**Celebration in Worship**

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 8, 2019**

We believe the words of Jesus reflect the heart of the Divine:

“I will never turn away anyone who comes to me.”

John 6:37

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

*Extravagant God, you pour out blessings upon us and lead us on the path of true life. Help us to choose your way again and again, that we might revel in your love and reflect it to all we meet. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Responsive)*

    The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

God has set before us life and death. **We long to choose life.**  
God has set before us blessings and curses.  
**We long to choose blessings.**  
So we gather this morning, in this place,

with friends and strangers.  
**We gather to hear God’s word, to pray and sing.**  
Let us feast on the Word, let us revel in God’s Presence.  
**Let us worship God with joy!**

**\*HYMN 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee***

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *(Leader)*

We live in a world of quick fixes and instant gratification. But the way of Christ asks us to invest in the long term, to choose what is true and good and beautiful rather than what is quick and easy. We know too often we make the wrong choice. But we also know God is gracious and quick to forgive. So, let us take this time to examine our hearts and confess our individual and corporate sins together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious and Holy God, for those times we have chosen death over life for ourselves, **forgive us.** [Silence]

For those times we have chosen death over life for others,  
**forgive us.** [Silence]

For those times we have chosen not to receive your blessings,  
**forgive us.** [Silence]

For those times we have prevented others from receiving your blessings, **forgive us.** [Silence]

For each time we have made the easy choice of greed or fear over the hard choice of love, **forgive us.** [Silence]

O God of mercy, ***hear our prayers.***

*A period of silent prayer is observed.*

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**  
Beloved, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. Therefore be at peace to follow where Jesus leads**.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you

**and also with you.**

**TIME FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH** Blessing of Backpacks

**SPECIAL MUSIC *Give me Jesus*** Cole Blume

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**Deuteronomy 30:15-20 & Luke 14:25-33

**SERMON *Choose Your Own Adventure*** JenniferMartin

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*HYMN 707 *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord***

**AN INVITATION TO OFFERING** *(Leader)*

**OFFERTORY**

*Please use the yellow prayer request cards found in the pew and place them in the offering plate to be included in the prayers of the people and/or the email prayer ministry of CPC.*

**\*DOXOLOGY** *(Unison)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Christ, whose mighty power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**& THE LORD’S PRAYER**  
Generous God, we know some bear crosses hollowed out by hunger, some carry crosses called injustice.  Sometimes our abundance is a cross which we struggle to bear.  But as we learn to follow you, as we seek to be as generous as you, we discover that we can gift others with hope, with grace, and with peace. Receive our offerings this day, so they might bless your children in every way imaginable.

**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.**

**\* HYMN 725 *O Jesus, I Have Promised***

**\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

\* *Indicates a time in the service when you are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

Visitors, friends, members, welcome to worship! Please feel free to participate in ways that you feel led, and comfortable if you would just like to observe.  If you are interested in learning more about making Central Presbyterian your church home, please speak with Pastor Jennifer or the welcome greeter following the service.

[Image result for page dividing line clip art](https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=y/e9jkwi&id=E58FA54FC3910E7E52DE939A78B4166CCDF2CCD7&thid=OIP.y_e9jkwiAOAX09nyc5-5PgHaA8&mediaurl=https://thegraphicsfairy.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Stock-Image-Separator-GraphicsFairy21.jpg&exph=153&expw=1200&q=page+dividing+line+clip+art&simid=608041491295044890&selectedIndex=122)

***Lectionary – Sunday, September 15***

***Jer. 4:11-12, 22-28***

***Psalm 14***

***1 Tim. 1:12-17***

***Luke 15:1-10***

***We thank the following faithful people who***

***are helping behind the scenes today:***

***Ministers All***

***Coffee Hour Fellowship Committee***

***Deacon on Call Tony Richter***

***Liturgist Lu-Nita Hawkins***

***Welcome Greeter Janet Edmonsond***

***Transport Team Margaret Knudson***

***Pastor Rev. Jennifer Martin***

***Organist Dan Rinnan***

***Building Host Joe Olney***

***Sound Technician Alex Pratt***



Flowers today have been given to the Glory

of God by Quentin & Jane Holmes,

who are welcoming all to worship today.

Visitors, friends, members, welcome to worship!

We are glad you are here and invite you to

join us for coffee after the worship service.

**THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL**

**10:00am Worship, Sanctuary**

**11:00am Fellowship, Fellowship Hall**

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday – Thursday, 8:30am-12:30pm, 1:30pm-4:00**

**Friday - Closed**

Mon, Sept 9 9:00am Central Walkers

11:00am Bible Study Parlor

4:30pm Worship & Common Life Pastor’s Office

6:30pm Badminton Group Fellowship Hall

Tues, Sept 10 10:30pm All-Staff Meeting Pastor’s Office

1:30pm Personnel Pastor’s Office

3:00pm Church Properties Pastor’s Office

Wed, Sept 11 Central @ The Dining Room

# [Image result for presbyterian church graphics](https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=eTONJXmz&id=BC92A034A8861A01500F35EECE84D3EABB59C230&thid=OIP.eTONJXmz1K4dPUfHLW6qDwHaC4&mediaurl=https://clipart-library.com/image_gallery/165609.jpg&exph=849&expw=2185&q=presbyterian+church+graphics&simid=607990879358027312&selectedIndex=75)TODAY IS MEET YOUR DEACON SUNDAY & 2nd SUNDAY POTLUCK

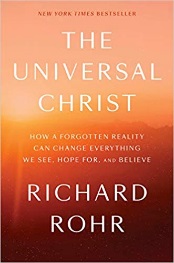
# ALL ARE WELCOME!

