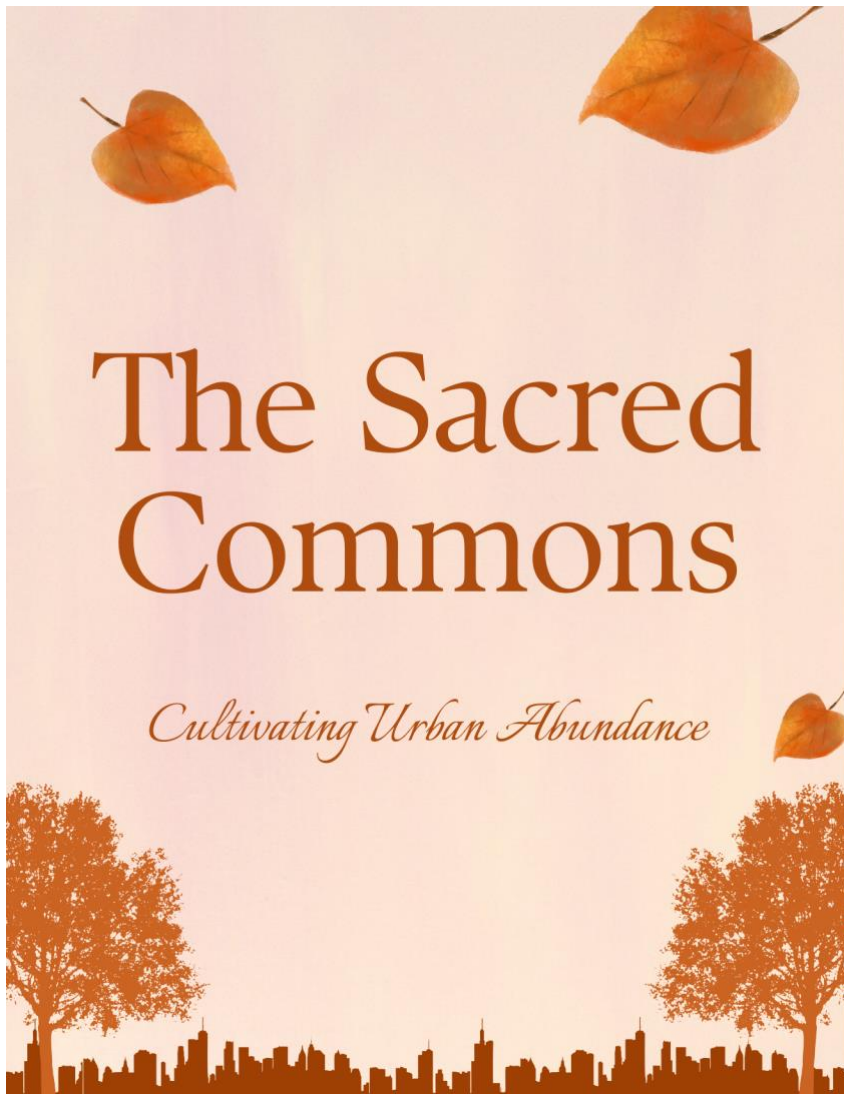


PARK CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 20, 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

*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

Invocation (Op. 367)

Charles Bohm

Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

Sandra Murphy, *organ*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Out of many paths, we arrive in this sacred space.

We gather to worship, to listen, and to grow together.

We are called to love our neighbors, near and far,
and to seek justice in our communities.

Let us open our hearts to the stories, songs, and spirit of one another.

Come, let us worship God with joy!

CHORAL INTROIT

O Radiant Dawn

Syracuse University Singers - John Warren, *conductor*

James MacMillan (b. 1959)

O Radiant Dawn,

Splendour of eternal Light,

Sun of Justice:

Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Isaiah had prophesied,

The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light.

Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. Amen.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of all creation,
we thank you for this day
and for the gifts of sound
and music all around us.**

**We are grateful for the sounds of creation –
the refreshing patter of rain,
the satisfying crunch of autumn leaves,
the soothing chirp of crickets in the evening hours.**

**We are grateful for voices joined together –
raised in song,
hushed or passionate in prayer,
joyful in greeting.**

**Come among us today
with the breath of your Spirit.**

**May the words we speak
and the songs we sing
give voice to our gratitude and praise. Amen.**

COMMUNITY REFLECTION

Megan Hook

***HYMN 267** Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

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 145:1-8

- ¹ I will extol you, my God and Sovereign,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.
- ³ Great is God and greatly to be praised;
the greatness of God is unsearchable.
- ⁴ One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- ⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.
- ⁶ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.
- ⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ⁸ God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN 270** O Lord, You Are My God and King

JERUSALEM

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3:12-17

- ¹² Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Jesus Christ.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Sarah McTyre

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Syracuse University Singers - John Warren, *conductor*

The Summit Is Nigh

Zanaida Stewart Robles (b. 1978)

Text based on "Slow Through the Dark" by Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)

The road is steep. Oh, to spend awhile in sleep.

The storm obscures the sky. You feel the darkness round you, dull and deep;

The clouds grow thickest when the summit's nigh.

Don't stop. Don't cry. Have faith. Heed not the dark. The summit's nigh.

Who faithless, faltering that the road is steep

Now raiseth up his drear insistent cry?

Who stoppeth here to spend awhile in sleep

Or curseth that the storm obscures the sky?

Heed not the darkness round you, dull and deep;

The clouds grow thickest when the summit's nigh.

Don't stop. Don't cry. Have faith. The clouds grow thickest when the summit's nigh.

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

**Please rise in body or spirit*

***HYMN 641** When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Prelude on SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT (*Sun of Justice*)

arr. Bernard Wayne Sanders

Are you new to our church?

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



Announcements for September 20, 2026

Scan here to donate!

Monday, September 21

12:00 pm Scripture Round Table

Sunday, September 27

10:30 am Worship service

11:30 am Fellowship hour



Sound Bath

The next sound bath will be Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm. If you would like to walk the labyrinth, please come at 6:30. Wear warm comfy clothing and consider bringing a blanket.

Sacred Commons Scripture Round Table

Every week we host a scripture round table on Mondays at 12:00 on Zoom. This online gathering is a casual time where we can look at the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday and explore them as a community. It's informal, so feel free to eat and to come late or leave early if you need to!

World Communion Sunday

On October 4, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday with Emmanuel Congregation and Leap of Faith Ministry. On this day we honor the way that communion unites us with people across the globe. This year we are collecting items for a food pantry that serves new Americans. Please bring any of the following items to worship on October 4, and we will gather them at the front of the sanctuary: red beans, black beans, chickpeas, corn, soy flavored ramen, Basmati rice, Jasmine rice, spaghetti, and spaghetti sauce (no pork).

Fellowship Hour

We have a new format for the coffee hour sign-up sheet! If you'd like to do a whole Sunday coffee hour, you are still more than welcome to. If you'd like to just bring one or two things, the new sheet will make sure there's no overlap with anyone else volunteering. We hope this will make it easier for folks to be part of this ministry!

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Ben Merchant
Fellowship HourBen Merchant

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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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) • Bluesky: [parkcentralchurch.org](https://bsky.app/profile/parkcentralchurch.org)