



CENTRAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PREPARATION

**January 22, 2023**

**Third Sunday After Epiphany**

### WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent,’ he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.”

—MARTIN LUTHER

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities; and in all our dangers and necessities, stretch forth your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 4-9

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

### Prelude and Fugue No. 5 in D Major

Dmitri Shostakovich

*Ben Sellick*

### All the Way my Savior Leads Me

Fanny Crosby · Chris Tomlin · Matt Redman

All the way my Savior leads me—  
What have I to ask beside?  
How could I doubt His tender mercy?  
Who through life has been my guide?

All the way my Savior leads me—  
Cheers each winding path I tread,  
Gives me grace for every trial,  
Feeds me with the living bread.

*You lead me and keep me from falling.  
You carry me close to Your heart.  
And surely Your goodness and mercy will follow me.*

All the way my Savior leads me—  
Oh, the fullness of His love!  
Oh, the sureness of His promise,  
In the triumph of His blood.

And when my spirit clothed immortal  
Wings its flight to realms of day,  
This my song through endless ages.  
Jesus led me all the way.  
Jesus led me all the way. *Chorus*

All the way my Savior leads me.  
All the way my Savior leads me.

## WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

### Psalm 104

LEADER Bless the LORD, O my soul!

PEOPLE **O LORD my God, you are very great!**

LEADER You are clothed with splendor and majesty,  
covering yourself with light as with a garment,

PEOPLE **Stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

LEADER He lays the beams of his chambers on the  
waters; he makes the clouds his chariot;

PEOPLE **He rides on the wings of the wind;**

LEADER I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

PEOPLE **I will sing praise to my God while I have  
being.**

## HYMN

### O Worship the King

Robert Grant · William Gardiner

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
And gratefully sing His wonderful love.  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, and sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light and canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Love lifted me, Love lifted me.  
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.  
Love lifted me, Love lifted me.  
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.

O Measureless Might, Ineffable Love,  
While angels delight to worship above.  
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

## **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we fail to bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you freely give yourself to us, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy forgive us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life, and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### Luke 24:46-47

It is written that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

LEADER        Hear and receive the good news of the gospel:  
                    in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**ALL**

**Thanks be to God!**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

LEADER        The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**ALL**

**And also with you.**

## HYMN

### How Great is Our God

Chris Tomlin · Jesse Reeves · Ed Cash

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty,  
Let all the earth rejoice—all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,  
How great is our God, and all will see.  
How great—how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands,  
Beginning and the End—Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead, Three in One, Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb—the Lion and the Lamb. *Chorus*

Name above all names, worthy of all praise,  
My heart will sing, how great is our God.  
Name above all names, worthy of all praise,  
My heart will sing, how great is our God. *Chorus*

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy catholic Church,  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYER WITH CHILDREN

*All preschool and elementary age children are invited to the front of the church and will be dismissed to Children's Church with their teachers where they will read, sing, learn, and play in an environment suited to their language and style. Alternatively, children are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary to worship alongside the adults for the duration of the service.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*We regularly pray for needs in our congregation, our neighborhood and city, and the world. Please let the prayer ministry know of your prayer requests by visiting [centralchurchnyc.org/prayerrequest](http://centralchurchnyc.org/prayerrequest).*

## OFFERING

*If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give. For members and regular attenders of Central, give generously as you are able. We give because all we have has been graciously given to us by God. Our offerings express our joyful dependence upon God and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal.*

*Please text **centralchurchnyc** to (833) 737-6262 or visit [centralchurchnyc.org/give](http://centralchurchnyc.org/give) in order to give electronically.*

## OFFERTORY

### For All My Life

Hank Bentley · Jon Guerra · Taya

When my troubles are a little too heavy  
Who can I turn to to share the weight?  
When my mind is cluttered and cloudy  
Who can I turn to to clear the way?  
Who can I turn to? I turn to You.

*I won't lean on my own understanding.  
I will let go, follow empty-handed.  
You say Your yoke is easy.  
You say Your burden's light,  
So I'll let You lead me for all my life.*

When my past is still trying to haunt me  
Who can I turn to to give me grace?  
When my future is a little uncertain  
Who can I turn to, turn to today?  
Who can I turn to? I turn to You. *Chorus*

Some days are long, some work is tough.  
Whatever I lack, You make it up.  
Your yoke is easy.  
Your burden is light.  
You gave me life. You give me love.  
Whenever I'm dry, You fill my cup.  
Your yoke is easy.  
Your burden is light. *Chorus*

I know Your yoke is easy. I know Your burden's light,  
So I'll let You lead me for all my life.

## THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth LM

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

### Mark 1:14-20

The passage can be found on page 836 of the pew Bible.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

<sup>16</sup>Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

## SERMON

*The Authentic Jesus* | News Announcer

Rev. Jason Harris

## THE THANKSGIVING

LEADER Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE **We lift them up to the Lord.**

LEADER Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

LEADER It is indeed right, our duty and joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, Lord, holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this, your Table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but solely in your great mercy. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your Table, but you are the same Lord who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore gracious Lord, that we who now receive these gifts of bread and wine, according to our Savior's Word, may share in the body and blood of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, that we may dwell in him forever and he in us. Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### **Prayer for Those Searching for Truth**

Lord Jesus Christ, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### **Prayer of Belief**

Lord Jesus Christ, I acknowledge that you are so holy and I am so sinful that you had to die for me. Yet you are so merciful and I am so loved that you were willing to die for me. I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed by what I have done and by what I have failed to do. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **Prayer of Commitment**

Lord Jesus, I know that if I do not love you with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength, I shall love something else with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. Grant that by loving you first I may be liberated from all lesser loves and loyalties and have you as my first love, my chief good, and my final joy. Amen.

*Communion is served with wine and gluten-free bread. Individually wrapped wafers and grape juice are available at each station.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### What a Beautiful Name

Ben Fielding · Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning,  
One with God the Lord Most High.  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is,  
What a beautiful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.  
What a beautiful Name it is;  
Nothing compares to this.  
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want Heaven without us,  
So Jesus, You, brought Heaven down.  
My sin was great, Your love was greater;  
What could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is,  
What a wonderful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.  
What a wonderful Name it is;  
Nothing compares to this.  
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You.  
You silenced the boast of sin and grave.  
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory,  
For You are raised to life again.  
You have no rival; You have no equal.

Now and forever, God You reign.  
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory;  
Yours is the Name, above all names.

What a powerful Name it is,  
What a powerful Name it is,  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King.  
What a powerful Name it is;  
Nothing can stand against.  
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Holy, Holy, are you Lord God Almighty.  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb.  
For you are Holy, Holy, are you Lord God Almighty.  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb, Amen.

## **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.

## BENEDICTION

## DISMISSAL

LEADER        Let us go forth to serve the world as those who  
                  love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

ALL             **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Members of our prayer team will be available immediately following the service at the front of the sanctuary to pray confidentially for you about any need or concern you might have. We encourage you to avail yourself of this opportunity to receive prayer. ∞*

## **SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTERS**

*Our weekly newsletter is sent out every Friday morning. Be sure to subscribe to stay up to date on everything happening at Central!*

*Ministry and special series newsletters and posts from our journal *Christ & Contemporary Culture* are sent out on a monthly or quarterly basis.*

## **CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Have you experienced a major life event such as a birth, marriage, or baptism that you would like to share with the Central community? Fill out our online form at [centralchurchnyc.org/announcements](http://centralchurchnyc.org/announcements). All submissions are reviewed by Central staff before being published in the Sunday bulletin.*