

PARK CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Born Again” by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art

Second Sunday in Lent

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 5, 2023 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

“Cavatina”

Joachim Raff

Sandra Murphy, *piano*
Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

What is it like to begin again?

It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.

It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.

It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.

May we learn as we go and trust God to lead us.

May we be brave enough to begin again.

Let us worship the God of new beginnings.

***HYMN 275** God of Our Life

SANDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of new life,

you call us into unknown places,

and we are tempted to bury our heads in the sand.

You promise all the stars in the sky,

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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**and we often doubt that it can be true.
You speak of new life in the Spirit,
and we tell ourselves we have missed our chance.
Over and over again, you invite us closer to you.
Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes.
Give us the courage to begin again with you. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA (#576)**

*Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory in the highest!
Glory to God, Glory to God,
Alleluia, alleluia!*

GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

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

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹ Now God said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴ So Abram went, as God had told him, and Lot went with him.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Kent Bradshaw, *baritone*

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son
That whoso believeth in him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.*

*For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world,
But that the world through him might be saved.*

*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son
That whoso believeth in him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.
God so loved the world.*

THE SECOND LESSON

John 3:1-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the realm of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus replied, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the realm of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to Jesus, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that God gave God’s only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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 402** Now Praise the Hidden God of Love

DICKINSON COLLEGE

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Postlude”

Andrew Gant

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

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Ben Merchant
Fellowship Hour.....David Aronson and Sara Hahne

Each time the saints gather to encounter Jesus,
the Spirit calls us to continuous transformation,
calling dead things into new life and Holy Spirit-filled revival.

~ Carmelle Beaugelin

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith*,
Lenten resources from A Sanctified Art.

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.....Interim Organist
Kenneth Pfeffer.....Building Manager
Michael Sayles..... Finance Manager
Briana Vaught.....Office and Communications Manager

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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)

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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