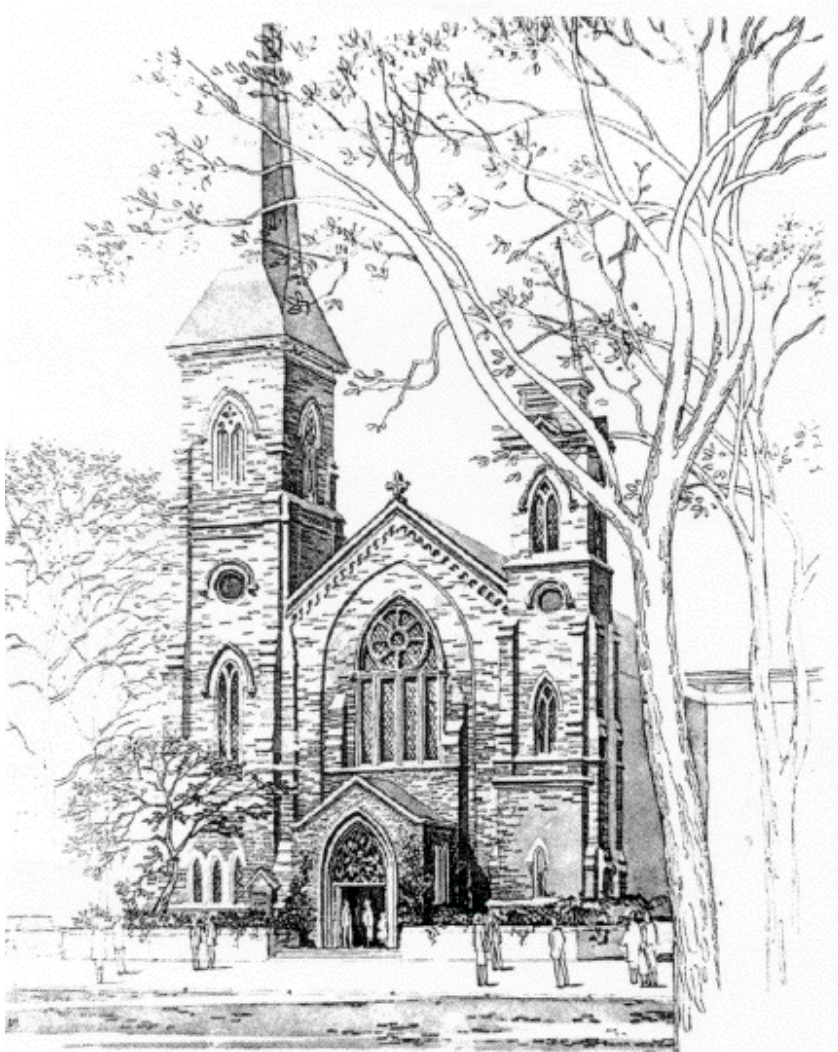


PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 30, 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

“O Worship the King” – Hymn Tune: LYONS arr. Thaddeus P. Cavuoti

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us praise God whose word gives us hope and shapes our dreams,
whose love has conquered death.
Let us worship God who orders our way and guides our steps,
who leads us into life.

***HYMN 469** Morning Has Broken BUNESSAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God,
we come to you confessing all the ways
we stray or turn away or forget you
in our daily lives.
Forgive us, we pray.
Remind us in this time of worship
that you are always breathing us into being,
calling us to serve,**

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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**sustaining us in the wilderness.
Come to us and soften
what has grown dry and brittle in our hearts
until we worship with abandon
and follow the way of Jesus with joy. 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

Romans:8:26-39

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. ²⁹ For those whom God foreknew were also predestined to be conformed to the image of God's Son, in order that Christ might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom God predestined God also called, and those whom God called God also justified, and those whom God justified God also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

³² Will not God, who did not withhold God's own Son, but gave up that Son for all of us, also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, yes, who was raised, who is alongside of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through the one who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Love Mash-Up

Megan Hook, *soprano*

arr. Megan Hook

What the World Needs Now (Burt Bacharach and Hal David)

All You Need Is Love (John Lennon and Paul McCartney)

*What the world needs now is love, sweet love
It's the only thing that there's just too little of
What the world needs now is love, sweet love
No not just for some, but for everyone*

*Love, love, love
love, love, love
love, love, love*

*There's nothing you can do that can't be done.
Nothing you can sing that can't be sung.
Nowhere you can be that isn't where you're meant to be,
It's easy.*

*All you need is love
All you need is love,
All you need is love, love, love is all you need,
love is all you need,
love is all you*

*Love, love, love
love, love, love*

What the world needs now...

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ Jesus put before them another parable: “The realm of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ Jesus told them another parable: “The realm of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

⁴⁴ “The realm of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and

reburied; then with joy the finder goes and sells everything and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the realm of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, finding one pearl of great value, went and sold everything and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the realm of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the realm of heaven is like a householder who brings out of the treasury what is new and what is old.” ⁵³ When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Elder Marissa Saunders

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 391** Take My Life

HENDON

***BENEDICTION**

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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POSTLUDE

“Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem”

Georg Phillip Telemann
arr. Robert J. Powell

*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.*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Najwa Webster
Greeter.....Ben Merchant

God of life, come to me
in the desires of my heart, in the anger of the excluded, in all I might discount—
until I find you everywhere,
until your holy love leavens every impulse,
for I pray in the name of Jesus, whose surprising call continues.
Amen.

Today's liturgy is adapted from
Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

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

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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)