

PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Lift Off by Nicolette Peñaranda | A Sanctified Art

Second Sunday in Lent

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 25, 2024 10:30 AM

Chiming of the Hour

The ringing of the bell invites us to quiet our hearts & minds as we gather for worship.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

*Welcome to worship at Park Central Presbyterian Church!
May you experience God's grace and love within the worship service.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

"Prelude No. 8 in c-sharp minor"

Robert D. Vandall

Sandra Murphy, *piano*
Dan Blumenthal, *saxophone*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God welcomes those who dream and those who doubt,
those who feel courageous and those who feel fearful.

God welcomes us when we are hungry and when we are hopeful,
when we are impatient and when we are at peace.

God comes to us with love
and calls us with persistence.

Let us worship God with grateful hearts.

***HYMN 361** How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

**Please rise in body or spirit*

pg. 2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
There are days that threaten to swamp us.
There are times when the storms of life overwhelm us.
Forgive us when we doubt whether you are still with us.
Forgive us when we get anxious and forget to trust
your steadfast love and faithfulness.
Rescue us from the storms and fears
and give us the courage to go forward in faith.
Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

NETTLETON

*Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Psalm 22:23-31

- ²³ You who revere God, give praise!
All you offspring of Jacob, Rachel, and Leah, glorify God;
stand in awe of God, all you offspring of Israel!
- ²⁴ For God did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted,
and did not hide God's face from me
but heard when I cried to God.
- ²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who revere God.
- ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek God shall give praise.
May your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to God,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before God.
- ²⁸ For dominion belongs to God,
who rules over the nations.
- ²⁹ To God, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before God shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for God.
- ³⁰ Posterity will serve God;
future generations will be told about God
- ³¹ and proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that God has done it.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Pieta, Signore

Megan Hook, *soprano*
attrib. Alessandro Stradella

*Pietà, Signore, di me dolente!
Signor, pietà, se a te giunge
il mio pregar; non mi punisca
il tuo rigor, meno severi,
clementi ognora, volgi i tuoi
sguardi sopra di me.*

Have mercy, Lord, on me in my remorse!
Lord, have mercy if my prayer rises to you;
do not chastise me in your severity,
less harshly, always mercifully,
look down on me.

*Non fia mai che nell'inferno
sia dannato nel fuoco eterno
dal tuo rigor.*

Never let me be condemned to hell
in the eternal fire by your severity.

*Gran Dio, giammai
sia dannato nel fuoco eterno
dal tuo rigor. (Fine)*

Almighty God, never let me
be condemned to hell in the eternal fire
by your severity. (Fine)

*Pietà, Signore, Signor, pietà
di me dolente, se a te giunge
il mio pregar.
Meno severi,
clementi ognora,
volgi i tuoi sguardi,
deh volgi sguardi
su me, Signor. (D.C. al fine)*

Have mercy, Lord, Lord, have mercy
on me in my remorse,
if my prayer rises to you, etc.
Less harshly, always mercifully,
look down, ah! look down on me, Lord. (D.C. al fine)

English translation ©Antonio Giuliano

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ Jesus said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and

came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when Peter noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped Jesus, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Sarah McTyre

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO ENGAGEMENT

You may place donations to the church in the offering plate as you exit. You may also send in a check or click Donate on the church website.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN 487** Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Prelude on SLANE”

Gilbert M. Martin

*Please join us in the Gathering Hall following worship
for snacks, coffee, and fellowship.*

Announcements for February 25, 2024

Wednesday, February 28

12:00 pm Staff meeting

6:30 pm Lenten study

Sunday, March 3

9:00 am Bible study (virtual)

10:30 am Worship service

Corporate and congregational meeting

Fellowship hour

Wednesdays in Lent

Lenten gatherings will continue every Wednesday, online only, through March 20.

Sound Bath

Our next Sound Bath through Arts at Park will be held Monday, March 18, at 7pm. All are welcome to this relaxing and meditative event!

Community Connections

We have two ways to come alongside our neighbors this month! The Syracuse Academy of Science Citizens Academy is in need of school supplies, and Freedom Commons is in need of linens. The lists for both can be found below. Please bring any donations by next Sunday, March 3, and leave them in the library.

Please only bring in new linens in dark colors!

- Tissue boxes
- Pencils
- Pencil-top erasers
- Laminating sheets
- Index cards
- Scotch tape
- Dry erase markers
- Headphones
- Twin size sheets and pillowcases
- Twin size comforters and blankets
- Towels
- Washcloths

**Please rise in body or spirit*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Ben Merchant
Fellowship Hour Marissa Saunders

Our brokenness is also the source of our common humanity,
the basis for our shared search for comfort, meaning, and healing.

Our shared vulnerability and imperfection
nurtures and sustains our capacity for compassion.

~ Bryan Stevenson

Portions of today's liturgy are adapted from
Wandering Heart: Words for Worship by Sarah Are Speed

Park Central has accepted the invitation
from the Presbyterian Church (USA) to become a Matthew 25 congregation.
We are answering Christ's call to become even more a church of action,
where God's love, justice, and mercy shine forth and are contagious.

To learn more about Matthew 25, please visit pcusa.org/matthew25

Robert Allen.....Director of Arts and Technology
Brigid Boyle..... Parish Associate
Sarah McTyre.....Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....Keyboard Musician
Kenneth Pfeffer.....Building Manager
Michael Sayles..... Finance Manager
Briana Vaught.....Office and Communications Manager

Church Office Phone: (315) 475-1677 • 504 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, NY 13202-1922

Church Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, M-Th

Church Office Email: office@parkcentralchurch.org

Website: www.parkcentralchurch.org • Facebook: Park Central Presbyterian Church

Instagram: [parkcentralsyr](https://www.instagram.com/parkcentralsyr) • TikTok: [parkcentralchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/@parkcentralchurch)