

WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Reflection on 'The Other America'

JANUARY 14, 2024





IN OUR PRAYERS

Central is a caring community of faith that includes members, friends, and visitors. We give thought to those who are rarely or currently not able to attend worship here. **Today, we keep in our prayers Doris Johnson.**

CHILDREN

Children are a beloved part of our community and always welcome in the sanctuary with you. At the back of the room are activity bags and books for them to enjoy during their time in worship. Infants through age 6 are also invited to spend the worship hour in our nursery on the upper level, playing and learning together. Changing tables are available in our restrooms with diapering supplies available in the nursery.

FLOWERS

If you would like to bring flowers to place on the chancel for worship in recognition of a special moment or event, contact the office.

PHOTOGRAPHY & SOCIAL MEDIA

You are in a space where live stream videography and photography will occur. To review our photography and media use policy, go to www.centralforgood.org/photography.

LICENSE

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ACCESSIBILITY



Large print worship bulletins and hymns are available from the ushers or in back of the sanctuary.



The sanctuary is T-coil enabled for those with the hearing aid technology. Sound amplification devices are also available from ushers.



Reserved accessible parking and a wheelchair ramp are available in the MPR lot off 9th Street East. Accessible restrooms are in the hall by side sanctuary doors and on the lower level.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the MPR lot, KCP lot, and the World Trade Center Parking Ramp across Cedar Street. If parking in the ramp, see an usher for a voucher to pay your ramp fees.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Central Presbyterian Church occupies the sacred land of the Dakota people. Broken treaties and the systematic loss of life and land led directly to the availability of this sacred space which we presume to possess today. Our faith demands confession of the evils from which we benefit, action to support Indigenous peoples seeking justice, and lives guided by love. We keep this in our minds and hearts as we worship today. For the full statement of our commitment to action, visit our website at www.centralforgood.org/land.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church

Whether you are sharing worship with us in our historic sanctuary or watching online, we hope you feel the vitality of our people, our ministry and our focus on the present. If you are looking for a place to put your faith into action or for a community to provide support and inspiration, we are looking for you. Central is open and affirming of all people. If you are visiting today, we invite you to fill out a Connect card in the pews and drop it in the offering plate.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

As we gather in this space to worship, let us listen for God's voice by silencing our cell phones and using the music to bring us into a time of reflection and prayer.

✦ Please rise in body or in spirit

We Gather in God's Presence

PRELUDE

Billie's Song (by Valerie Capers)

Alex Woods, piano

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Amos 5

Jane Lonergan

One: Seek good and not evil, that you may live;

All: **Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate.**

One: Do not bring solemn assemblies, nor the finest offerings, burnt-offerings and grain-offerings;

All: **But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

✦ OPENING PRAYER

Loving and compassionate God, we share one faith, have one calling, have one Creator, and are filled with one Spirit. Together we have come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ that calls us to reconciliation between all people. Help us to be one, transcending all barriers that human beings put up, sharing a common humanity, bound together by love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

✦ HYMN

My Lord! What a Morning

Hymn #352

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

One: The peace of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

LITANY OF CONFESSION

One: We believe that the church is called to be the salt and light in the world.

All: Therefore, we reject the sin of racism.

One: We believe that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker.

All: Therefore, we reject the sin of racism.

One: We believe that the church witnesses both by word and deed to the new Creation in which justice dwells.

All: Therefore, we reject the sin of racism.

One: We believe that God's lifegiving Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of division and hatred, bitterness and enmity.

All: Therefore, we reject the sin of racism.

One: We believe that God's lifegiving Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience to God's loving justice which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

All: Therefore, we reject the sin of racism which dishonors the image of God, betrays God's Good News, and corrupts the mission of the church.

One: God's call is made new to each generation. May we live and act in anticipation of God's coming Reign of reconciliation.

We Listen for God's Voice

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Please see announcements for details on today's ministry programs. If you are new to Central, please come with your child in order to meet our staff and provide emergency contact information.

SENDING SONG

Go now in peace; Go now in peace;
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, you are speaking. Open our hearts and minds to hear your voice and follow your call. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Isaiah 54:10, Amos 5:21-24, Philippians 4:6-7, Colossians 3:12-15

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Reflections on 'The Other America'

Dr. Ernest Lloyd

We Respond to God's Gifts

✠HYMN

Together We Serve

Hymn #767

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Ecumenical)

Our Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING

You are invited to place offering gifts and completed pew cards in the plates as ushers pass them. You may also give online at www.centralforgood.org/give or submit to the office during normal office hours.

OFFERTORY

Central Choir, directed by Paul Gulsig; Alex Woods, piano
Roll Down, Justice (by Mark Miller)

✦ SONG OF RESPONSE

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, you are generous. As we return a portion of what you have given us, may it be used to proclaim your love in words and actions, here and everywhere. Amen.

We Are Sent Into God's World

✦ HYMN

May the God of Hope Go With Us

Hymn #765

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION - Adapted from Jeremiah 29

One: We have gathered together in this sacred place to worship God, be formed as disciples of Jesus, and be empowered by the Holy Spirit. God is now sending us out to bless the world.

All: Therefore we will seek the good of the city where God has called us. We will pray for it, open our doors with compassion, serve our neighbors, and be attentive to God's presence; for in its good we will find our own.

One: God is out there.

All: Let us go forth!

POSTLUDE

This Little Light of Mine (arr. Mark Hayes)

Alex Woods, piano

Announcements

View our church calendar and share upcoming events at www.centralforgood.org/calendar.

