



ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 21, 2021

“The Spirit
immediately
drove him out
into the
wilderness”

Mark 1:12

W elcome in the name of the Lord.

Behold how good and pleasant it is to share this time together.

May you feel cleansed and renewed by God's presence,
equipped to face the challenges of the new week with courage, faith, and
calm.

The Lord be with you.

A t Central, we are committed to living the words of Jesus, "Love one
another."

This church is open to all and welcomes everyone who chooses
to worship here.

We affirm that all of us are created in God's image, regardless of age,
gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, mental facility, economic
circumstance, or physical condition.

Because we celebrate diversity, we are committed to using language in
our worship that is inclusive. To preserve the integrity of the poetry, we may
also use prayers, readings, hymns, or anthems in traditional versions.

Children are welcome to participate in our worship service.

If you or your children become restless,
please be mindful that the service is broadcast
into Chapel Hall so you can share in worship there
without disturbing others.

HEAD USHER: Frances Munro
SOUND & LIGHTING: Jim Silverthorn

If you would like a LARGE PRINT
bulletin, please ask one of the ushers.

We covenant with the Lord and with one another
and do bind ourselves in the presence of God,
to walk together in all the ways which are revealed to us by God,
as the Word is made known to us. ‡

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Welcome to virtual worship. May you find hope, comfort and the love of God here.

February 21, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE “O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß”
(O Man, bewail thy manifold sins)

JS BACH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick

HYMN “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Shall not we Thy sorrow share
And from worldly joys abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer,
Strong with Thee to suffer pain?

And, if Satan vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit to assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail!

Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,
Ever constant by Thy side,
That with Thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

UNISON OF PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against Thee and our neighbor. We have walked in darkness rather than light; we have named the name of Christ, but have not departed from iniquity. Have mercy upon us, we beseech Thee; for the sake of Jesus Christ forgive us all our sins. Cleanse us by Thy Holy Spirit; quicken our consciences and enable us to forgive others that we may henceforth serve Thee in newness of life, to the glory of Thy Holy Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:9-15

Rick Sasse

MEDITATION “Where are the wild beasts?”

The Rev. Rebecca Spencer

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Kristin DeKuiper

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Ave Verum”

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine,
Vere passum immolatum in Cruce pro homine,
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine,
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

Hail, true body born of the Virgin Mary,
Who truly suffered, sacrificed on the Cross for humankind,
Whose pierced side bled,
Be for us a foretaste (of heaven) In the test of death.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

GIVING OF THE BREAD

GIVING OF THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous Cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Christus, Der uns Selig Macht”
(Christ, Who Makes Us Blessed)

JS BACH

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

SUNDAY, February 21

- 10:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship with Stewardship Moments
- 11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
- 6:00 p.m. The Beautitudes (Adult Sunday School)

TUESDAY, February 23

- 6:30 p.m. Parents Zoom

WEDNESDAY, February 24

- 5:30 p.m. Lenten Meditation (Virtual)
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper Series (Virtual)

SATURDAY, February 27

- 7:00 p.m. Women’s Retreat Group

SUNDAY, February 28

- 10:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship with Stewardship Moments
- 2:00 p.m. NEOS (Virtual)
- 4:00 p.m. WORD (Virtual)
- 6:00 p.m. The Beautitudes (Adult Sunday School)

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Lenten events on 2/23, 3/3 and 3/10 will be virtual. Zoom information will be coming soon!

Lenten Meditation 5:30- 6:00 p.m.

February 24- Lucy Hanna

March 3- Lynn Seacord

March 10- The Rev. Judy Martowska

March 17- Eric Bennett

March 24- Jerilyn Brown

Lenten Supper Series (Virtual) 6:00- 7:00 p.m.

February 24- Mary Hassan, Loaves & Fishes Rhode Island

March 3- Eileen Hayes, Amos House

March 10- Rhode Island Food Bank

March 17- To Be Announced

March 24- To Be Announced

PALM SUNDAY- MARCH 28

Service at 10:30 a.m.

More information coming soon

MAUNDY THURSDAY- APRIL 1

Service at 7:30 p.m.

More information coming soon

GOOD FRIDAY- APRIL 1

More information coming soon

EASTER VIGIL- APRIL 3

Service at 7:30 p.m.

More information coming soon

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

More information coming soon

EASTER FESTIVAL OF WORSHIP

Service at 10:30 a.m.

More information coming soon

Central Congregational Church, a member of the United Church of Christ, believes in God who calls the world into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death. It acknowledges the risen Christ as the ultimate example of God's grace, a gift freely given to all. It looks to the Word of God in the scriptures and to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to prosper its redemptive work in the world.

We strive to be a community of God's people in a way that calls each of us to active discipleship. Our purpose is to work for the increase in the love of God and neighbor through worship, caring, sharing, and outreach.

*Christianity is the name of a journey,
a journey not solely of personal contemplation,
but one of communal venture that is the Church.*

*It is a journey open to everyone,
regardless of their condition, regardless of their past;
all that is required is a decision to follow Him.*

STAFF

Rebecca L. Spencer, Senior Minister
Claudia P. Demick, Associate Minister
Patrick Aiken, Choirmaster and Organist
Judy Martowska, Director of Christian Education
Jennifer Fallon, Church Administrator
Joseph McNamara, Sexton

OFFICERS

William Templeton, Chair of the Permanent Diaconate
Peter Gross, Beth Newberry, and Temi Sonubi, Senior Deacons
Kristin DeKuiper, Chair of the Prudential Committee
Winfield Major and Mary Hazeltine, Co-Treasurers
Carol Terry, Clerk
John Chaney, Archivist
Frances Munro, Head Usher

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