



ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 25, 2021

“I am the good
shepherd. I
know my own
and my own
know me...”

John 10:14

Welcome 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.

At 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. ‡

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

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

April 25, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE on 'St. Anne'

PAUL MANZ

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick

HYMN "Our God, our Help in Ages Past"

Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home

Under the shadow of Thy throne, Thy saints have dwelt secure,
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

‡ *Based on the Salem Covenant, 1629*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Shepherd, we would follow You wherever You might lead. Forgive us when we stumble and when we stray. Forgive us when we become distracted and lose our way. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice. You are the one to whom we turn, whose hand we reach for, our Shepherd who leads us safely to the fold. We pray that You will give us healing and forgiveness. Gracious Shepherd, we would follow You wherever you might lead. Guide us in the paths of righteousness and peace we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:11-18

Maisie McLaughlin

SERMON “*Everyone needs a shepherd.*”

The Rev. Rebecca Spencer

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And with Thy Spirit.

Leader: Let us pray. O Lord, show Thy mercy upon us;

People: And grant us Thy salvation.

Leader: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

People: And take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “The Lord is my Shepherd”

PAUL CRESTON

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leads me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me,
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou prepares a table before me
In the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anoints my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN “Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise.
He who on the cross as Savior For the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior Who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia! To the triune majesty.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Carillon-Sortie”

HENRI MULET

WORSHIP ENDS – Witness and Service Begin

50 Year Members

Ruth Whitford	April 18, 1935
William H. Claflin	April 22, 1943 – November, 1970 April 28, 1991
Noel Field, Jr.	March 25, 1948
Ann Thorndike	April 14, 1949
Ethel Lavelle	December 6, 1959
Peter A. Erkkinen	April 14, 1960
Janice W. Libby	October 2, 1960
Edward F. Bishop	December 3, 1961
Julius W. Kling	April 11, 1963
Elaine Perry	April 15, 1965
Eugene Perry	April 15, 1965
Tedford Radway	April 15, 1965
Peter Gross	March 23, 1967
Barrett Hazeltine	May 14, 1967
Mary Hazeltine	May 14, 1967
William Kling	April 11, 1968
Stephen Eustis	March 26, 1970
Frances Munro	March 26, 1970

OUT OF TOWN MEMBERS

William E. Cox	March 25, 1948
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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!

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.

Church Directories Available

The 2020/21 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.

**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, contact
Central Church at 331-1960
or fill out a pew card
to request a call
from the Minister.



The flowers in the
Chancel today
are given to the glory
of God
and in loving memory
of
DONALD S LIBBY.

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

SUNDAY, April 25

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Chapel Hall walk around
- 11:30 a.m. NEOS
- 2:00 p.m. WORD
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Sunday School- The Parables

TUESDAY, April 27

- 7:00 p.m. Faith Exploration

WEDNESDAY, April 28

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

SATURDAY, May 1

- 7 p.m. Women's Retreat Group

SUNDAY, May 2

- 9:30 a.m. Virtual Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Confirmation
- 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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