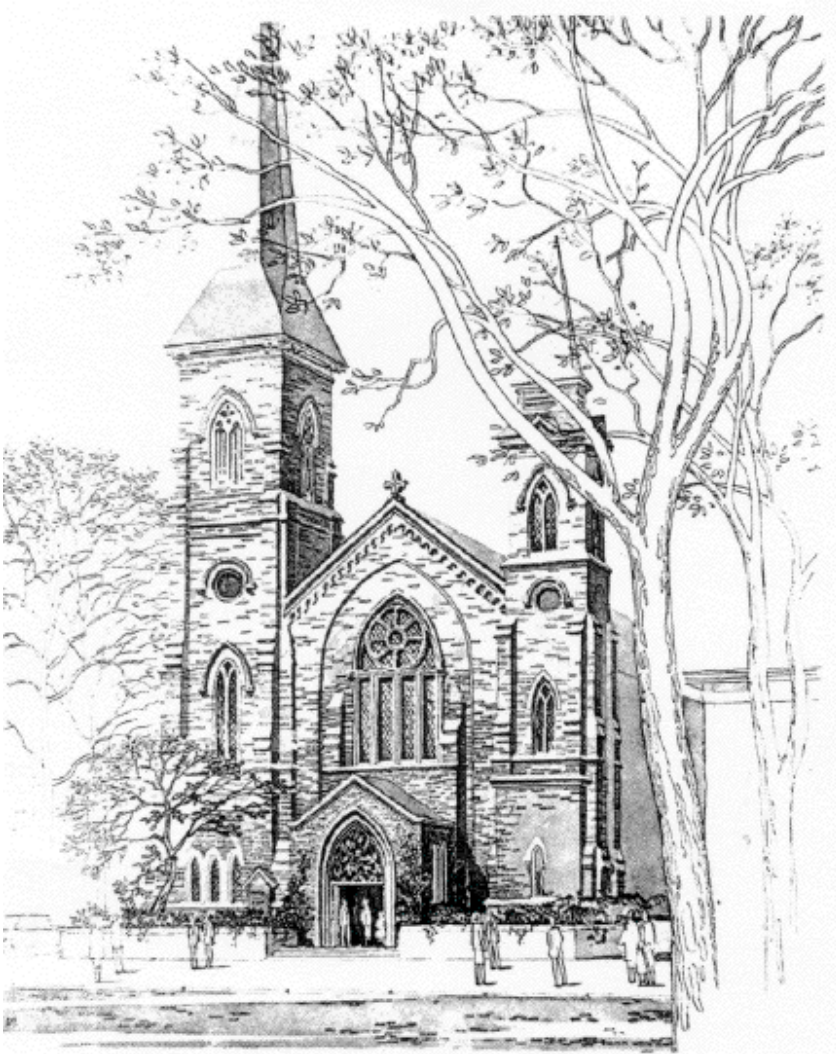


PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Seventh Sunday of Easter

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 21, 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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We may not know the time or the place,
but we know that God is restoring the world.
We may not see the risen Christ before us,
but we know his spirit rests on us.
We may not know what God is doing next,
but we come together in faith, eager to hear God's call.
Let us worship God with trusting hearts.

***HYMN 343** Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy,
when Christ ascended, he placed the good news in our hands.
You call us to witness to the ends of the earth,
to pray, to heal,
to show the world a glimpse of the goodness you have given us.
We confess that we fall short of our calling.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

05/21/23

pg. 2

**We sometimes hide ourselves in fear.
We tend to seek our own comfort first.
We too easily get discouraged and resign ourselves to the status quo.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and mercy of Christ,
that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve your world. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***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.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when Christ's glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that God may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist the devil, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your siblings in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

O Waly Waly

Kent Bradshaw, *baritone*
arr. Benjamin Britten

from: *Folksong Arrangements, Volume 3: British Isles*

*Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain;
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship and are freed.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Acts 1:6-14

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ Jesus replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that have been set by the authority of God. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ Having said this, as the apostles were watching, Jesus was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two figures in white robes

stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “People of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as Jesus’ brothers.

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 367** Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREPONI

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Postlude”

Alan Ridout

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

*Please rise in body or spirit

05/21/23

pg. 5

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist..... Marissa Saunders
Fellowship Hour Marissa Saunders

Holy God,
I give thanks this day
that your Son ascends in the core of my being
as new life arises in me.
Open the eyes of my heart this day
to seek and serve you in all whom I meet. Amen.

The liturgy today is adapted from *Call to Worship*.

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)