



ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 11, 2021
Central Congregational Church

Easter Lessons and Carols

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

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. †

EASTER LESSONS AND CAROLS

*During the prelude, many congregants prepare for
worship with prayer, meditation and contemplation.*

*The Board of Deacons asks the congregation
to be aware of the importance of this quiet time for many individuals.*

April 11, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE on “Andante Sostenuto”

CHARLES-MARIE WIDOR

CALL TO WORSHIP

Unison reading of Psalm 118:24-29 on page 566 in the pew Bible

HYMN “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain Of Triumphant gladness;
God hath brought His Israel Into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot Through the Red Sea waters.

Now the queen of seasons, bright With the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts, Comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem Who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus’ resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, Nor the tomb’s dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal hold Thee as a mortal;
But today amidst the twelve Thou didst stand, bestowing
That Thy peace which evermore Passeth human knowing. Amen

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

The Reverend Dr. Claudia Demick

UNISON 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

RESPONSE

Glory to the Creator, and to the Son, and Holy Spirit, One;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
World without end. Amen. Amen.

FIRST LESSON *John 20:1-18*

Liz Viall

HYMN "I Come To the Garden Alone"

SECOND LESSON *John 20:19-29*

Robert Stout

ANTHEM “Fisherman Peter”

Fisherman Peter, on the sea,
Drop your net, boy, and follow Me!
Wrestling Jacob, wrestle on!
Stop your wrestling and come on home!
Doubting Thomas, doubt no more!
Stop your doubting and come on home!

SOUTH CAROLINA SPIRITUAL

Arr. Elizabeth Poston

THIRD LESSON *John 21:15-18*

Rob Edwards

ANTHEM - “Peter...Do You Love Me?”

MARVIN CURTIS

Oh, Peter, do you love Me? Yes, Lord!
If you love Me, feed My sheep.
Upon this rock I will build My church.

FOURTH LESSON *Luke 24: 45-53*

Staci Fischer

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Magdalen, Cease from Sobs and Sighs”

PETER HURFORD

Magdalen, cease from sobs and sighs
Wipe the tear drops from off thine eyes,
Simon the leper’s feast is o’er
Christ today need thy nard no more
Now thousand times mayst thou rejoice,
Now thousand times uplift thy voice.
Alleluia!

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

Our Father Which 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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen

HYMN "Alleluia! The Strife is O'er"

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
The victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun: Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead;
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which sounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to thee: Alleluia

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

JOHN STAINER

POSTLUDE on “Fanfare on ‘Victory’ “

ALEC WYTON

WORSHIP ENDS ---WITNESS AND SERVICE BEGIN

IN MEMORIAM
FRANKLIN & NATALIE ARNOLD

WELCOME ANDREW SMITH

Re-Imagining Chapel Hall

With every COVID safety protocol in place, you are invited to stroll through a one-way display in Chapel Hall to see the creative and inspired new vision for this 180-year-old Central community gathering space.

On Sunday, April 25th, just after worship, this brief walking tour around Chapel Hall will allow you to see the space as it is, and how it will look as a Re-Imagined resource. The presentation is designed to be fun, informative, safe, brief, and – inspiring!

The exhibition will remain in place for several weeks, to allow anyone to enjoy the experience at their convenience, and in isolation if you prefer. You may drop by Central when the office is open, and walk through the presentation at your convenience. We guarantee you will be inspired!

Camp Street Ministries

Let's fill the shelves! Cereal and shelf stable milk are needed for the food pantry. Please bring in donations of these items and leave them in the baskets inside the sanctuary doors as you arrive for worship or drop them off in the church office during the week. Thank you!

**Know someone
interested
in Central
as a
church home?**

Inquirers' Meeting*
Wednesday, April 21

Faith Exploration*
Tuesday, April 27

New Member Sunday
May 2

*These meetings are held
at Central.

For more information
call Central Church at 331-1960

Or fill out a pew card
to request a call
from the Minister.

Join us for Adult Sunday School

Jesus' Short Stories—a.k.a. The Parables
Join us for conversation around some of
Jesus' parables as we listen through new ears to
them and are challenged in new ways by Jesus'
provocative stories. Ask Claudia for the Zoom
link.

April 11 through May 2, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Memorial Flowers

Central provides flowers on its Communion Table each week to beautify our Sanctuary. That's just the first step of a very important mission: to provide fresh flower bouquets to members in need of cheer, a reminder that they are missed, loved and an important part of our congregation.

If you would like to sponsor flowers to honor someone important in your life, please contact the church office at 401-331-1960.

Help Amos House

Whether personal care items, food, or a pair of winter gloves, your in-kind donation makes a difference. Please note that in-kind donations are only accepted Monday through Friday, by appointment. Please contact the Amos House office at 401-272-0220 to schedule a drop off day that works best for you.

Church Directories Available

The 2021/22 church directory is ready. Pick up your copy in the Church Office the next time you are at Central. If you are not planning to come to Central, please contact the church office and we can send you a copy.

Pledge Envelopes

The 2021-2022 Pledge Envelopes are ready for pick up in the office.

You are safe at Central

Central's Regathering Task Force is on hand every Sunday during Worship to ensure we follow state safety guidelines. We are contact tracing, checking temperatures, and asking worshippers to double-mask (extra masks are available). In addition, we are keeping some doors open to improve ventilation.

So please dress warmly!

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

SUNDAY, April 11

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship (Communion)
- 10:30 a.m. Church school
- 11:30 a.m. Confirmation
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Sunday School- The Parables

TUESDAY, April 13

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 5:45 p.m. Deacons' Meeting (virtual)

THURSDAY, April 15

- 7:00 p.m. Caring & Sharing (virtual)

SATURDAY, April 17

- 7:00 p.m. Women's Retreat Group (virtual)

SUNDAY, April 18

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Confirmation(virtual)
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Sunday School- The Parables

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
Amy Gorman, Communications Coordinator
Joseph McNamara, Sexton

OFFICERS

William Templeton, Chair of the Permanent Diaconate
May Grant, Mike Hopkins and Peter Woodberry, 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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