



CENTRAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PREPARATION

**June 2, 2024**

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**

## WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“Jesus’ mission to Israel, reaching its climax in his death and resurrection, is thus to be implemented by the disciples’ mission to the world. That’s why they need the Holy Spirit: Jesus’ breath, God’s breath, to enable them to do the job they could otherwise never dream of doing.”

—N. T. WRIGHT

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: mercifully accept our prayers, and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

PSALM: Psalm 81:1-10

SECOND READING: 12 Corinthians 4:5-12

GOSPEL: Mark 2:23-3:6

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

### Instrumental Prelude

*Ben Sellick*

### Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Henry Francis Lyte · John Goss

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor  
To His people in distress.  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows.  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

## WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

### Isaiah 2

LEADER            It shall come to pass in the latter days that the  
                         mountain of the house of the LORD,

PEOPLE            **Shall be established as the highest of the  
                         mountains, and shall be lifted up above the  
                         hills;**

LEADER            And all the nations shall flow to it, and many  
                         peoples shall come, and say:

PEOPLE            **“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the  
                         LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob,**

LEADER            That he may teach us his ways and that we may  
                         walk in his paths.”

PEOPLE            **For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the  
                         word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

# HYMN

## All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Edward Perronet · Oliver Holden

All Hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng,  
We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

## **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**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### Acts 5:31

God exalted Jesus at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

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

## Made Me Glad

Miriam Webster

I will bless the Lord forever,  
I will trust Him at all times.  
He has delivered me from all fear,  
He has set my feet upon a rock.

I will not be moved,  
And I'll say of the Lord:

*You are my Shield, my Strength,  
My Portion, Deliverer,  
My Shelter, Strong Tower,  
My very present Help in time of need.*

Whom have I in Heaven but You?  
There's none I desire beside You.  
You have made me glad,  
And I'll say of the Lord: *Chorus*



# PROFESSION OF FAITH

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God,  
Begotten, not made,  
Of one Being with the Father.  
Through Him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven:  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was  
made man.  
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day He rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead,  
And His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. 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 submit prayer requests to [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.*

*You can give online by texting **centralchurchnyc** to **833-737-6262** or visiting **[centralchurchnyc.org/give](https://centralchurchnyc.org/give)**.*

## OFFERTORY

### That's My King

CeCe Winans

*Featuring the Central Youth Choir*

I wish I could tell you, wish I could describe it,  
But I can't contain it, can't keep it to myself.  
There aren't enough colors to paint the whole picture,  
Not enough words to ever say what I found.

Wonderful and beautiful and glorious and holy,  
He is merciful and powerful.  
Who we talkin' about? That's my King.

*We declare the glory,  
Give Him all the honor.  
Altogether worthy,  
Who we talkin' about?  
That's my King.  
There's no one before You.  
Yes, we will adore You.*

*All of this is for You.  
Who we talkin' about?  
That's my King.*

I'm not letting the rocks cry without joining the chorus.  
There aren't enough notes to make the harmony.  
It's the song of the angels through all of the ages.  
It's all of the earth and heaven's symphony.

Wonderful and beautiful and glorious and holy,  
He is merciful and powerful.  
Who we talkin' about?  
That's my King. *Chorus*

That's my King, that's my God,  
That's my Shepherd, my protector.  
That's my King, that's my Rock,  
That's my Anchor, my Defender.

Who we talkin' about? That's my King. *Chorus*

## 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

### John 20:19-23

The passage can be found on pages 906-907 of the pew Bible.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Judeans. Jesus came and stood in the middle of them. “Peace be with you,” he said. <sup>20</sup>With these words, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were overjoyed when they saw the master. <sup>21</sup>“Peace be with you,” Jesus said to them again. “As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>With that, he breathed on them. “Receive the Holy Spirit,” he said. <sup>23</sup>“If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you retain anyone’s sins, they are retained.”

—THE KINGDOM NEW TESTAMENT

## SERMON

### So I Send You

The Right Reverend N. T. Wright

## 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

## This I Believe (The Creed)

Matt Crocker · Ben Fielding

Our Father Everlasting,  
The All Creating One, God Almighty.  
Through Your Holy Spirit,  
Conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

*I believe in God our Father,  
I believe in Christ the Son,  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Our God is Three in One.  
I believe in the Resurrection,  
That we will rise again,  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus.*

Our Judge and our Defender,  
Suffered and crucified,  
Forgiveness is in You.  
Descended into darkness,  
You rose in glorious light,  
Forever seated high. *Chorus*

I believe in Life Eternal,  
I believe in the Virgin Birth,  
I believe in the Saints' Communion,  
And in Your Holy Church!  
I believe in the Resurrection,  
When Jesus comes again,  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus.



## 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

*We begin our worship with God's gracious invitation, and we conclude with God's blessing, his good Word. It is appropriate to look up and open our palms as we receive the Benediction to symbolize how Jesus Christ lifts our heads and to demonstrate our eagerness to receive God's blessing.*

## 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. Announcements are shared on the first Sunday of each month.*

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that (a) the 2024 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Presbyterian Church (“Central Church”), a church affiliated with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and (b) the 2024 Annual Meeting of the members of The Trustees of Central Presbyterian Church of the City of New York, aka Central Presbyterian Church (“Central Corporation”), a New York religious corporation incorporated in 1821 and affiliated with Central Church, will be held in the fellowship hall on the sixth floor of the church building at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 9, 2024.

The purposes of the Annual Meetings are to:

- i. present the reports of the various church committees and respond to questions;
- ii. in the case of the 2024 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Church, to elect: (a) two elders for terms expiring in 2027; and (b) one deacon for term expiring in 2025, one deacon for term expiring in 2026, and three deacons for terms expiring in 2027;
- iii. in the case of the 2024 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Corporation, to elect two trustees for terms expiring in 2027; and
- iv. to transact any other business that may properly come before such meetings.

On behalf of the Session of Central Church, by its Moderator and Clerk of Session

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Central Corporation, by its President and Secretary