

**PARK CENTRAL  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



*First Sunday of Christmas*

**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 28, 2025 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**

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro Yon, arr. Heather Sorenson

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

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

We have found joy this Christmas.

**We have found joy in our community.**

We have found joy in the coming of Christ.

**God is in our joy.**

God is here with us.

**We have reason to celebrate.**

We have a reason to sing.

**Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.**

**\*HYMN 133** O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN 132** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

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# WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the God of hosts will do this.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

\*HYMN 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

\*HYMN 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

## A STORY OF THE SEASON

\*HYMN 145 What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

\*HYMN 147 The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN 113 Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

\*HYMN 134 Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

\*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

“Noël”

Louis-Claude Daquin

Sandra Murphy, *organ*

*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 snacks, coffee, and fellowship.*

**For Joy  
A Blessing**

You can prepare,  
but still  
it will come to you  
by surprise,

crossing through your doorway,  
calling your name in greeting,  
turning like a child  
who quickens suddenly  
within you.

It will astonish you  
how wide your heart  
will open  
in welcome

for the joy  
that finds you  
so ready  
and still so  
unprepared.

—Jan Richardson  
from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*

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.

Robert Allen.....	Director of Arts and Technology
Brigid Boyle.....	Parish Associate
Sarah McTyre.....	Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....	Keyboard Musician
Kenneth Pfeffer.....	Building Manager
Briana Vaught.....	Office and Communications Manager
Justin Vaught.....	Finance Administrator/Bookkeeper

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