



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION

June 30, 2024

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“Paganism looks at the world of creation and tries to harness forces within it for its own ends. The healing that Jesus offers is the reality that the created world was waiting for, the beginning of new creation. The salvation that the son of God brings when he comes into the world is the new day that, had they but known it, Israel and the world had been longing for.”

—N.T. WRIGHT

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we pray that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered through your governance that your church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

PSALM: Psalm 30

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

GOSPEL: Mark 5:21-43

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Instrumental Prelude

Marta Bagratuni

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Isaac Watts

I sing the mighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord,
that filled the earth with food.
He formed the creatures with His Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Your wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes Your glories known,
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,

by order from Your throne;
While all that borrows life from You
is ever in Your care;
And everywhere that man can be,
You, God, are present there.

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103

LEADER Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is
 within me,

PEOPLE **Bless his holy name!**

LEADER Bless the LORD, O my soul,

PEOPLE **And forget not all his benefits,**

LEADER Who forgives all your iniquity,

PEOPLE **Who heals all your diseases,**

LEADER Who redeems your life from the pit,

PEOPLE **Who crowns you with steadfast love and
 mercy,**

LEADER Who satisfies you with good

PEOPLE **So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

HYMN

How Marvelous (I Stand Amazed)

Charles H. Gabriel · Chris Tomlin · Arr. John Wasson

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

*Singin' how marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!*

He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them His very own;
He bore the burden to Calvary,
And suffered and died alone. *Chorus*

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me. *Chorus*

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

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways, like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are repentant, according to your promises declared to humankind, in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may from now on live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Psalm 30

O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

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

Heal Us

William Cowper · Kevin Twit · Lucas Morton

*Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are.
We long to feel Thy touch.
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly.
O Savior, hear our cry.*

Our faith is feeble, we confess.
We faintly trust Thy word.
But will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief,
“Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried.
“O help my unbelief!” *Chorus*

She, too, who touched you in the press,
And healing virtue stole
Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace.
Thy faith has made thee whole.”

Like her, with hopes and fears we come.
To touch You if we may,
O send us not despairing home.
Send none unhealed away. *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.

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**.*

OFFERTORY

Come Jesus Come

Stephen Mcwhirter · Hank Bentley · Bryan Christopher Fowler · Tara Mcwhirter

Sometimes I fall to my knees and pray.
Come Jesus come, let today be the day.
Sometimes I feel like I'm gonna break.
But I'm holding on to a hope that won't fade.

*Come Jesus come.
We've been waiting so long
For the day You return to heal every hurt
And right every wrong.
We need You right now.
Come and turn this around.
Deep down I know this world isn't home.
Come Jesus come.
Come Jesus come.*

There'll be no war and there'll be no chains
When Jesus comes, let today be the day.
He'll come for the weak and the strong just the same,
And all will believe in the power of His name. *Chorus*

One day He'll come, and we'll stand face to face.
Come and lay it all down, 'cause it might be today.
The time is right now, there's no need to wait.
Your past will be washed by rivers of grace. *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 5:1-17

The passage can be found on page 890 of the pew Bible.

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” ¹¹But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” ¹²They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk’?” ¹³Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

SERMON

People Who Met Jesus | The Man in Need of Healing

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

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. All submissions are reviewed by Central staff before being published in the Sunday bulletin. Announcements are shared on the first Sunday of each month.