship and discuss questions of faith. Please contact Charis Smith (charis@centraldenver.com) to be added to the email list for locations.

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Join us in the Choir Room as we sing together, build community and grow in our knowledge of all things musical. All are welcome! Our Choir season begins on Wednesday, September 3.

Women's Bible Study

2nd Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

All women are welcome. Please visit centraldenver.com or email charis@centraldenver.com for access to the Zoom Link. Our first meeting of the new Bible Study year will be Thursday, September 11.

Staff Directory

Pastor, Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra

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