



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION

May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

WORDS FOR REFLECTION

“In the church’s year, Trinity Sunday is the day when we stand back from the extraordinary sequence of events that we’ve been celebrating for the previous five months—Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Good Friday, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost—and when we rub the sleep from our eyes and discover what the word ‘god’ might actually mean. These events function as a sequence of well-aimed hammer-blows which knock at the clay jars of the gods we want, the gods who reinforce our own pride or prejudice, until they fall away and reveal instead a very different god, a dangerous god, a subversive god, a god who comes to us like a blind beggar with wounds in his hands, a god who comes to us in wind and fire, in bread and wine, in flesh and blood: a god who says to us, ‘You did not choose me; I chose you.’”

—N. T. WRIGHT

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and by your divine majesty to worship you as One; we humbly pray that you would keep us steadfast in this faith and evermore defend us from all adversities; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

PSALM: Psalm 8

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Instrumental Prelude

Caroline Cassio

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Romans 5:1-5

LEADER Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,

PEOPLE **We have peace with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ.**

LEADER Through him we have also obtained access by
faith into this grace in which we stand,

PEOPLE **And we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.**

LEADER Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings,

PEOPLE **Knowing that suffering produces endurance,**

LEADER And endurance produces character, and
character produces hope,

PEOPLE **And hope does not put us to shame,**

LEADER Because God's love has been poured into our
hearts

PEOPLE **Through the Holy Spirit who has been given
to us.**

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

Holy and triune God, you alone live in perfect relationship, one God in three persons. You have called us to live in your completion, yet we confess that our relationships are imperfect and we are incomplete without you. Forgive us for breaking fellowship with one another and for our half-hearted commitment to you. Help us experience true communion with you and with each other as we gather around your Word and Table. Even now, dependent on your grace, we commit ourselves to live more fully in the unity you desire; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again
to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from
the dead.

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

Living Hope

Phil Wickham

How great the chasm that lay between us,
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation, I turned to Heaven,
And spoke your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, your lovingkindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written:
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of Ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven;
The King of Kings calls me his own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever,
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.

*Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free!
Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain;
There's salvation in your name:
Jesus Christ, my Living Hope.*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise:
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared, "The grave has no claim on me!"
Then came the morning that sealed the promise:
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared, "The grave has no claim on me!"
Jesus, yours is the victory. *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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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](https://www.centralchurchnyc.org/give).*

OFFERTORY - 10 AND 11:30 AM SERVICES

Blessed be the God and Father

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
Which according to his abundant mercy
Hath begotten us again unto a lively hope
By the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled
That fadeth not away,
Reserved in heaven for you
Who are kept by the power of God
Through faith unto salvation,
Ready to be revealed at the last time.

For all flesh is as grass,
And all the glory of man
As the flower of grass.
The grass withereth
And the flower thereof falleth away,

But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.
Amen.

OFFERTORY - 5 PM SERVICE

The Goodness of Jesus

CityAlight

Come you weary heart now to Jesus.
Come you anxious soul now and see
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears.
Rest here in his wondrous peace.

*Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus.
Satisfied, he is all that I need
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.*

Come find what this world cannot offer.
Come and find your joy here complete.
Taste the living water, never thirst again.
Rest here in his wondrous peace. *Chorus*

Come and find your hope now in Jesus.
He is all he said he would be.
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart.
Rest here in his wondrous peace. *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 - 10 AND 11:30 AM SERVICES

Romans 15:7-13

The passage can be found on page 949 of the pew Bible.

⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

SERMON - 10 AND 11:30 AM SERVICES

God's Vision for a New Humanity | Overflowing with Hope

The Right Rev. N.T. Wright

RT. REV. N.T. WRIGHT'S BIO

The Right Reverend N.T. Wright (Tom) is a leading biblical scholar, retired Bishop of Durham in the Church of England, and Senior Research Fellow at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He was formerly a Research Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at St. Mary's College in the University of St. Andrews. He previously studied for the ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, and was ordained at Merton College, Oxford. N.T. Wright holds a D.Phil. from Oxford University in addition to several honorary doctorates. Tom has written over eighty books, including the multi-volume work "Christian Origins and the Question of God." Tom is married to Maggie and they have four grown children and several grandchildren.

SCRIPTURE READING - 5 PM SERVICE

Matthew 11:25-30

The passage can be found on page 816 of the pew Bible.

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

SERMON - 5 PM SERVICE

***Resound Project* | An Invitation to Rest**

Rev. Michael Davis

REV. MICHAEL DAVIS'S BIO

Michael Davis Sr. is the Assistant Stated Clerk and Chief Collaborative Officer of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, where he provides leadership for the denomination's Gospel Priorities and facilitates key committees and initiatives. He also serves on the boards of Memphis City Seminary, McGowan Global Institute, and Service Over Self. Michael holds degrees in Finance and Divinity. He and his beautiful wife, Serena Davis, have three wonderful sons: Michael Jr., Elijah, and Titus. Michael enjoys spending time with his family!

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 near each station. Your communion server can point you to them if desired.

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. ☺

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We welcome anyone who would like to serve in one or more of our volunteer roles, including Sunday Service Teams, Hospitality Team, Children's Ministry, and Youth Ministry. Learn more about volunteer opportunities at centralchurchnyc.org/callforvolunteers.

REQUEST FOR CARE

If you have a financial or practical care need for which you'd like to request assistance from Central, our deacons are readily available to discuss that with you. Please email care@centralchurchnyc.org and detail your situation so one of our deacons can contact you directly.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

2026 Projected Expenses: \$4,740,000

Year-to-Date Giving: \$1,886,000

2026 Remaining Need: \$2,854,000

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that (a) the 2026 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Presbyterian Church (“Central Church”), a church affiliated with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and (b) the 2026 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 7, 2025.

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 2026 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Church, to elect: (a) two elders for terms expiring in 2029, and (b) three deacons for terms expiring in 2029;
- iii. in the case of the 2026 Annual Meeting of the members of Central Corporation, to elect two trustees for terms expiring in 2029; 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