



WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Mid-Winter Sabbath: Not My Season

FEBRUARY 4, 2024



IN OUR PRAYERS

Central is a caring community of faith that includes members, friends, and visitors. We give thought to those who are rarely or currently not able to attend worship here. **Today, we keep in our prayers Carol Neske.**

CHILDREN

Children are a beloved part of our community and always welcome in the sanctuary with you. At the back of the room are activity bags and books for them to enjoy during their time in worship. Infants through age 6 are also invited to spend the worship hour in our nursery on the upper level, playing and learning together. Changing tables are available in our restrooms with diapering supplies available in the nursery.

FLOWERS

If you would like to bring flowers to place on the chancel for worship in recognition of a special moment or event, contact the office.

PHOTOGRAPHY & SOCIAL MEDIA

You are in a space where live stream videography and photography will occur. To review our photography and media use policy, go to www.centralforgood.org/photography.

LICENSE

The music in today's bulletin is reprinted with permission, OneLicense.net A-71257. On the Cover: *Abstract Painting* (cropped) by Central Member Juniper Beath, now on display in Friendship Room.

ACCESSIBILITY



Large print worship bulletins and hymns are available from the ushers or in back of the sanctuary.



The sanctuary is T-coil enabled for those with the hearing aid technology. Sound amplification devices are also available from ushers.



Reserved accessible parking and a wheelchair ramp are available in the MPR lot off 9th Street East. Accessible restrooms are in the hall by side sanctuary doors and on the lower level.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the MPR lot, KCP lot, and the World Trade Center Parking Ramp across Cedar Street. If parking in the ramp, see an usher for a voucher to pay your ramp fees.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Central Presbyterian Church occupies the sacred land of the Dakota people. Broken treaties and the systematic loss of life and land led directly to the availability of this sacred space which we presume to possess today. Our faith demands confession of the evils from which we benefit, action to support Indigenous peoples seeking justice, and lives guided by love. We keep this in our minds and hearts as we worship today. For the full statement of our commitment to action, visit our website at www.centralforgood.org/land.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church

Whether you are sharing worship with us in our historic sanctuary or watching online, we hope you feel the vitality of our people, our ministry and our focus on the present. If you are looking for a place to put your faith into action or for a community to provide support and inspiration, we are looking for you. Central is open and affirming of all people. If you are visiting today, we invite you to fill out a Connect card in the pews and drop it in the offering plate.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

As we gather in this space to worship, let us listen for God's voice by silencing our cell phones and using the music to bring us into a time of reflection and prayer.

✦ Please rise in body or in spirit

We Gather in God's Presence

PRELUDE

Alex Woods, piano

Adagio - from Sonata in C, Hob. XVI:35 (by Joseph Haydn)

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP - Adapted from Ephesians 1

Mel Leach

One: God has made known to us the mystery of God's will, set forth in Christ,

All: **That in time all things will be gathered together for good.**

One: In Christ we have heard the good news and been promised the Holy Spirit,

All: **The sign that we are God's own people to proclaim God's love.**

✦ OPENING PRAYER

Lord, you appoint times and seasons for all things. Help us to be attentive to the times, knowing when and how you are calling us into your service. May we wait in the world with the expectation that, as ever you have, you are making all things new. Amen.

✦ HYMN

The Days are Surely Coming

Hymn #357

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

One: The peace of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you all.

All: **And, also with you.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: In the sure hope of forgiveness, let us confess our sins to God.

All: **God, we confess that we have sinned in our thoughts and in our actions, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have kept silence when called to speak, and spoken when called to silence. We have been at times too hasty, and at other times too slow. Lord, in your mercy, forgive**

when we are out of time and out of season. Make us mindful of how and when you call, opening our ears and hearts to your voice. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: From the beginning of all things, God had in mind to create, redeem, and sustain all things for good. Therefore, with the confidence of the children of God, we proclaim:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

We Listen for God's Voice

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jennifer Anderson

Please see announcements for details on today's ministry programs. If you are new to Central, please come with your child in order to meet our staff and provide emergency contact information.

SENDING SONG

Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, you are speaking. Open our hearts and minds to hear your voice and follow your call. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING - Luke 4:16-30

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Mid-Winter Sabbath: Not My Season

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

We Respond to God's Gifts

✦ HYMN

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Hymn #320

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From the Confession of Belhar)

We believe that God has revealed [Godself] as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God... is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;... that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; ...that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right; that the church must therefore

stand by people in any form of suffering and need,... witness[ing] against and strive [ing] against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

CALL FOR OFFERING

You are invited to place offering gifts and completed pew cards in the plates as ushers pass them. You may also give online at www.centralforgood.org/give or submit to the office during normal office hours.

OFFERTORY

Search With All your Heart (by M. Miller)

Central Choir; led by Wendy Flinner

✦ SONG OF DEDICATION

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, you are generous. As we return a portion of what you have given us, may it be used to proclaim your love in words and actions, here and everywhere. Amen.

