



ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 11, 2021

“David danced  
before the Lord  
with all his might.”

2 Samuel 6:14

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. †

## THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

July 11, 2021

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Le Jardin Suspendu”

Jehan Alain

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick

HYMN “The God of Abraham Praise”

The God of Abraham praise, All praised be His name,  
Who was and is, and is to be, For aye the same.  
The one eternal God, Ere aught that now appears,  
That First, the Last: beyond all thought His timeless years!

God’s spirit floweth free, High surging where it will  
In prophets word God spoke of old And speakest still.  
Established is the law, And changeless it shall stand,  
Deep writ upon the human heart, On sea, or land.

God hath eternal life Implanted in the soul,  
True love shall be our strength and stay, While ages roll.  
Praise to the living God! All praised be God’s name  
Who was, and is, and is to be, For aye the same!

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we don't always understand our own actions. We know what is right—what You expect of us—but we don't always do it. We also know what is wrong—the thoughts and actions that hurt others and that grieve You. God of all, we confess that we have not always turned to You as we should. Forgive us and renew us through Your grace. Inspire us and empower us to show forth the amazing teachings of Jesus who shows us Your way. Through the wonder of Your loving mercy grace us with new beginnings we pray. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### SCRIPTURE READING

Caroline Hunter

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24

### SERMON “Dancing Before God”

The Rev. Claudia P. Demick

## 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 SENTENCES

### OFFERTORY “Climat”

JEHAN ALAIN

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Christ all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,  
Praise Triune God Whom we adore

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### HYMN “Lead On, O King Eternal”

Lead on, O King eternal, The day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home.  
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,  
And now, O King eternal, We lift our battle song.  
Lead on, O King eternal, We follow, not with fears,  
For gladness breaks like morning Whe’er Thy face appears.  
For not with swords’ loud clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums,  
But deeds and love and mercy, The heavenly kingdom comes.

### POSTLUDE “Litanies”

JEHAN ALAIN

WORSHIP ENDS - Witness and Service Begin.

The flowers on the communion table are  
from the celebration yesterday of  
Harold Kolenbrander’s and Judy Grooter’s  
marriage ceremony.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHILDREN'S STORIES WITH JUDY

During this virtual summer program, Judy will share a story - either from the Bible or about aspects of faith - and then lead the children in a discussion. It's a great way for kids to stay connected whether or not they're attending church. Contact Judy for a Zoom invitation.

### CHILDREN'S SUMMER PROGRAM

In this new Sunday morning program, Central's children will learn about life in Jesus' time while enjoying crafts and other activities. Sundays, June 20 through September 5 (except July 25), 10:00 a.m.

### JOIN US FOR LUNCH AT GREGG'S!

All are invited to gather at Gregg's Restaurant (1303 N. Main Street) after worship on Sunday, July 18.

### WOMEN'S RETREAT GROUP LUNCHEON

A special gathering of the Women's Retreat Group will take place at India Restaurant (1060 Hope Street) following Worship on Sunday, July 25.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT BOOK GROUP

Join Claudia on Thursday, August 12, at 7 p.m. for a lively discussin of *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride. NPR describes if as "a feverish love letter to New York City, people, and writing."

### LUNCH AT BLOUNT CLAM SHACK

Bring your sunglasses and join Central friends for a delicious outdoor lunch at Blount Clam Shack on the beautiful Warren River ( 335 Water Street, Warren). Sunday, August 15, after Worship

## THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

### **SUNDAY, July 11**

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Stories with Judy (Virtual)
- 9:00 a.m. Summer Bible Study (Chapel Hall)
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Summer Program (Fireplace Room)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship

### **TUESDAY, July 13**

- 6:30 a.m. Amos House

### **SUNDAY, July 18**

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Stories with Judy (Virtual)
- 9:00 a.m. Summer Bible Study (Chapel Hall)
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Summer Program (Fireplace Room)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:00 a.m. Lunch at Gregg's Restaurant (following worship)

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 DeKuijer, 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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