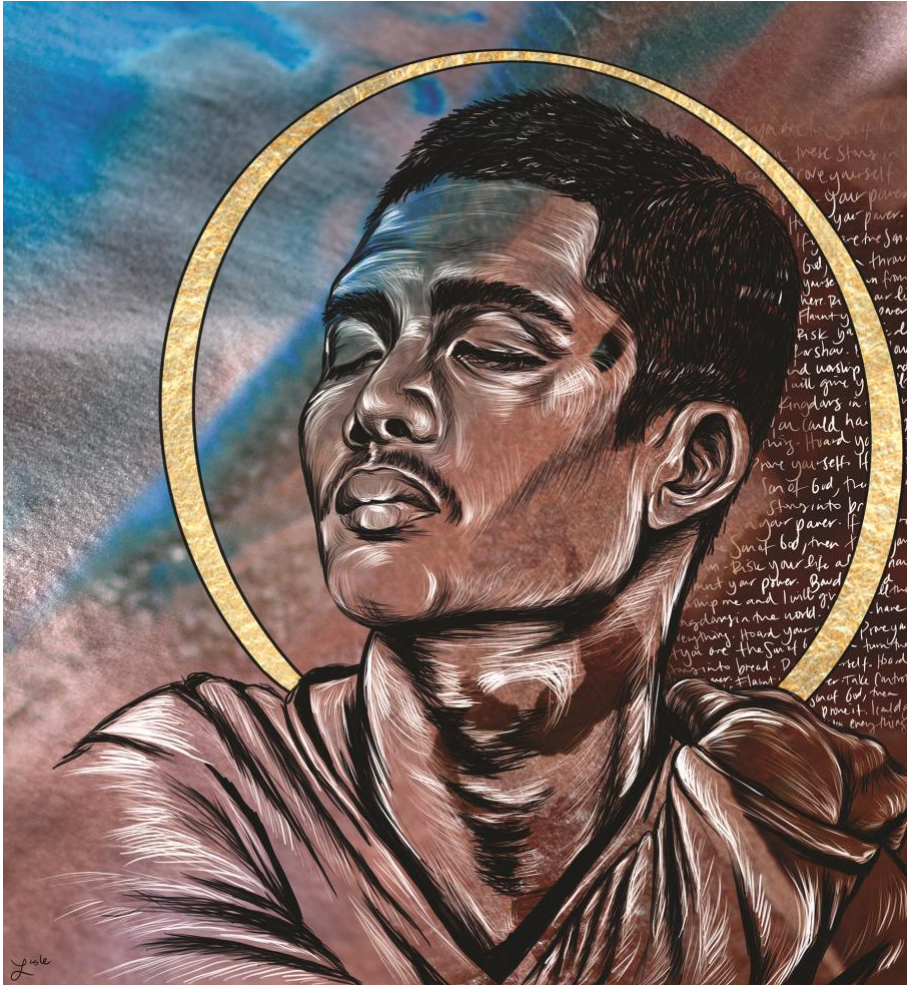


# PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Tune In by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art

*First Sunday of Lent*

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
FEBRUARY 26, 2023 10:30 AM

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**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**

“Rêverie”

Claude Debussy

Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Listen!

**There is hope to be found among us.**

Listen!

**God calls you by name in this place.**

Listen!

**There is abiding love here.**

God is speaking.

**May we quiet our hearts and listen.**

Let us worship God together.

**\*HYMN 77** Forty Days and Forty Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, too often we treat your Word like  
something we can tune in and out of when it is convenient.**

**Our minds are often battered by ads, news updates,  
“to do” lists, and notifications.**

**Our hearts are taken over by voices that**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

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**make demands on us, tempt us, or berate us.  
In the midst of it all, we find it easy to ignore your voice.  
Forgive us when we fail to listen.  
Forgive us for getting caught in distractions.  
Forgive us when we forget what your voice sounds like.  
Quiet our minds and hearts and help us turn once again toward you.  
With earnest hearts we pray, amen.**

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **\*GLORIA (#576)**

GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

*Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, Glory to God, 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 32

<sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup> Happy are those to whom God imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

<sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

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my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to God,"  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.

<sup>7</sup> You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.

<sup>10</sup> Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in God.

<sup>11</sup> Be glad in God and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

Laurie Deyo and Michael Spencer, *vocals*  
Dan Blumenthal, *violin*; Michael Spencer, *guitar*  
Sandra Murphy, *piano*  
David Huff and Karen Lafferty

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.*

*Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.*

*Man shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Allelu, Alleluia.*

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup> But Jesus answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Jesus to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘God will command the angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to the devil, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Most High your God to the test.’”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the nations of the world and their splendor, <sup>9</sup> and said, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Jesus replied, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Most High your God, and serve only God.’”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Jesus, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Leader:** This is the word of God.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

**ELDERS:** Susan Barbour, Sara Hahne, Ben Merchant, Tom Packard

**DEACONS:** Sara Hahne, Ben Merchant

### *Questions for Church Officers:*

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

*(for Elders)* Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

*(for Deacons)* Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

*Questions for the Congregation:*

Do we, the members of Park Central Presbyterian Church, accept the people before us as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

*Prayer of Ordination and Welcome*

#### **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 387** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY

**\*BENEDICTION**

#### **POSTLUDE**

"Postlude"

Andrew Fletcher

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

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....	Najwa Webster
Greeter.....	Ben Merchant
Fellowship Hour.....	Ben Merchant

The backdrop of this piece resembles the dust of the desert. Like sand washing along a beach, the sediment shifts into water in the top left, hinting at what bolsters Jesus in his ministry: his belonging to God. His belovedness washes over him, giving him the courage to defy the deception of the Tempter and tune into his inner wisdom. In this way, he is given a new song to carry with him, a lullaby from God that goes, “You, my child, in you, I am well-pleased.” This is a melody for singing, a song for dancing.

– from the artist’s statement for “Tune In”

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](http://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

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Website: [www.parkcentralchurch.org](http://www.parkcentralchurch.org) • Facebook: Park Central Presbyterian Church

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