



ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 8, 2021

“Lord, Hear My
Voice!”

Psalm 130:2

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 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

August 8, 2021

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Now Thank We All Our God”

EMMA LOU DIEMER

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Claudia Demick

HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God”

Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, In this world rejoices,
Who from our mothers’ arms, Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in this grace, And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.

WORD OF FELLOWSHIP

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor. We admit that we have been hurt by others and that it is hard to get past that. We confess that in a world filled with difficult times we can feel much anger about the ways people hurt others. But, we know that nothing is impossible for You. We come to You, seeking healing and wholeness and forgiveness. Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others. May we nurture their growth and our own as we seek to walk in Christ’s ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE READING

May Grant

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33, pp. 292-293

Psalm 130, p.p. 573-574

SERMON “My Soul Waits”

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 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord, who'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordained?

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen Sound from His people again:
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

POSTLUDE "Praise to the Lord"

EMMA LOU DIEMER

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.

REBECCA'S BOOK GROUP

Join Rebecca for her Book Group on August 12 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!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT BOOK GROUP

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

LUNCH AT GREGG'S RESTAURANT

Come join your friends from Central! All are invited to gather at Gregg's Restaurant (1303 North Main Street) after worship on Sunday, August 22.

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 8, 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 12, 2021

- 12:30 p.m. Rebecca's Book Group (Virtual)
- 7:00 p.m. Food For Thought Book Group (Virtual)

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

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

296 Angell Street
Providence, RI 02906
401-331-1960
www.centralchurch.us