We Are Fed by God's Love

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Ecumenical)

Our Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

SHARING THE MEAL

All are welcome to the table! Please come forward through the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Bread is available in baskets, and grape juice either in cups or by intinction (dipping). Gluten free wafers are also available when you come forward. If you would like to remain seated, communion will be brought to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Quartet: Shanta Hejmadi, Laura Krider,
Adam Van der Sluis, Jake Endres

Ave Verum Corpus (by W. A. Mozart)

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Lord, you feed us in body and spirit. Send us into the world nourished to proclaim your blessings.

We Are Sent Into God's World

✦ HYMN

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Hymn #529

✦ CHARGE & BLESSING - Adapted from Jeremiah 29

One: We have gathered together in this sacred place to worship God, be formed as disciples of Jesus, and be empowered by the Holy Spirit. God is now sending us out to bless the world.

All: **Therefore we will seek the good of the city where God has called us. We will pray for it, open our doors with compassion, serve our neighbors, and be attentive to God's presence; for in its good we will find our own.**

One: God is out there.

All: **Let us go forth!**

POSTLUDE

His Eye Is On the Sparrow (arr. Phillip Keveren)

Alex Woods, piano

IN CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY TODAY

CHILDREN AGE BIRTH – 6: Our beautiful nursery is staffed by professional caregivers and full of fun toys and good friends. Childcare is available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. today.

GRADES K – 8: Sunday Connection for K-8 follows the Time for Children upstairs in the Galilee Room. (Sign your child in at the back of the sanctuary before worship, then pick them up in the Galilee Room at 11:30 a.m.)

If you are new to Central, or have questions about ministry for those under 18, we invite you to reach out to Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@centralforgood.org.

Announcements

View our church calendar and share upcoming events at www.centralforgood.org/calendar.

Lifeboats & Compass Video Game & Pizza Party Today

Those in grades 6-12 who will participating in todays party will leave Central together at 11:30 and return at 2:00 p.m. Bring \$5.

Artist Reception After Worship

Central would like to thank Juniper Beath for displaying her abstract paintings in the Fellowship Room gallery. This exhibition will be ending with an artist reception after worship today. Please join us to hear from the artist and celebrate the creativity of another member of the Central community. If you would like to own any piece that is on display, please contact Juniper directly at this reception to inquire about a sale.

Fellowship & Creative Fun for All Ages

Join with others next Sunday, February 11, after worship when Welcome and Fellowship will bring some fun into mid-winter with a sandwich bar, coffee, and creativity! We will have people who will help you create:

- Create Tote Bags
- Balloon Fun.
- Paint a Rock
- Make Bracelets
- Play with Model Magic
- Explore Science on a Baking Sheet

If you have a craft or hobby that you would like to share, or are able to help with set-up/clean-up, please contact Wendy Flinner or the office. We are excited to share fun, fellowship and creativity during these days of winter!

Adult Faith Formation Today

FEBRUARY TOPIC: ANTI-RACISM

Particularly in these last years, many congregations, including Central, have heard God's call to Anti-Racism. White Americans have been confronted once again with a truth that has been raised by people of color for centuries - white supremacy has been both the *de jure* and *de facto* law of the land from our founding until today. If we believe in the inherent God-given dignity of all people, then racism in any form is not only abhorrent, but heretical to our faith.

The Bible has been used in antithetical ways, both in defense of the institutions of white supremacy, and as a testament of liberation for oppressed people. How do we, as modern interpreters of the Bible, read our sacred text responsibly, hearing both God's clarion call to liberation, and understanding the ways it has been used as a tool of oppression? Join us after worship on February 4th for a Biblical view of racism and the resources available to affirm God's liberating and justice-seeking love for all people.

This Week at Central

SUNDAY 02/04

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion
11:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation Class
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lifeboats & Compass Party
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

TUESDAY 02/06

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:00 p.m. Mission and Justice Meeting
7:00 p.m. Facilities Management
& Risk Assessment

WEDNESDAY 02/07

- 11:45 a.m. Wednesday Community Lunch
7:15 p.m. Central Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY 02/11

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship & Creative Fun
(in Dining Room)
7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

We conclude "Mid-Winter Sabbath" series with stories of Jesus breaking rules on the Sabbath in order to heal a hurting world. Music will include Central Choir, led by Jane Ramseyer Miller, soloist Clara Osowski, and pianist Alex Woods.

The Central Team

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PASTOR

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ADMINISTRATION

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MINISTRIES

Jennifer Anderson,
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CHILDREN & YOUTH

Child Care Staff: Megan Beese,
Jess Garner, Maria Stokes

Laura Walls,
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MUSIC LEADERSHIP

Eric Bartlett, Abbie Betinis, Paul Damico-Carper,
Shanta Hejmadi, Tonia Hughes Kendrick,
Melanie Ohnstad, Clara Osowski,
Adam Van der Sluis, Alexander Woods

Maureen Smith, Bible Study Leader
maureens@centralforgood.org

Barb Westman, Community Lunch
Chef & Kitchen Manager