

WELCOME TO CENTRAL

God in the Way

OCTOBER 29, 2023





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

Blessed Assurance (by F. Crosby)

Tonia Hughes Kendrick, soloist; Alex Woods, piano

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Matt Ehling

One: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Praise God with trumpet, lute, and harp!

Many: **Praise God with tambourine and dance!**

One: Praise God with strings, pipe, and cymbals!

Many: **Let all things living praise the Lord! Hallelujah!**

✦ OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we praise you in our hearts and minds, with our voices and bodies. May our praise honor you and reveal to us your goodness, your justice, and your love. May our lives reflect the beauty that we encounter in you. Amen.

✦ PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King

Hymn #15, verses 1, 2, 3, 6

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

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

All: **And also with you.**

MOMENT FOR WORSHIP & ARTS

Worship, Music & Arts Committee

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

All: **God, we confess before you and in the presence of our siblings that we have sinned. We have filled the world with noise and clatter instead of beauty and**

joy. We have raised up our own voices and silenced others. We have let your presence go unnoticed. In your mercy, forgive us and open us to the beauty and joy of your presence, here and in all places.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: From the beginning, 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 (by N. Sleeth)

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 - Matthew 17:1-8

ANTHEM

Tonia Hughes Kendrick, soloist

How Great Thou Art (by C. Boberg)

SCRIPTURE READING - 2 Chronicles 5:2, 11-14

SERMON - "God in the Way"

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

We Respond to God's Gifts

HYMN

Hymn #689

When the Morning Stars Together

CONFIRMATION - Joseph Ehling

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Adapted from Clarence Jordan's Cotton Patch Gospel

Our Parent, O Spiritual One,
Your Name be truly honored.
Your Movement spread, your will prevail
Through earth, as through the heavens.
Grant us sustaining bread each day.
Forgive our debts as we forgive
The debts of all who cannot pay.
And from confusion keep us clear;
Deliver us from evil's sway.
For the Movement, Power, and Honor are yours,
From now until the end.

CALL FOR OFFERING

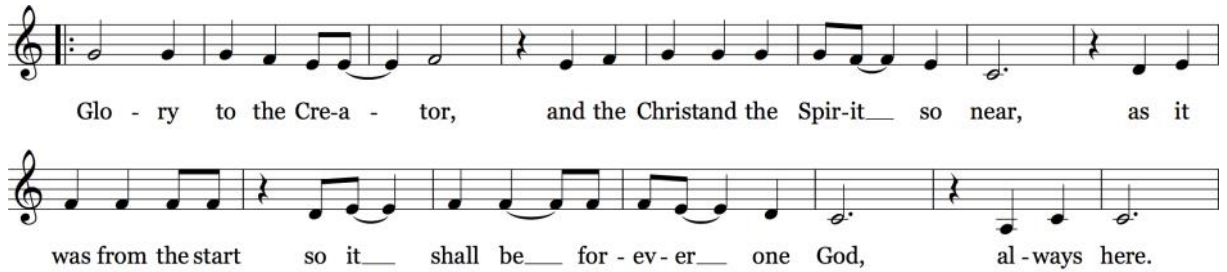
You are invited to place offering gifts and completed pew cards in the plates as ushers pass them. You may also give online at www.centralforgood.org/give or submit to the office during normal office hours.

OFFERTORY

Tonia Hughes Kendrick, soloist; Central Choir;
Alex Woods, piano, Lucy Hiestand, set

Goodness of God (by B. Fielding)

✦ DOXOLOGY



Glo - ry to the Cre-a - tor, and the Christ and the Spir-it__ so near, as it
was from the start so it__ shall be__ for - ev - er__ one God, al - ways here.

✦ 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

Praise Ye the Lord

Hymn #633, verses 1 & 2

✦ CHARGE & BLESSING - 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

I Sing the Greatness of Our God (by Fred Bock)

Alex Woods, piano

GIVE IN A DIFFERENT WAY: Via Text Message!



Simply text **givecentral** to **73256** on your smart phone, then follow the prompts to give your offering via credit card or bank account transfer. You can do one time, or set up a recurring gift.

Explore other ways to give on our website at www.centralforgood.org/give.

Announcements

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

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 are invited up to Egypt (the Galilee Room) for Sunday Connection, as we continue our journey with Moses. Sign your child in at the back table near the Ushers. Pick up your child in the **DINING ROOM** on lower level today following worship.

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.

All-Church Variety Show Today

Join us this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary for our all-church, all-ages variety show. This will be a fun evening of songs, laughter, and joyful expression of creative talents from our church community. It will be an evening you won't want to miss!

Emergency Preparedness

After worship, feel free to join leaders of Central for an exercise in emergency preparedness from noon to 12:30 p.m., including a training for ushers and other leaders in what to do in the case of a fire, tornado, or other emergencies.

All Saints' Sunday

Next Sunday we will remember those who have died in the past year by name in observance of All Saints' Day. We would

welcome your help in remembering those names. If you have a Central member, friend, or family member you would like included in this time, please call (651) 224-4728 ext.100 or office@centralforgood.org.

Loved ones are also invited to bring pictures and objects of those who have died to worship this day, to be placed on the pulpit before services begin. For those who wish to do so, you may bring those items to the church office Monday - Friday between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. to have them placed on your behalf before worship.

Deacons

The Board of Deacons is one of the two bodies of ordained leaders in the church, along with the Elders (the Session). Deacons work with the pastor to care for the members of the congregation. That includes things like

coordinating rides to church for members who don't drive, providing meals after a major life event, visiting for prayer and conversation, and more.

