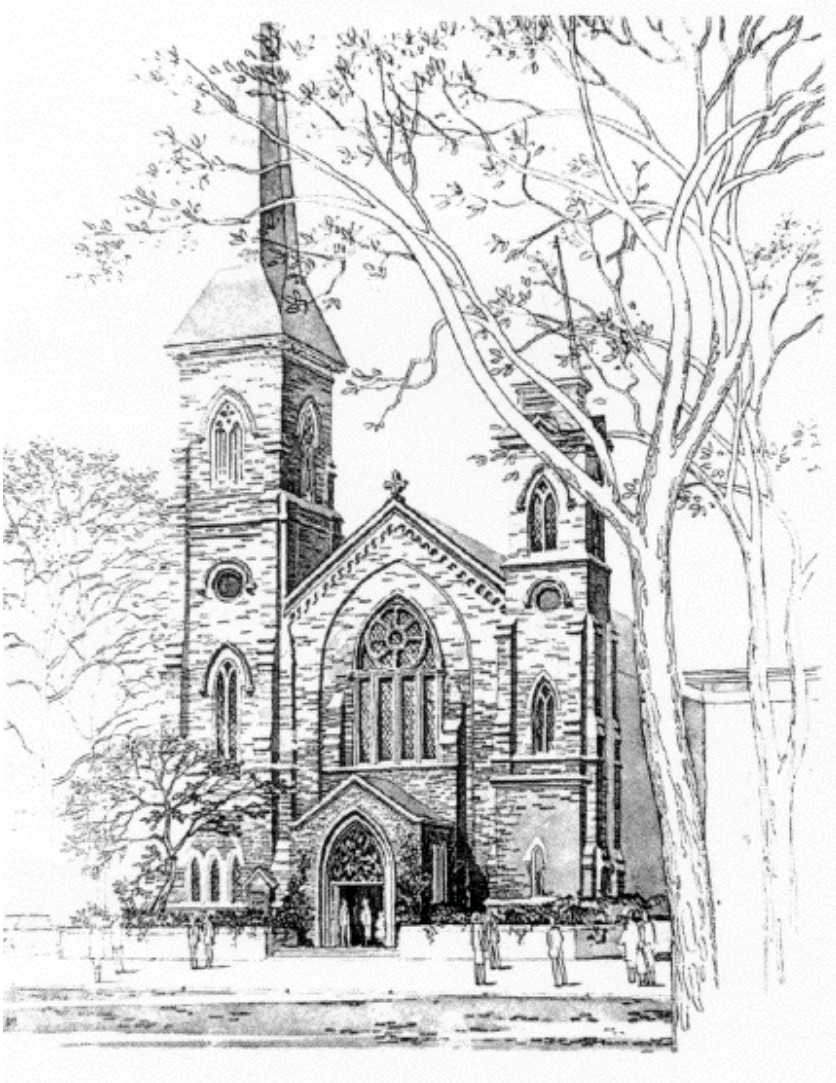


PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Fourth Sunday of Easter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 30, 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

“Seasons of Life”

Mark Hayes

Sandra Murphy, *piano*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God invites us to come in and go out and find pasture:

to come into the kingdom, into abundant life, into the light;

to go out to serve, out to live our faith, out to be the Body of Christ.

Christ calls us to hear his voice

and so we come to listen and seek and follow.

Come, let us worship together.

***HYMN**

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Please see hymn insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good Shepherd,

we confess that we often take your care for granted.

In the midst of our daily blessings,

we tend to complain that we do not have enough.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

04/30/23

pg. 2

**In the presence of danger,
we often fail to trust your abiding love.
When you set a table before us,
we fail to see your abundance.
Forgive us, we pray.
Help us to listen intently for your voice
and to follow you with trusting hearts. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW**

LASS 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.

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

Simple Gifts

Megan Hook, *soprano*
traditional Shaker song
arr. Aaron Copland

*'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained*

**Please rise in body or spirit*

04/30/23

pg. 4

*To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Till by turning, turning we come round right.*

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.

⁶ "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, 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 stumbling blocks! 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 stumble, 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 stumble, 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. 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 358** Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Variations on PUER NOBIS”

arr. Don Freudenburg

*During the postlude, some people sit or stand quietly and listen to the music.
Others prefer to connect with those around them or greet visitors as they leave.
Please feel free to make the transition between worship and re-entering the world
in whatever way is meaningful to you.*

*Please join us in the Gathering Hall following worship
for lunch and a service opportunity.*

Announcements for April 30, 2023

Sunday, May 7

- 9:00 am Bible study (virtual)
- 10:30 am Worship service
- 11:30 am Fellowship hour
- 2:00 pm Book club (virtual)

Get Involved!

There are sign-up sheets at the Fayette St. entrance for greeters and Fellowship Hour hosts. There are no requirements that must be met other than showing up! If you are interested in reading during worship or would like more information about greeting or hosting Fellowship Hour, please contact the office.

Mountain Goat Race

Next Sunday, May 7, the Mountain Goat race will be held around Syracuse. There will be road closures throughout the city. Please leave early for worship so you have extra time to navigate.

Jail Ministry Movie Night

Jail Ministry will be hosting their annual movie night at Park Central on Wednesday, May 3 at 6:00. They will be showing *The Hate U Give*. All are welcome to attend! There is no cost, but donations to their organization are welcome.

Tech Open House

Next Sunday, May 7, immediately following worship, Bob Allen will be hosting a "Tech Open House" for anyone who might be interested in volunteering to help with our current and future technological efforts. Plan to commit about 30 to 45 minutes to this introductory meeting.

Game Night

On Saturday, May 13, we will hold a board game night at Park Central from 4-6 pm! There will be plenty of games to play and snacks to enjoy. Not a board game fan? No problem! Come have snacks and enjoy the company of one another!

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Najwa Webster
Greeter.....Ben Merchant

Good Shepherd,
you call us by name,
and we know your voice.
Open the gate for us,
that we may come and go freely,
and have abundant life.
Amen.

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

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)