Thank you, Dr. Ernest Lloyd

Dr. Ernest Lloyd grew up as the son of a sharecropper in North Carolina. Experiencing firsthand the inequities his father faced, Dr. Lloyd marched with some of the great civil rights leaders of the era such as Jesse Jackson, Ralph Abernathy, Dennis Banks, Russell Means, and others. He made the choice to dedicate his life to fighting for the civil rights of BIPOC individuals.

Dr. Lloyd moved to Minnesota in 1980 after being recruited to work for the Minnesota Department of Transportation. A civil rights activist, Dr. Lloyd has a long history of supporting marginalized communities and small businesses in the pursuit of civil and economic rights, both as a public administrator and volunteer. He has mentored students, teaching the children about the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and how to be pillars of success to their communities.

Dr. Lloyd has a doctorate in public policy and administration from Hamline University. He provided guidance to U of MN scholars and community activists expanding on his 2013 dissertation *How Routing an Interstate Highway through South Minneapolis Disrupted an African-American Neighborhood*. This led to the production of *Human Toll: A Public History of 35W* exhibit, running from 2020-2022 at the Hennepin History Museum in Minneapolis. Such success led to a Fellow in Residence, College of Liberal Arts Community Engagement Hub, where Dr. Lloyd and co-editor are contracted with the University of MN Press to publish their book *Human Tolls: Public Histories & Community Responses to Twin Cities' Freeways*, due in 2025.

Ernest enjoys writing poetry, going to car shows, and dancing with wife Catherine. Ernest and Catherine enjoy spending time with their five children and their families, and his greatest joy is spent caring for and playing with his grandchildren.

IN CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY TODAY

CHILDREN AGE BIRTH – 6: Our beautiful nursery is staffed by professional caregivers and full of fun toys and good friends. Childcare is available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. today.

GRADES K – 8: Sunday Connection for K-5 follows the Time for Children upstairs in the Orange Room with grades 6-8 meeting in the Galilee Room. (Sign your child in at the back of the sanctuary before worship, then pick them up in the Orange Room upstairs at 11:30 a.m.)

If you are new to Central, or have questions about ministry for those under 18, we invite you to reach out to Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@centralforgood.org.

In Our Prayers

This weekend, Central's youth are experiencing Snow Camp at Clearwater Forest. Please join us in holding them in our prayers as they enjoy their time together and return safely home.

Pickup Your Offering Envelopes

If you ordered a box of 2024 Central offering envelopes, they are now available for pick-up in the Friendship Room. Any not picked up TODAY will be mailed. Please contact the office if you have not yet ordered, but would still like to receive a box of pre-dated offering envelopes.

Economic Rights Discussion Continues with Anti-Racism Focus

Acquiring and maintaining wealth becomes a racial issue when inheritance is interrupted - through unlawful seizure of lands, loss of property during refugee resettlement, disparity

in compensation for land involved in eminent domain, or other circumstances that cause families of color to move.

Save the date for Sunday, January 28 at 11:45 a.m. to hear about potential remedies as the Anti-Racism Task Force members share information and lead discussion about reparations. Included will be review of a legislative proposal in Minnesota to create a large Indian Recovery Fund through a small fee when land is bought and sold (deed tax) - something for which Central members will soon be able to advocate. If time permits, we will also do some brainstorming of other economic justice actions we can be involved in, as inspired by Pastor Chris's Adult Faith Formation talk this month in the month.

The January 28 discussion will be held in the meeting lounge upstairs with a Zoom hybrid option available. Check the eConnect or reach out to the office for Zoom link.

GIVING

Be it regular giving, special offerings, or a donation drive, Central offers a variety of options to fit your needs.



Drop in the Offering Plate
Each Sunday during worship



Mail a Check
500 Cedar St, St. Paul, MN 55101



Deliver In Person
Bring to office (M-Th 9am-3:30pm)



Donate Online
www.centralforgood.org/give



Text Giving Via Credit Card
Text givecentral to 73256.



Bank Account Transfer
Set up one time or recurring online

Have Questions? Call (651) 224-4728 ext. 100 or email office@centralforgood.org.

This Week at Central

SUNDAY 01/14

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

MONDAY 01/15

Office is closed in observance of the Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

TUESDAY 01/16

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

WEDNESDAY 01/17

- 10:30 a.m. Peaceful Presence
11:45 a.m. Wednesday Community Lunch
7:15 p.m. Central Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY 01/18

- 5:30 p.m. Connection Circle (on Zoom)

SUNDAY 01/21

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Third Sunday Lunch
11:30 a.m. Lifeboats & Compass Youth Groups
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen preaches and Central Choir sings with pianist Alex Woods. After worship, we invite all to stay for Third Sunday Lunch.

The Central Team

(651) 224-4728

PASTOR

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen
chriscs@centralforgood.org, ext. 102

ADMINISTRATION

Anna Sanchez, Church Administrator
office@centralforgood.org, ext. 100

Christie Rachelle,
Director of Communications
christier@centralforgood.org, ext. 105

Laura Nichols-Endres, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus
Mary Lange, Receptionist
Custodians: Lavar Jones, Peter Evarts

MINISTRIES

Jennifer Anderson,
Director of Music & Youth Ministry
jennifera@centralforgood.org, ext. 103

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Child Care Staff: Megan Beese,
Jess Garner, Maria Stokes

Laura Walls,
Sunday Connection Coordinator
lauraw@centralforgood.org

MUSIC LEADERSHIP

Eric Bartlett, Abbie Betinis, Paul Damico-Carper,
Shanta Hejmadi, Tonia Hughes Kendrick,
Melanie Ohnstad, Clara Osowski,
Adam Van der Sluis, Alexander Woods

Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader
maureens@centralforgood.org

Barb Westman, Community Lunch
Chef & Kitchen Manager