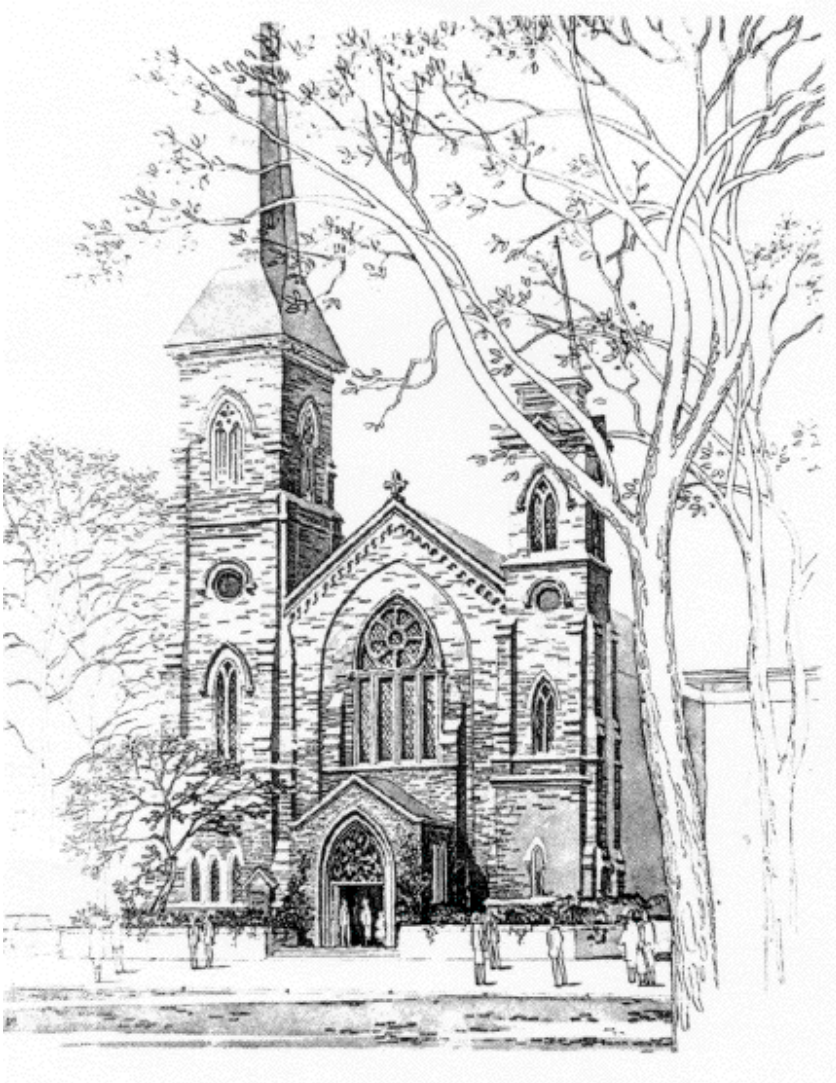


PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Third Sunday of Easter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 4, 2025 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

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” based on a hymn tune by Louis D. Edwards,
arr. Darwin Wolford & quoting G.F. Handel
Dan Blumenthal, *violin* and Sandra Murphy, *piano*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sing praises to God, O living saints.
Sing praises to God's name.
For God restores our lives.
God rescues us from the grave.
Tell of God's faithfulness.
Give thanks to God forever.

***HYMN**

Come Sing to God

ELLACOMBE

Please see hymn insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of light,
by the power of your Holy Spirit, restore our sight
that we may we recognize the harm we have done,
the suffering we have caused,

**Please rise in body or spirit*

**the good we have refused,
and the truth we have denied.
Forgive us, we pray.
Wash us in your mercy
and feed us with your grace.
Awaken us to a new purpose
so that we may follow your way
and come beside our neighbors with good news. 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

Psalm 30

¹I will extol you, O God, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

²O God my God, I cried to you for help,

**Please rise in body or spirit*

and you have healed me.

³ O God, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

⁴ Sing praises to God, O you faithful ones,
and give thanks to God's holy name.

⁵ For God's anger is but for a moment;
God's favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."

⁷ By your favor, O God,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

⁸ To you, O God, I cried,
and to God I made supplication:

⁹ "What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?"

¹⁰ Hear, O God, and be gracious to me!
O God, be my helper!"

¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,

¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O God my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

He Touched Me

Beth Langley, *alto*

William Gaither

*Shackled by a heavy burden, 'neath a load of guilt and shame,
Then the hand of Jesus touched me, and now I am no longer the same.*

Chorus:

*He touched me, oh he touched me, and oh, the joy that floods my soul.
Something happened, and now I know, he touched me and made me whole.*

*Since I met this blessed Savior, since he cleansed and made me whole,
I will never cease to praise him; I'll shout it while eternity rolls. Chorus*

THE SECOND LESSON

Acts 9:1-20

¹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of Jesus Christ, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as Saul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The people who were traveling with Saul stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. Christ said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am." ¹¹ Christ said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But Christ said to Ananias, "Go, for Saul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and rulers and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, Jesus Christ, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,

¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

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**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

Please see hymn insert

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” LLANFAIR arr. Margaretha Christina de Jong
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.*

**Please rise in body or spirit*

Announcements for May 4, 2025

Scan here to donate!

Sunday, May 11

9:00 am Bible study
10:30 am Worship service
11:30 am Fellowship hour



Support for Immigrant Neighbors

The Syracuse Immigration and Refugee Defense Network is welcoming new volunteers. There are a variety of ways to get involved, some of which require training and attendance at one or more events. They especially need folks who speak both English and Spanish. To get involved, email sirdn315@gmail.com

Mission Study Gathering

The next Mission Study gathering will be on Sunday, May 18 from 12-2 p.m. This will be the third congregational gathering designed to help us understand who we are as a congregation and where and what God is calling us to next. This will help us focus on our hopes for the future of our congregation. It will also be fun! We look forward to being with you. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up in the Gathering Hall or by emailing the church office.

Sound Bath

The next sound bath will be on Monday, May 19 at 7 pm. If you would like to walk the labyrinth, please come at 6:30. The sound bath is a time to allow your body and your mind to rest and recenter. All are welcome!

Volunteers Wanted!

Please let the office know if you are interested in helping to load kits for Church World Service onto the truck the morning of Wednesday, May 28.

The Pride parade is on Saturday, June 21, and we are registered as a group with a vehicle this year. If you have a truck we can use for this purpose, please let us know!

Gift for Briana

In celebration of Briana's graduation from seminary, our congregation will be giving her a clergy robe. If you would like to contribute to this gift, please give a donation of any amount and mark it for Briana's robe. You may give gifts any time between now and the end of May.

**Please rise in body or spirit*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Sara Hahne

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

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