

An abstract, vibrant painting with swirling colors of blue, yellow, orange, red, and green. A treble clef is visible on the right side of the image.

WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Overtures

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023



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 Jacqueline Vosecky.**

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.

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

Dusk (by Nkeiru Okoye)

Alex Woods, piano

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP - From Deuteronomy 6

Denny Reimer

One: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

All: **We shall love the Lord our God with our heart, soul, and strength.**

One: We will tell this to our children by day and by night.

All: **It will be written upon our hands, our heads, and our hearts.**

✦ OPENING PRAYER

Lord, through our forebears you have handed down your story of steadfast love through the generations. Help us to hear that story again, and strengthen us to continue to tell that world-changing story.

✦ PROCESSIONAL

To Abraham and Sarah (Hymn #51)

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 before you and in the presence of one another that we have sinned. Although we follow rules and check off lists, we have forgotten what it means to be your people. We supplant stories with data, and people with rules. In your mercy, return us to the core of love which animates our true lives, helping us to live and serve with joy.**

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

At this time, we invite children to participate in our children's ministry. Please see announcements for details on today's 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 - Isaiah 55:1-5

ANTHEM

Come Now to the Water (by Alexander Peters)

Central Choir; Eric Bartlett, solo

SCRIPTURE READING - Revelation 2:1-5

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Overtones

Rev. Chris Chatelaine-Samsen

We Respond to God's Gifts

✦ HYMN

Forever Embracing (See Next Page)

CONFIRMATION

Ian

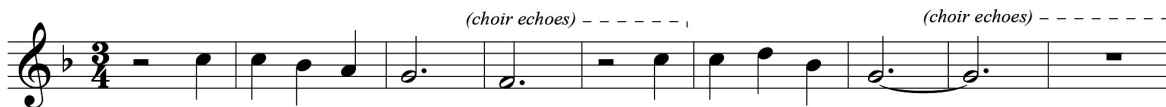
Joseph

Isaac

Natalie

Forever Embracing

Text & Music: Abbie Betinis, 2019



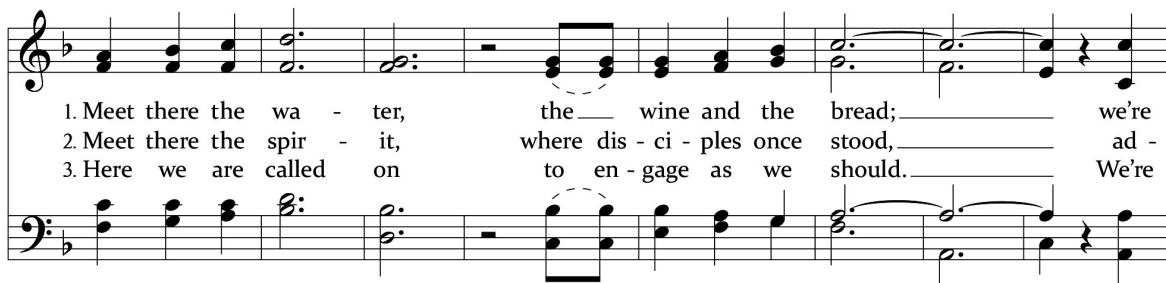
(choir echoes) -----, (choir echoes) -----,

1. For - ev - er em - brac - ing, (†) Spi - ral - ing in, _____
2. For - ev - er out - reach - ing, The cir - cle ex - pands, _____
3. For - ev - er re - peat - ing, In cir - cles of grace, _____

