



Central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23, 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

Central Presbyterian Handbell Choir
Ron Covey, Marcie Laporte, Sam LaPorte,
Kirsten Schatz, Ahna Smith, Charis Smith, Leslie Soich
Lisa Phillips, Director

Welcome

Ron LaRocque

Gathering Music 647

Give Thanks

*Call to Worship

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

God has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Hymn 643

Now Thank We all Our God

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, in you we live, move, and find our being. You create us for life abundant, invited to join in the work of your Son and his Kingdom drawn near. Yet we reject your good invitation and your abundance. We get stuck in fear, resentment, and hostility, instead of letting your Spirit of grace glow through us. We normalize the pain and injustice that animate our world, instead of letting your Spirit of justice and compassion reshape our imagination. Forgive us, O God, and lead us to follow faithfully the Way of Jesus, that the world might rejoice in Christ the King. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, meditate in the Good News once again today:

**In the love of God in Jesus Christ,
we are made new and made whole!**

*Response

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.*

*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

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Reading

Luke 23:33-43

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

Sermon

No Kings but a King on a Cross

Evan Amo

*Affirmation of Faith from Colossians 1:13-20

God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Offering

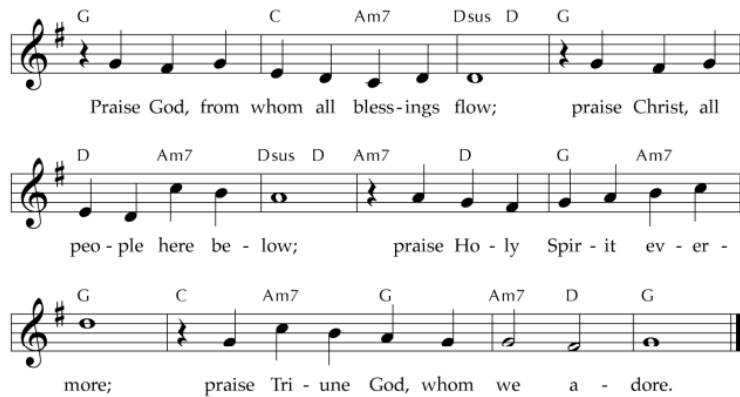
Green Prayer Request Cards and Welcome Cards are located in the pew racks. Please put them and your offering in the collection plates as they are passed.

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

All Creatures of Our God and King arr. Judy Endean
Central Presbyterian Handbell Choir

*Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

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 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

All From You

Samuel Lane
Brian Hickman, piano

Evan Amo is the Pastor of Waypoint Spiritual Community, a nontraditional New Worshiping Community in Denver that brings together people of diverse faith backgrounds to explore faith through community, service, and nature. Some of Evan's recent experiments through Waypoint includes the Post-Patriarchy Men's Group and Trail Church, an inclusive trail running faith gathering. Evan is inspired deeply by the life and ministry of Jesus, accented by the creational-mystic spiritualities of Celtic Christianity and Eastern Orthodoxy, and liberation theologies of many historically oppressed communities. Thus Evan is passionate about weaving the sacred connection of communing with God in the wildness of nature and in works of compassion and justice with the oppressed and afflicted.

The church offices will be closed on November 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Advent Food Boxes for Metro Caring

Beginning Sunday, November 23, please pick up an empty food box decorated for Advent. All boxes contain an Advent calendar with nourishing foods and toiletries needed by Metro Caring. Return completed boxes on Sunday, December 28, or Sunday, January 4. Our goal is 50 completed boxes. Metro Caring will pick up and weigh our Advent offerings of nourishment and health.

Palestinian Market

Plan to stay after Worship on Sundays, November 30, and December 7, to shop in our Narthex. Touch of Grace supports Palestinian artists and craftsmen who produce olive wood carvings, wool felt items, glass ornaments, soaps and bath salts, and Palestinian cooking seasonings. These and other items will be available for sale in the Narthex. **Plan to pay with cash or check.**

The Guadalupe Project

Coming soon to our Narthex...The Giving Tree for Guadalupe! Peruse and select an ornament with details of what to purchase for a child accessing services at The Guadalupe Project. The Giving Tree will be up the week of December 8.

Socks of Love for

Heartbeat Denver Residents

Join in Central's annual tradition of stuffing 120 pairs of warm socks with helpful winter items for our neighbors at Heartbeat Denver Working Men's Program. We will collect these items on Sundays, December 7 and 14. Stay after worship on December 14 to stuff the socks in assembly-line style. Children will deliver these Socks of Love to Heartbeat Denver after the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. See eVoice for link to sign up. Contact ezemanick@gmail.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 | 8:00 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

Serendipity, an informal group welcoming all women, meets 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m., Thursday, December 11, at the home of Deb Stevenson in Westminster. Friendship, conversation, and refreshments is our agenda! RSVPs to dwsteve123@gmail.com or 303.929.7509.

Men's Night Out

December's Men's Night will be on Thursday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m., hosted by Bill and Derek Jones at Derek's home in Central Park. Join us for some early holiday season fellowship! Please RSVP to Derek at derek@feedmedia.com, or by text at 720.232.4061.

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.

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.

Staff Directory

Pastor, Dorothy Piatt-Esguerra

dorothy@centraldenver.com | 303.567.6281

Director of Mission & Faith Formation, Molly Brown

molly@centraldenver.com | 303.567.6285

Director of Music & Church Administrator, Charis Smith

charis@centraldenver.com | 303.567.6283

Facilities Manager, Jon Dreux

jon@centraldenver.com | 303.567.6282

Concert Manager, Glenn Ross

concerts@centraldenver.com

Digital Production Manager, Kristian Bringedahl