If you know somebody who might appreciate a connect with a Deacon, please let us know by emailing Pastor Chris or the church office, and we'll get you connected! And if you think you might be able to help with a concrete need like giving a ride or making a meal, let us know as well!

Faith Formation Class

NOVEMBER TOPIC: HEALTH CARE

Health care is a critical issue for human rights. This is true for issues that dominate contemporary political discourse - take access to gender-affirming care - as well as broader issues like who gets access to health care, and how health care contributes to a thriving life.

As readers of the Bible, we believe, or at least suspect, that God has something to say to us about a good and thriving life for all through the words of Scripture. Yet it's difficult to be in conversation about modern issues with a document written in the ancient near east, with vastly different assumptions and access to basic knowledge (the germ theory of disease wasn't widely accepted until just over 150 years ago!).

On November 5 at 11:45 a.m. in the upstairs Lounge, we'll have some of that conversation. We'll identify the ways in which access to health care is part of a thriving life, how we can be responsible readers of the Bible as we look for God's intentions for the good of all, and how we might act in the world in

response to that intersection. Join us, bring an open mind, and bring your questions.

Book Study of 'In the Night of Memory'

On November 16 at 7:00 p.m. the Anti-Racism Task Force is hosting on Zoom a discussion of *In the Night of Memory* by Indigenous author and professor Linda LaGarde Grover. Hailed as "a moving story of loss and recovery in Native America... a remarkable achievement," this novel follows a mother who surrenders her daughters to the courts, only to become another in a long history of missing Native women.

A limited number of copies of the book are available TODAY in the church office for \$15, or during the week by emailing Anna Sanchez at office@centralforgood.org.

Serve with Central

Each week, the ministries of Central are done by the many volunteers who make it possible. Thank you! If you haven't already, consider volunteering – even just once – in one of these ways:

- Prep and serve Wednesday Community Lunches.
- Care for children in the nursery on Sunday mornings.
- Welcome Sunday guests as an usher or greeter.
- Help lead worship as a liturgist.

All these and more are available at www.centralforgood.org/volunteer.



Living Our Values

STEWARDSHIP

From now through November 12, we'll be highlighting the ministries of Central Presbyterian Church during this season of stewardship. Our budget is one way we put our values into practice, and we invite you to consider how your gifts can help us do the ministry God is calling us towards together.

Today, we are highlighting Central's worship and arts ministry.

Music and the arts are a key way we encounter the living God in worship and in our lives. Supporting our music program, welcoming guest artists, and providing a space for all of us to express ourselves with creativity directs us beyond ourselves and helps us imagine a more beautiful and just world. .

As you consider this ministry and the many others of Central, we invite you to do a few things:

- Read through the packet titled "Living Our Values." These are available at the doors to the sanctuary, and are a "look under the hood" at how our finances work, and where we hope to go.
- Consider your gift and pray about it. Your decision to give financially is an act of trust in this congregation and in God. While we'll never ask you to give more than is financially sound for you, we do hope that you will consider what's possible as part of our shared community of faith.
- Make a pledge by November 12. We ask for pledges and regular giving because it helps us budget wisely. By letting us know your plan, we'll be able to plan for the coming year and the ministry we'll do together.

Thank you. You are making possible the witness and ministry of this church within these walls, and beyond as God sends us out.

Read about our stewardship goals at www.centralforgood.org/give.



Make a Pledge

YES, I WANT TO GIVE! (RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE)

- _____ Please provide me a box of weekly offering envelopes.
- _____ I want to pay monthly by direct bank transfer. (Set up online at www.centralforgood.org/give)
- _____ Please contact me about donating stock or other investments.
- _____ I want to donate via by credit card. (www.centralforgood.org/give)
- _____ I would like to make a special year-end gift of \$_____.



My pledge for 2024 is \$_____ per week, month, year (circle one)

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Thank you for your financial gift.

STAY CONNECTED!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
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FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
instagram.com/centralforgood



WATCH VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE
youtube.com (search for Central)



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www.centralforgood.org/newsletter



EMAIL QUESTIONS ANYTIME
office@centralforgood.org



VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer



THE ADVENT SEASON LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS IS NEARLY UPON US!

Mark your calendars to join us throughout the coming season as we prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26 - 10:30 A.M.
First Sunday of Advent.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 - 10:00 A.M.
Deck the Halls Brunch with the Women of Central and All-Church Decorating at 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 - 10:30 A.M.
Second Sunday of Advent

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 - 9:30 A.M.
Children's Pageant Dress Rehearsal at 9:30 a.m. (Prior rehearsals on will be held on November 12, 19, and December 3).

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 - 10:30 A.M.
Third Sunday of Advent including presentation of the Children's Pageant.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 - 10:30 A.M.
Fourth Sunday of Advent with *Nine Lessons and Carols*.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Worship Services at 4:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Candlelight Service. (There will be no morning worship service).

www.centraforgood.org/calendar

This Week at Central

SUNDAY 10/29

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
6:30 p.m. Talent Show
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

MONDAY 10/30

- 7:30 p.m. Nominating Committee

TUESDAY 10/31

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY 11/01

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

THURSDAY 11/02

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

SUNDAY 11/05

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship - All Saints' Sunday
11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Lifeboats Middle School Meets
6:30 p.m. Compass Senior High Meets
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

Pastor Chris preaches on Deuteronomy 6:1-9 as we share the Lord's Supper, celebrate our children on a SPARK! Sunday, and bear witness to the cloud of saints who have gone on before this All Saints' Day. Dr. Melanie Ohnstad, organist joins us along with our Central Choir.

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