



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION

October 20, 2024

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“To be sanctified is to have your faith simplified, clarified, and deepened... You see life, God, yourself, others more truly. And to grow as a saint is to grow in actually loving people... Becoming more holy does not mean that you become ethereal, ghostly, and detached from the storms of life. It means you are becoming a wiser human being. You are learning how to deal well with your money, your sexuality, your job. You are becoming a better friend and family member. When you talk, your words communicate more good sense, more gravitas, more joy, more reality. You are learning to pray honestly, bringing who God really is to the reality of human need.”

—DAVID POWLISON

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-7, (34-41)

PSALM: Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35C; 91:9-16

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:1-10

GOSPEL: Mark 10:35-45

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Instrumental Prelude

Michael Katz

Holy, Holy, Holy

Reginald Heber · John B. Dykes

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Tho' the darkness hide Thee,
Tho' the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see.
Only Thou art holy- there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, in purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky, and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 27

LEADER The LORD is my light and my salvation;

PEOPLE Whom shall I fear?

LEADER The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

PEOPLE Of whom shall I be afraid?

LEADER One thing have I asked of the LORD,

PEOPLE That will I seek after:

LEADER That I may dwell in the house of the LORD

PEOPLE All the days of my life,

LEADER To gaze upon the beauty of the LORD

PEOPLE And to inquire in his temple.

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

Eleanor H. Hull · Tr. Mary E. Byrne · Traditional Irish · Arr. David Allen

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my Light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler 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 Father, we acknowledge that we have sinned against you. Forgive us the sins of our tongues—for deception and untruthfulness in our dealings with others. Forgive us the sins of our eyes—for impurity in our glances and imagination. Forgive us the sins of our bodies—for hurting and wronging others by our actions. Forgive us the sins of our hearts—for hard-heartedness toward you and others. Give us grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure, to live for you and not for ourselves, to be transformed into your likeness, to live wholly for your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

1 Corinthians 6:9, 11

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

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

Come As You Are

Ben Glover · Matt Maher · David Crowder

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been.
Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin.
Come find your mercy, oh sinner, come kneel:
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

*So, lay down your burdens, lay down your shame,
All who are broken, lift up your face.
Wanderer, come home; you're not too far.
So, lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,
Come as you are.*

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed.
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure. *Chorus*

There's joy for the morning; oh sinner be still.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS - 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

Nigle (Buzzy) Barrow, Devan Bugbee, Adella
Flynn, Laura Le, Vihn Le, Anna Nam, Rob Nam,
Sammie Shin

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

Johnny Marrero

Membership Vows

- 1 Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in God's sight and without hope for your salvation except through his sovereign mercy?
- 2 Do you believe in the Lord Jesus as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
- 3 Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, to endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ?
- 4 Do you promise to serve Christ and His church by supporting this congregation in its worship of God and its ministry to others to the best of your ability?
- 5 Do you promise to accept the spiritual guidance of the church, to walk in a spirit of Christian love with this congregation, and to seek those things that make for unity, purity and peace?

Congregational Vow

Will you, the members of this congregation and witnesses of these vows, acting on behalf of yourself and as representatives of the whole body of Christ, do everything within your power to encourage Johnny to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - 11:30 A.M. SERVICE

Sophia Louise Ullrich

Daughter of James and Tiffany Ullrich

Baptismal Vows

- 1 Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- 2 Do you claim God's covenant promises on her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for Sophia's salvation, as you do for your own?
- 3 Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the truths of the Christian faith, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring Sophia up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Congregational Vow

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting James and Tiffany in the Christian nurture of their child?

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.

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

Oh My Soul

Bernie Herms · John Mark Hall

Oh, my soul,
Oh, how you worry,
Oh, how you're weary, from fearing you lost control.
This was the one thing you didn't see coming.
And no one would blame you, though,
If you cried in private,
If you tried to hide it away so no one knows.
No one will see if you stop believing.

*Oh, my soul,
You are not alone.
There's a place where fear has to face the God you know.
One more day, He will make a way.
Let Him show you how you can lay this down,
'Cause you're not alone.*

Here and now
You can be honest.
I won't try to promise that someday it all works out.
'Cause this is the valley,
And even now, He is breathing on your dry bones.
And there will be dancing,
There will be beauty, where beauty was ash and stone.
This much I know. *Chorus*

I'm not strong enough; I can't take anymore.
(You can lay it down. You can lay it down.)
And my shipwrecked faith will never get me to shore.
(You can lay it down. You can lay it down.)
Can He find me here?
Can He keep me from going under? *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

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

The passage can be found on page 987 of the pew Bible.

¹Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. ⁸Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

SERMON

***Resounding Faith* | Instilling Devotion**

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

The Blessing

Kari Jobe · Cody Carnes

The Lord bless you and keep you,
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you
And give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

May His favor be upon you,
And a thousand generations,
And your family, and your children,
And their children, and their children.

May His favor be upon you,
And a thousand generations,
And your family, and your children,
And their children, and their children.

May His presence go before you
And behind you and beside you,
All around you and within you,
He is with you, he is with you.

In the morning, in the evening,
In your coming and your going,
In your weeping and rejoicing,
He is for you, he is for you. *Chorus*

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. ☺

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.