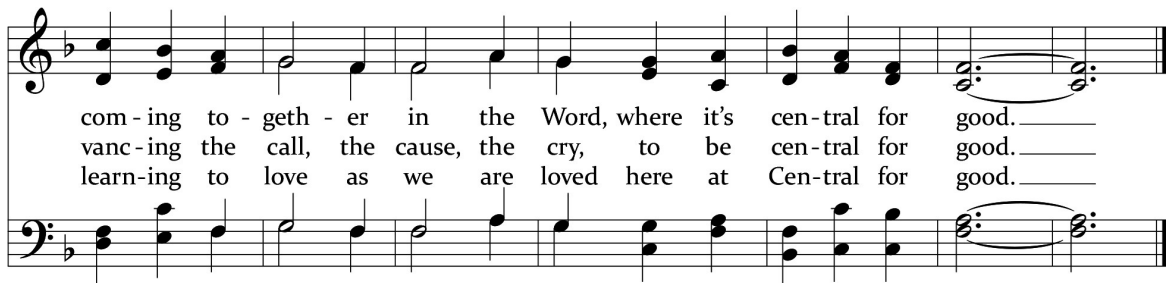


(choir echoes) -----, (choir echoes) -----,

In to the cen - ter, where God's al - ways been. _____
Help - ing our neigh - bor through works of our hands. _____
All res - ur - rect - ing and grow - ing in faith. _____



1. Meet there the wa - ter, the _____ wine and the bread; _____ we're
2. Meet there the spir - it, where dis - ci - ples once stood, _____ ad -
3. Here we are called on to en - gage as we should. _____ We're



com - ing to - geth - er in the Word, where it's cen - tral for good. _____
vanc - ing the call, the cause, the cry, to be cen - tral for good. _____
learn - ing to love as we are loved here at Cen - tral for good. _____

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - From *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Adapted from Clarence Jordan's Cotton Patch Gospel

Our Parent, O Spiritual One,
Your Name be truly honored.
Your Movement spread, your will prevail
Through earth, as through the heavens.
Grant us sustaining bread each day.
Forgive our debts as we forgive
The debts of all who cannot pay.
And from confusion keep us clear;
Deliver us from evil's sway.
For the Movement, Power, and Honor are yours,
From now until the end.

CALL FOR OFFERING

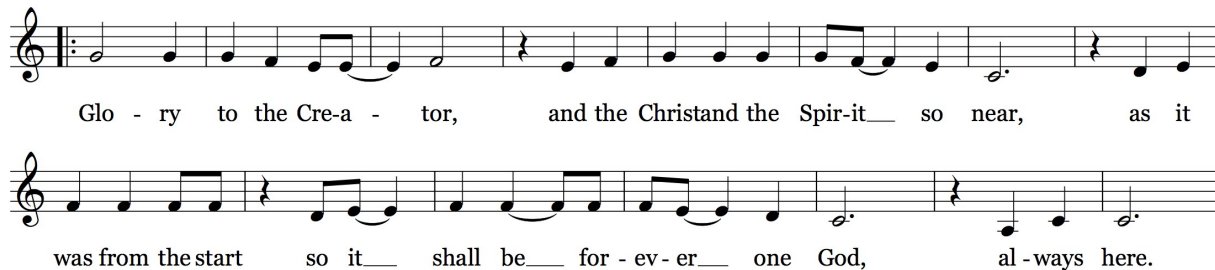
You are invited to place offering gifts and completed pew cards in the plates as ushers pass them. You may also give online at www.centralforgood.org/give or submit to the office during normal office hours.

OFFERTORY

From Generation to Generation (by Tom Trenney)

Central Choir

✦ SUNG RESPONSE



Glo - ry to the Cre-a - tor, and the Christ and the Spir-it so near, as it
was from the start so it shall be for - ev - er one God, al - ways here.

✦ 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 Sent into God's World

✦ HYMN

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith is Firm (Hymn #731)

✦ 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

Alex Woods, piano
Allegro Non Troppo (Clouds) from *Songs Without Words*, op. 53 (by Felix Mendelssohn)

GIVE IN A DIFFERENT WAY: Try Giving Via Text Message!



Simply text **givecentral** to **73256** on your smart phone, then follow the prompts to give your offering via credit card or bank account transfer. You can do one time, or set up a recurring gift.

Have questions? Reach out the church office during normal office hours.

Announcements

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

What's Happening 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. Please sign your child in and out.

GRADES 1 – 5

Sunday Connection class follows the Time for Children. Sign your child in at the back table near the Ushers. Pick up in the Orange Room upstairs at 11:30.

