



ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 6, 2021

“For whoever does
the will of God is
My brother and
My sister and
mother”

Mark 3:35

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. †

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

June 6, 2021

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE “Sandmännchen”

JOHANNES BRAHMS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Rebecca L. Spencer

HYMN “Be Thou My Vision”

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, hear our prayer. You call us like a good parent to guide and protect us, to lead us into right paths. You call us like a caring sibling to invite us to follow You. Holy Spirit, You call us to lead us ever closer into communion with You and one another. Forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good that we have accomplished. We pray that You will heal us and our world. We pray that You will free us to serve You. Mold us into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
for Theodore James Willis

SCRIPTURE READING
Mark 3:31-35

Mark McLaughlin

SERMON “The Fixed Heart and the Unfixed Address” The Rev. Rebecca L. 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 “O Be Joyful in the Lord”

JOHN RUTTER

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness,
And come before His presence with a song,
Be ye sure that the Lord He is God
It is He that hath made us.
And not we ourselves;
We are His people,
And the sheep of His pasture.
O go your way into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise;

Be thankful unto Him,
And speak good of His Name.
For the Lord is gracious,
His mercy is everlasting;
And His truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Toccata in Seven”

JOHN RUTTER

WORSHIP ENDS – Witness and Service Begin

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
immediately follows Worship today

The purposes of the Annual Meeting are to adopt an annual budget; to vote upon the nominations for church officers and committee members; to approve advances of up to \$750,000 for construction costs incurred in the renovation of Chapel Hall and the Church Gallery in excess of pledges collected for the capital campaign; and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting. The proposed advances have been approved by both the Prudential Committee and a special joint committee of the Endowment Funds Board, representatives of the Prudential Committee and the Finance Subcommittee, the Treasurer and the Senior Minister. The advances will enable construction work on the renovations approved by the congregation at its Jan. 2020 meeting to commence during the summer months before the capital campaign is fully launched.

The Rebecca L. Spencer Lecture Series 2021

Dr. Ted Widmer

Thursday, June 10, at 7pm

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. 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.

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.

*We celebrate the sacrament of Baptism
This sacrament initiates those baptized into Christ's body, the Church.*

Baptism is the beginning of a person's life in Christ.
We, the congregation, are participants in Baptism, celebrating the possibilities of this new life in Christ, and our mutual joy in sharing responsibility for caring for this life.
Water, the symbol of life, marks and names those baptized forever as a child of God.

“For anyone united to Christ, there is a new creation:
the old order has gone;
a new order has already begun.”



BAPTIZED THE MORNING

Theodore James Willis

Son of Beth Willis

The Rosebud on the pulpit is given by the Board of Deacons in honor of Teddy

NEXT WEEK IS CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Our children and youth will lead worship and we will present Bibles to our fourth and fifth graders. Ice cream follows on the west lawn!

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.

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
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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