



ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 23, 2021

“Then everyone
who calls on the
name of the Lord
shall be saved”

Acts 2:21

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. †

PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

May 23, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Thomas Lynch

HYMN “Come Down, O Love Divine”

Come down, O Love divine, Seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near, Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn, Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Thy glorious light Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

INVOCATION

Lily Thornton

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

The Rev. Rebecca Spencer

† Based on the Salem Covenant, 1629

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Maisie McLaughlin

Spirit of power and grace, confused and bewildered by Your power, we turn aside from Your transforming grace; uncertain about the future, we allow our troubles and fears to keep us from tasting Your promised joy. We fail to welcome the grace of Your healing love into our hearts. We want proof before we are satisfied. Forgive us. Give us trusting hearts, that we may hear Your word, welcome Your spirit, and proclaim Your love to all the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE READING

Maisie McLaughlin, Lucas Hurtado and Thomas Lynch

Acts 2:1-21

STATEMENTS OF FAITH Grace Mazurkie, Amelia Lynch, Ebba Karlsson

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION The Rev. Judy Martowska and Mr. Larry Kellam

Confirmation Covenant and Commissioning

Leader to the Congregation: Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters in Christ, who have answered God's call. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them.

People: We gather in celebration of these young partners in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you and keep you in prayer. We promise our continued support of your discernment and growth as people of faith.

Jackson Chambers
Ebba Karlsson
Amelia Lynch
Grace Mazurkie

Lucas Hurtado
Audrey Lee
Thomas Lynch
Maisie McLaughlin

OFFERTORY

Jackson Chambers

OFFERTORY “A Pentecost Prayer”

Carson Cooman

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of Your holy spirit, Grant us by the same spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ebba Karlsson

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

*As an alternative to the bread provided,
gluten-free crackers are placed in a glass
bowl on each Communion Plate.*

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 “Lord, When I came Into This Life”

Lord, when I came into this life, You called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself, responding to Your claim.

You give me freedom to believe; today I make my choice,
And to the worship of the church I add my learning voice.

In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,
Let Your great spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.

BENEDICTION

Audrey Lee

POSTLUDE “Festive Postlude on ‘Come, Holy Spirit’ ”

CHARLES ORE

WORSHIP ENDS – Witness and Service Begin

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
immediately follows Worship June 6**

The purpose of the annual meeting will be to hear the report on the annual budget and to adopt it; to vote upon the nominations for church officers and committee members; and to manage such other business as may come before the meeting. All members of the church are invited and encouraged to attend.

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

SUNDAY, May 23

- 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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

SATURDAY, May 29

- 7 p.m. Women's Retreat Group (Virtual)

SUNDAY, May 30

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

Be a Good Egg for One Egg Haiti

Central members are invited to join the Church School in a special collection for the 'Great 50 Days' of the Easter season (culminating in Pentecost) in which we'll not only be recycling the dozens of plastic eggs from our Egg Hunt, but we'll take them home and fill them with money to go to the One Egg Haiti project! It provides school children in Haiti with much needed nutritional help, through an egg a day.

Don't Miss The Rebecca L. Spencer Lecture Series 2021

This series is funded by Lorne Adrian with the intent of Rhode Islanders sharing stories, perspectives and insights that enrich, enliven and strengthen the Ocean State community.

Thursday, June 10 at 7pm

Our speaker will be Dr. Ted Widmer:

American Historian, writer, former White House Advisor, Central neighbor, and nationally acclaimed author of "Lincoln on the Verge: Thirteen days to Washington."

"Ted Widmer immerses readers in a pivotal moment at the brink of the Civil War. As America faces another moment of seemingly irreparable disunion, Widmer finds relevance-and even reasons for hope-in the past."

The event is free and open to the public, so bring your friends and family.

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, MAY 23th, 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!

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.

Know someone interested in Central as a church home?

Inquirers' Meeting*
Wednesday, October 27

Faith Exploration*
Tuesday, November 2

New Member Sunday
November 7

*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.

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 you can drop them off in the church office during business hours.

Thank You

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
Marilyn Brown, Interim 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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