Come to Fellowship Hall after worship today. Enjoy the 2nd Sunday Potluck and fellowship, and gather around a table staffed by your deacon for a bit of fun!

At Central, each member/friend of Central is assigned to a flock with a specific person as their deacon. This is just one of the ways we fulfill Central’s mission of being a Caring Community of Believers. Meet your deacon Sunday is designed to give your deacon a chance to get to know you better and vice-versa.

Following worship today, a board containing a photograph of each deacon and their flock Number will be located in Fellowship Hall, and a directory listing members & friends and their flock number will be available. Visitors, please join us in this table Fellowship.

Quentin Holmes & Tony Richter, Deacon Co-Moderators.

***OUR WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP*** has chosen to kick off the year by reading *The Universal Christ*, the latest New York Times bestseller from Franciscan Father Richard Rohr. In it he notes that even if we believe we know who the person of Jesus was, we may not have pondered the question, “Who is the Christ?”

All are welcome to join in as we discuss and reflect together about this thought-provoking book. Starting September 18th, book group meets Wednesday at 3 & 6pm in the Church Parlor. Books may be ordered through the church office in advance before Monday, Sept. 9th for $16.

***KOINONIA CENTER THANK YOU BBQ & ANNUAL FUNDRAISER*** Sunday Sept 15, 5-8pm at K-14 patio: 1414 Kincaid St. All supporters are welcome. Please RSVP to Steve Stermer at [ssterm52@comcast.net](mailto:ssterm52@comcast.net) or text 541-510-0660.

***STRICTLY ORGANIC COFFEE -***for $14 a pound, is available in the Narthex from Bev Day after worship today. Buy a bag of decaf or regular coffee; it's certified organic, shade grown, and farmer friendly. Any profit Central makes will be given to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*.*

***FISH -*** Canned beans in their many forms are always welcome at FISH: chili with beans, bean soups, refried beans, flavored beans and just plain beans. Bring your donations with you when you come to worship and place them in the wicker basket in the Narthex. They will be delivered to FISH for distribution to those who ask for food. Thank you.

***COIN OFFERINGS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER*** **-** will be used to support our work with the St. Vincent DePaul Interfaith Family Shelter. During the week of September 30-October 6, members of Central will provide meals for the families at the Interfaith Shelter. We have supported this program for over 30 years and are excited that it now has a permanent location for the families. Please give generously on Sunday mornings!

***HELP WANTED -*** First Place Annex Night Shelter September 30 - October 7.

**[](https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=gN6GGvZD&id=E7492E871BA34AFA2DE292F49CD9CD68071D06A4&thid=OIP.gN6GGvZDXby2luqWYzpdKQHaFc&mediaurl=https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/13/Helpinghands.svg/1024px-Helpinghands.svg.png&exph=752&expw=1024&q=helping+clipart&simid=608035830516548481&selectedIndex=51)Prepare** or **serve** breakfast and dinner and **clean up** afterwards.

**Provide music** or **crafts** in the evening.

**Food wanted:** breakfast muffins, cookies, green salad and fruit salad.

Many hands make light work. **Sign up today in the Narthex.**

https://www.thewiredword.com/_img/tww_logo_email.jpg

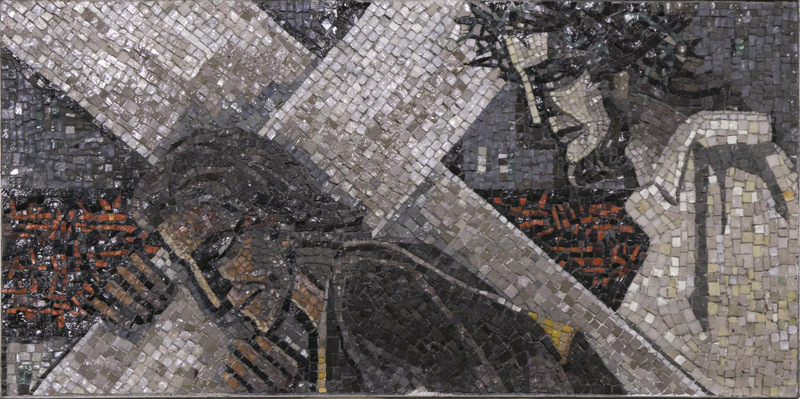
**Adult Education begins September 22nd** in the Chapel after the Church services. This fall The Wired Word curriculum will be used which focuses on a current news item each week and connects it to Biblical passages and principles. You may sign up in the office to receive each week’s topic via email the Thursday before class.

**Everyone is welcome!**

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**A CARING, INQUIRING, INCLUSIVE**

**COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

**September 8, 2019**

*Carrying the cross of Christ* Mosaic, by Gabriel Loire (1904-1996)

St. Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Although the figure carrying the cross represents Simon of Cyrene, the power of the image reminds us of Christ's admonition to take up the cross and follow him. Photo by Lawrence OP, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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