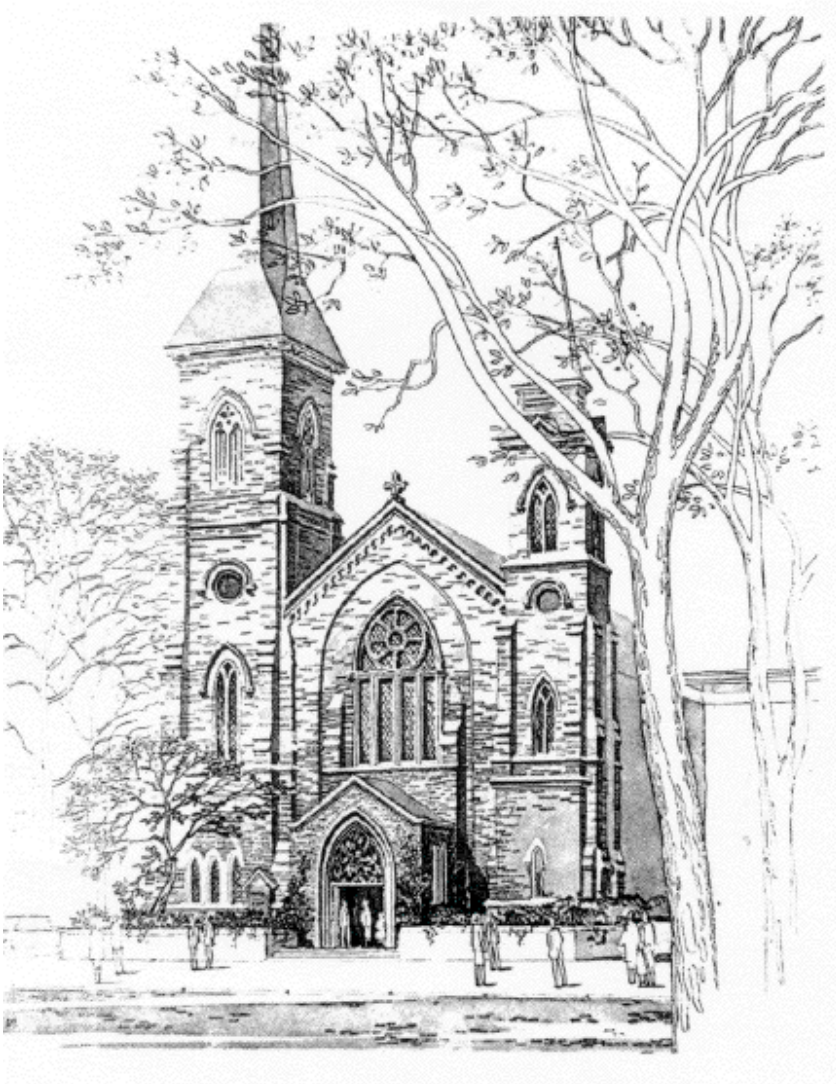


# PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**MAY 7, 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**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Once we were not a people,  
but now we are God's people;  
**once we had not received mercy,**  
**but now we have received mercy.**  
We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood,  
**a holy nation, God's own people.**  
Let us worship God together with gratitude.

**\*HYMN 507** I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

*Stanzas 1 through 4 only*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God,**  
**sometimes it is hard to live in community with each other.**  
**Some people are difficult to understand,**  
**some people have needs that seem so large,**  
**and some people challenge us or make us uncomfortable.**  
**Forgive us when we forget that we are all your beloved children**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

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**and that we all belong.  
Unite us more deeply to Christ and to one another  
at your table so that our love for one another and our life together  
may give others a glimpse of your realm here on earth. 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, the power, and the glory  
forever. Amen.**

# **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

## **THE FIRST LESSON**

Matthew 12:1-13

<sup>1</sup> At that time Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath; the disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. <sup>2</sup> When the Pharisees saw it, they said to Jesus, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath." <sup>3</sup> He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? <sup>4</sup> How he entered the house of God, and they ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the

priests? <sup>5</sup> Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and yet are guiltless? <sup>6</sup> I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. <sup>7</sup> But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. <sup>8</sup> For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus left that place and entered their synagogue; <sup>10</sup> a man was there with a withered hand, and the Pharisees asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" so that they might accuse him. <sup>11</sup> Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath; will you not lay hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup> How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." <sup>13</sup> Then Jesus said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored, as sound as the other. <sup>14</sup> But the Pharisees went out and conspired against Jesus, how to destroy him.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

It Is Well with My Soul

Kent Bradshaw, *baritone*

Philip P. Bliss

arr. Lloyd Larson

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."*

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought,  
My sin, not in part, but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
Even so, it is well with my soul.  
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 2:2-10

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that God is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to Christ, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone that makes them stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of the one who called you out of darkness into God's marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

Leader: This is the word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Sarah McTyre

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“You’ve Got a Friend”  
Carole King/James Taylor

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*The Invitation*

*The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving*

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

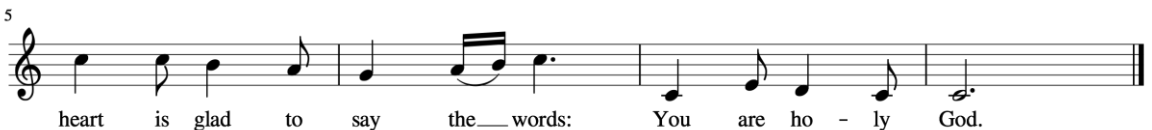
**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God, your invitation to come and feast ...

... all the company of the heavens, singing praise to you:



Blessed are you...

...we proclaim the mystery of our faith:



Pour out your Spirit ...  
...both now and forever more.  
**Amen.**

*Sharing of the Bread and Cup*

*Prayer after Communion*

**O God, we give you thanks and praise that you have fed us with your mercy and poured out your Spirit in this place. Bind us together that we might live into your hopes for us, a community centered in Christ and rich in compassion, commitment, courage, and care. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 525** Here I Am, Lord

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist..... Sara Hahne  
Greeter..... Marissa Saunders  
Fellowship Hour..... Ben Merchant

There is no house like the house of belonging.  
~ David Whyte

Today's communion liturgy is adapted from  
Enfleshed Communion Liturgies

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