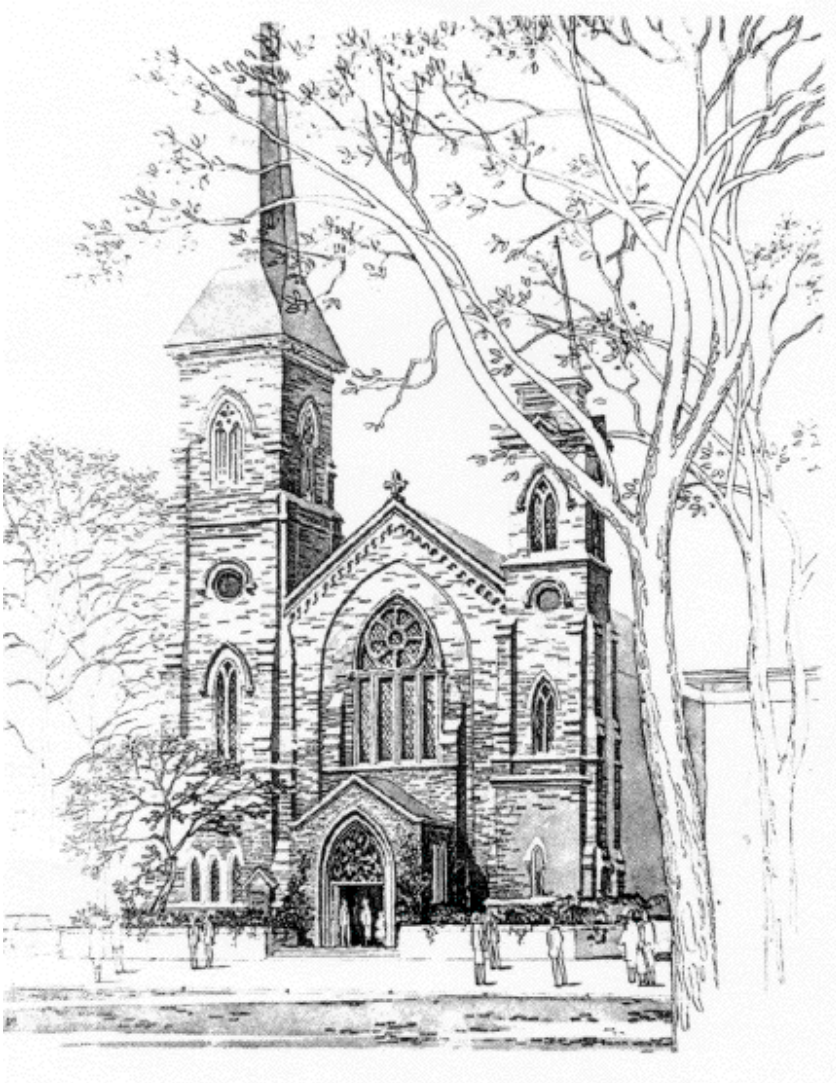


PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Fourth Sunday of Easter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 26, 2026 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

Träumerei (Op. 15, No. 7)

Robert Schumann

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

In the darkest valley,
and at the banquet table;
in the hard work of life,
and in the moments of ease;
in our day-to-day reality,
and in times set aside for worship;
with every step we take,
goodness and mercy follow us.
Our cups overflow!
Let us come into God's house with praise!

***HYMN 801** The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

CRIMOND

CALL TO CONFESSION

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,
we confess that our hearts
are weighed down by our failings.
Envy distances us from other people.
Greed alerts us only to our own desires.
Where we might nurture relationships,
we often create competition and conflicts.
Where you call us to give, we sometimes take.
Where your presence beckons, we tend to resist.
Forgive us, we pray.
Restore us and lead us in paths of righteousness
that we may live an abundant life together in your name. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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.

*HYMN 306 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Psalm 23

¹ God is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² God makes me lie down in green pastures,
and leads me beside still waters;

³ God restores my soul.

God leads me in paths of righteousness
for the sake of God's name.

⁴ Even though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of God

my whole life long.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Still Waters (Psalm 23)

Beth Langley, *contralto*

Leanna Crawford, Jonathan Gamble & Justin Richards

*Great Aunt Maurine said at a hundred and three,
“Write scripture on your heart for when you need it.
'Cause anxiety hates Psalm Twenty-three.
So just say it to yourself till you believe it.”
And I’m feelin’ like I’m needin’ it right now.*

Refrain:

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He leads me by still waters till my fears are gone.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, oh,
I know You are with me; My Father, my friend.
Your goodness and mercy will follow me all of my days.
I know by Your still waters I’m safe.*

*Lord, I believe you can set me at ease,
Turn this broken piece in me to peace and quiet.
I know there’s power in Your Word,
So I’ll say it over and over till my soul’s reminded.*

Refrain

*Still waters run through any valley I could find.
I’m layin’ fear down here at Heaven’s riverside.
Your Word has been true in ev’ry season of my life.
I believe, yes, I believe.*

Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 18:1-14

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the realm of heaven?” ² Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, ³ and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the realm of heaven.

⁴ Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the realm of heaven.

⁵ Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

⁶ “If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷ Woe to the world because of things that cause sin! Such things are bound to come, but woe to the one through whom they come!

⁸ “If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰ “Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Abba in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does the shepherd not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³ And if it is found, truly I tell you, the shepherd rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of your Abba in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.”

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Brigid Boyle

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 313** Lord, Make Us More Holy

LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Carillon

Gilbert M. Martin

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

Are you new to our church?

We would love to connect with you!
Please scan the QR code for our
digital welcome pad!



ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Najwa Webster
Fellowship Hour Grayson Jones, Ben Merchant, and Beth Langley

We worship a God who exists beyond the bounds of language. We are part of a creation that is vibrant in its diversity. We hope that the language used in today’s worship reflects those inclusive and expansive ideals. Some traditional prayers and hymns may contain gendered terms for God; please feel free to substitute more expansive terms.

As a member of the PC(USA)’s Matthew 25 movement, Park Central works toward building congregational vitality and dismantling structural racism. 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.

Brigid Boyle..... Parish Associate
Sarah McTyre.....Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....Music Director
Kenneth Pfeffer.....Building Manager
Briana Vaught.....Office and Communications Manager
Justin Vaught..... Finance Administrator/Bookkeeper

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