



WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Mid-Winter Sabbath: Not All is Well

JANUARY 21, 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 LeVuo Juhnke.**

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

Alex Woods, piano

Because He Lives by William & Gloria Gaither, arr. Phillip Keveren)

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Psalm 139

Laura Nichols-Endres

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

All: You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

One: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

All: If I take the wings of the morning, even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

✦ OPENING PRAYER

Lord, you are with us at all times and in all circumstances. You walk with us when all is well, and when all is not well. Make us attentive to the comfort of your abiding presence during those seasons in which we struggle, we wonder, we grieve, and we hurt, and lead us to seasons of goodness and abundance. Amen.

✦ HYMN

All Who Hunger Gladly Gather

Hymn #509

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: In the sure hope of forgiveness, let us confess our sins to God.

All: God, we come before you in the presence of one another to confess our sin. We are too quick to proclaim "peace, peace," in our own lives when not all is well. We seek ways to ignore that which is wrong, giving ourselves temporary balms. We ignore that you are within times of struggle as well as times of success. Help us to name the wrong, and welcome your steadfast love in the midst of all. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: From the beginning of all things, God had in mind to create, redeem, and sustain all things for good. Therefore, with the confidence of the children of God, we proclaim:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven..

We Listen for God's Voice

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jennifer Anderson

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 - Exodus 16:1-8

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 2:25-35

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Mid-Winter Sabbath: Not All is Well

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

We Respond to God's Gifts

✦HYMN

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Hymn #81

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; Alex Woods, piano

Nunc Dimittis (by R. Scholz)

✦ 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

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace [Song of Simeon]

Hymn #545

✦ CHARGE & BENECTION - 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

Alex Woods, piano

Revive Us Again (by John Husband, arr. Mark Hayes)

Announcements

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

Third Sunday Lunch

You are invited to join us for a chef catered lunch in the lower level dining room following worship today. A free will donation of \$10 per person is suggested, although no one is turned away for lack of funds. Vegetarian option is available.

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.

Sign Up for News Updates!

Want to stay in the loop about church news and events? Sign up for our monthly newsletter or weekly eConnect email online at www.centralforgood.org/newsletter.

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-8 follows the Time for Children upstairs in the Galilee Room. (Sign your child in at the back of the sanctuary before worship, then pick them up in the Galilee Room at 11:30 a.m.)

GRADES 6 – 12: Lifeboats (for grades 6-8) and Compass (grades 9-12) will meet from 11:30 - 1:30 p.m. today in the Youth Room.

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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

FEBRUARY 4 @ 11:30 AM

NEXT MONTH'S TOPIC: ANTI-RACISM

Particular in these last years, many congregations, including Central, have heard God's call to Anti-Racism. White Americans have been confronted once again with a truth that has been raised by people of color for centuries - white supremacy has been both the de jure and de facto law of the land from our founding until today. If we believe in the inherent God-giving dignity of call people, then racism in any form is not only abhorrent, but heretical to our faith.

The Bible has been used in antithetical ways, both in defense of the institutions of white supremacy, and as a testament of liberation for oppressed people. How do we, as modern interpreters of the Bible, read our sacred text responsibly, hearing both God's clarion call to liberation, and understanding the ways it has been used as a tool of oppression? Join us after worship on February 4th for a Biblical view of racism and the resources available to affirm God's liberating and justice-seeking love for all people.

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 Your Gift
Text givecentral to 73256
to give via credit card



Bank Account Transfer
Set up one time or recurring

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

This Week at Central

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. - 1:30 p.m.
Lifeboats & Compass
Youth Groups Meet
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

TUESDAY 01/23

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Anti-Racism Task Force

WEDNESDAY 01/24

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

SUNDAY 01/28

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Board of Deacons
11:45 a.m. Knitting Group
11:45 a.m. Anti-Racism Task Force
Discussion on Economic Rights
(in Upstairs Meeting Lounge)
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

We will install new elders and deacons and welcome back soloist Clara Osowski, mezzo soprano, along with the Central Choir and pianist Alex Woods.

The Central Team

(651) 224-4728

PASTOR

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen
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ADMINISTRATION

Anna Sanchez, Church Administrator
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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