



ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 15, 2021

“Praise
for God’s
Wonderful
Works!”

Psalm 111

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 TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

August 15, 2021

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE 'on 'Veni Emmanuel'

ALEC WYTON

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick

HYMN "O Come Thou Wisdom"

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show, And cause us in her way to go.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of compassion, if You kept a record of our sins, who could stand?
We come before You with our brokenness and our wounds for You to heal.
We bring our whole selves to You this day: our anger, our bitterness, our
sorrows, our joys and all that we are. We try to do good, but sometimes we
fail. Forgive us we pray when we stumble and lift us when we fall. Give us
wisdom in our choices that we may serve You in all the ways to which you
call us. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE READING

Margaret Gardner

1Kings 2:10-12, , p. 304,
1 Kings 3:3-14 p.p. 305-306
Psalm 111, p.p. 562-563

SERMON “The Power of Wisdom”

The Rev. Dr. 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

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 “God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, On Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church’s story; Bring her bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage, For the facing of this hour.

Save us weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation Be our glory evermore.

POSTLUDE “on ‘Victory’”

ALEC WYTON

WORSHIP ENDS - Witness and Service Begin.

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, through September 5 10:00 a.m.

CARING AND SHARING WOMEN'S GROUP

All women are invited to the Caring and Sharing women's group as they plan to meet outside at Eskimo King in Swansea at 6:00 p.m. for wonderful conversation AND the option of over 350 flavors of hard and soft ice cream! What could possibly be better?? Friends from Central and ice cream, too...

REBECCA'S BOOK CLUB

Join Rebecca for her Book Group on August 26 at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom, featuring *The Agitators*, by Dorothy Wickenden. The group will discuss this interesting and informative look at three women who were actively involved in both the abolitionist movement as well as women's rights. The book centers around Harriet Tubman, Martha Coffin Wright, and Frances Seward. It is a great summer read!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISH!

Longtime member, Dr. Henry Magandantz has not been able to be with us lately. He will be 85 this Friday (8/20) and his wife, Kathy, has asked if people might send him birthday well wishes to 1 Butler Avenue, Apt. 233, Providence, RI 02906.

THE HAITI TASK FORCE

The Haiti Task Force created an emergency donation site to support our mission and friends in Haiti who are impacted by the violence there.

To help go to <https://gofund.me/db948e2f>

THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

SUNDAY, August 15, 2021

- 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

THURSDAY, August 19 2021

- 6:00 p.m. Caring and Sharing Women's Group (Eskimo King, 29 Market St,
Swansea, MA)

FRIDAY, August 20, 2021

Newsletter Articles Due

SUNDAY, August 22, 2021

- 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 with Communion

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
Antonia Greco, 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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