GRADES 6 – 8

Middle School gathering follows the Time for Children, up in the Galilee Room. After worship, Lifeboats Fellowship Group meets in the dining room for lunch, then in the Youth Room until 12:30.

GRADES 9-12

Compass Senior High Fellowship meets at Boca Chica Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. (We ask that all are picked up from Boca Chica at 8:00 p.m.)

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

A Special Hymn Today

Today we share a hymn called *Forever Embracing* by Composer Abbie Betinis. This piece was commissioned by Central after its rebranding in 2018. Abbie shared at its premier in May 2019 "This hymn was inspired by the church's beautiful new logo, which – depending on how you look at it – seems to either spiral inward to the center, or outward to the world. The music is composed to do just that: In verse 1, high voices begin and low voices echo like a mirror (both coming in to the center). Verse 2 expands and reflects outward by reversing those high and low voices. Then, Verse 3 celebrates the continuity of the cycle by adding soaring descant so you can hear both the "coming in" and the "going out" at the same time."

Did You Know?

Central's original front steps were made from Lake Superior brownstone - similar to that which is currently found on the front of our building. Unfortunately brownstone isn't a hard stone like granite. With steady foot traffic up and down the stairs for years, by the early 1900s the steps were so worn they became unsafe. This required replacement with the first concrete stairway, with hand rails added later.

Save the Date(s) for These Fall Happenings!

Adult Faith Formation Class Begins October 1

Does the Bible still matter? Does it make a case for social justice? If so, how do we read it in a way that helps us understand God's intentions for the world?

Explore many social justice issues with Pastor Chris, including what the Bible does (and does not) say about it, and how to read the Bible holistically to help us navigate some of the most consequential issues of our time. We'll meet on the first Sunday of each month at 11:45 a.m. in the upstairs Meeting Lounge. To see other topics on the horizon, go to www.centralforgood.org/adult.

Family Campfire & Game Night

Wear your play clothes and bring your favorite game to share with others during this family fun event on Saturday, September 30 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. There will be games for all ages and activities both inside and out.

Open to all children and youth, as well as their people, this event will be hosted at the Klaehn family home. (You will receive the address when you RSVP.) All are asked to bring a side dish to go with dinner, games if you like, and chairs for the campfire. To RSVP, email Jennifer Anderson at jennifera@centralforgood.org.

Interested in Membership?

Join us after worship on October 22 to learn more about what membership at Central means – who we are, what we believe, and why being a member matters. We'll gather from 11:45 to 1:00 p.m., including a brief tour of parts of our historic building you may not have seen yet! RSVP to Pastor Chris at chriscs@centralforgood.org.

Gathering of Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area will hold its annual Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 14 at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Long Lake. If you plan to attend, please confirm via email to women@centralforgood.org no later than September 25.

Community Event Against Gun Violence

Central Presbyterian Church will be hosting an event on Saturday, October 14 to raise awareness about gun violence, lament for those who have died and live in fear, and offer a vision of hope. The day will include a program with a variety of speakers, as well as an information / action fair which will provide concrete ways in which individuals, churches, and community groups can make a difference. Learn more at www.centralforgood.org/gun-violence.

Central is You. Every day of the week, and especially Sundays, **we rely on one another to minister** through worship, education, fellowship, and more.

Following are a few ways we need you (sign in the Friendship Room or at centralforgood.org/volunteer):

PRAY

Support our children and youth by writing notes of encouragement, pray for them, and connect with them in church.

ASSIST IN WORSHIP

Serve during worship as a liturgist - leading prayers, reading scripture, and speaking from the pulpit (no prior public speaking experience necessary!).

SERVE FELLOWSHIP

Prepare coffee and refreshments for the fellowship hour before church from 10 - 10:30 a.m., or serve after worship.

NURSERY CARE

Care and play with our youngest members of the Central community in the nursery during worship or other upcoming events.

USHER AND GREET

Welcome guests to worship, distribute bulletins, help with wayfinding, and assist with receiving the offering.

SUPPORT OUR LIVE STREAM

Help as a camera operator and editor for our worship video broadcast. Don't worry, training is provided!

We also **reach out into our community** in service, witnessing to God's generous love-without-walls. Here are a few ways you can join alongside:

HELP PREPARE LUNCH

Each Wednesday, volunteers work alongside Chef Barb Westman to prepare and serve a catered meal for guests from the surrounding community. Central Closet also distributes clothing at no cost to our guests.

SERVE HOUSING NEEDS

Along with our other service and justice projects, our Beacon Interfaith Housing team works to advocate and provide housing for low-income people around the metro area.

WORK FOR ANTI-RACISM

Our Anti-Racism Task Force resources the congregation and our community to advocate for justice and do the hard work of turning away from systemic racism.

If you have a musical itch, consider joining one of our many music ensembles. Learn something new or **share your talents** with others in worship or other events.

CENTRAL CHOIR

This SATB adult choir sings in worship weekly from September – May. While reading music isn't required, this choir moves quickly, learns a lot of repertoire, and throughout the year sings some challenging music, often highlighting the work of local composers! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m.

HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

This is an ensemble for adults and high school youth with music-reading experience. This group experiments with sounds and timbres, playing an interesting bell repertoire. Come and experiment with us when rehearsals resume on September 20 and continue Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Open to adults and youth (grade 8 and up) who have played traditional band/orchestra instruments for at least three years. We rehearse on Sundays as necessary at 11:45 a.m. for about 30 minutes and play in worship every-other-month or so. First rehearsal is October 15.

CABARET

This year Central will again create a fun, semi-staged musical production featuring our children, choir, and chamber ensemble! This intergenerational event welcomes singers, musicians, and support 'backstage' in production design. Show announcement coming soon!

YOUTH PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES

At various times, children and youth are invited to share in percussion ensembles in worship, with an emphasis on discovering unique sounds.

If you are interested in being a part of our music ministry, reach out to Jennifer Anderson, Director of Music & Youth Ministry at jennifera@centralforgood.org or call her at (651) 224-4728 ext. 103.

STAY CONNECTED!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/centralforgood



EXPLORE OUR CALENDAR
centralforgood.org/calendar



WATCH VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE
youtube.com (search for Central)



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.centralforgood.org



SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER
www.centralforgood.org/newsletter



SUBSCRIBE TO eCONNECT
www.centralforgood.org/newsletter



EMAIL QUESTIONS ANYTIME
office@centralforgood.org



VOLUNTEER TO HELP
centralforgood.org/volunteer

This Week at Central

SUNDAY 09/17

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Worship with Confirmation
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Connection
- 11:30 a.m. Third Sunday Lunch
- 11:30 a.m. Lifeboats Fellowship
- 6:30 p.m. Compass (at Boca Chica)
- 7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

TUESDAY 09/19

- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

WEDNESDAY 09/20

- 10:30 a.m. Peaceful Presence
- 11:45 a.m. Wednesday Community Lunch
- 6:00 p.m. Bell Ensemble Rehearsal
- 7:15 p.m. Central Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY 09/21

- 5:30 p.m. Connection Circle (on Zoom)

SUNDAY 09/24

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Worship with Installation of Rev. Chatelaine-Samsen
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Connection
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Reception
- 7:00 p.m. St. Paul AA Speaker Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP

Our morning worship service will be an exciting celebration as we install the Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen as our Pastor. Music will include Central Choir, Ars Nova Brass Quintet, Alex Woods (piano), and a special premiere of a new choral work by composer Abbie Betinis. A reception will follow.

The Central Team

(651) 224-4728

PASTOR

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen
chriscs@centralforgood.org, ext. 102

ADMINISTRATION

Anna Sanchez, Church Administrator
office@centralforgood.org, ext. 100

Christie Rachelle,
Director of Communications
christier@centralforgood.org, ext. 105

Laura Nichols-Endres, Treasurer
William Zopfi, Treasurer Emeritus
Mary Lange, Receptionist

Custodians: Lavar Jones, Peter Evarts

MINISTRIES

Jennifer Anderson,
Director of Music & Youth Ministry
jennifera@centralforgood.org, ext. 103

CHILDREN & YOUTH

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

Laura Walls,
Sunday Connection Coordinator
lauraw@centralforgood.org

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