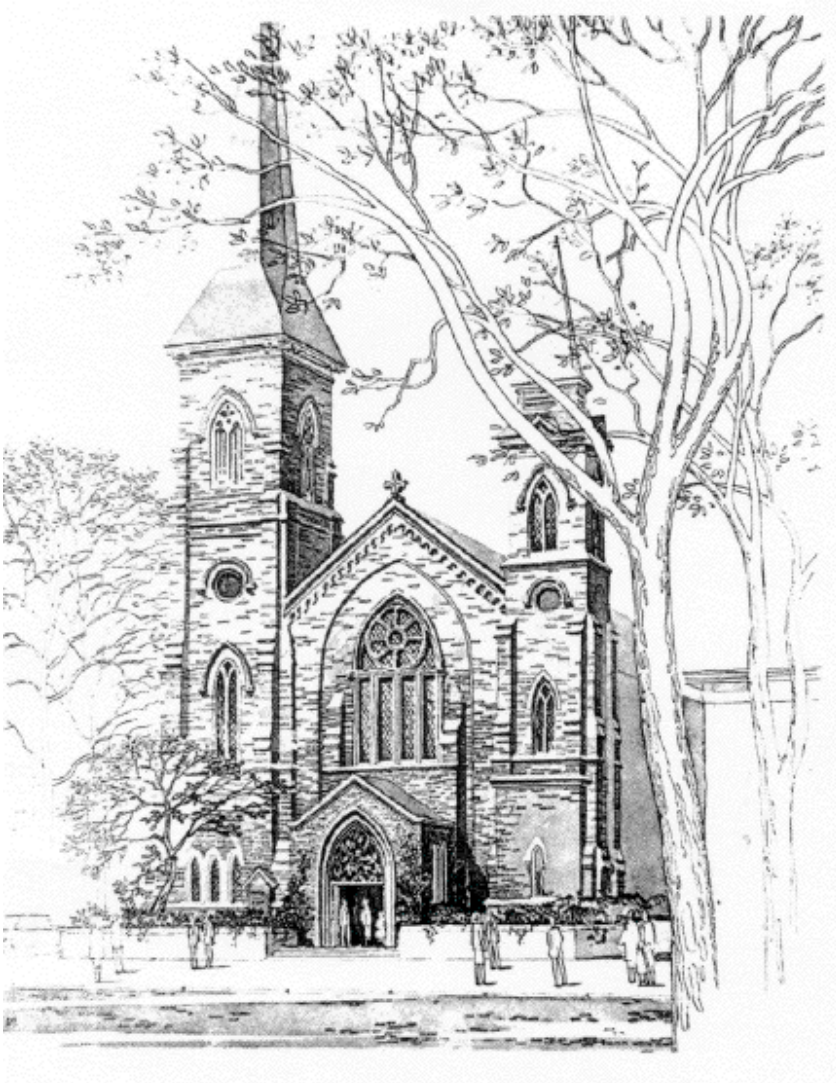


# PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
AUGUST 27, 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**

“Sonata No. 4 in G Major”  
III. Adagio

Georg Philip Telemann

Sandra Murphy, *harpsichord*  
Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

God has called us to this place.

**Each one of us is unique.**

Each one of us has different gifts and talents to share.

**And each talent represented here is valuable in God's realm.**

Come, let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us.

**Come, let us praise our God who has called us here.**

**\*HYMN 482** Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Forgiving God,  
we confess that we are often conformed to this world.  
We conform to this world's frantic pace,  
too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide.  
We conform to this world's reckless waste,  
exploiting what you entrust to our care.  
We conform to this world's shallow values,  
oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us.  
We conform to this world's impatient attitudes,  
preferring the latest instead of the lasting.  
Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God.  
We pray in Jesus' name. 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 12:1-8

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, siblings, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

Michael Spencer, *guitar and vocals*

Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

Carrie Newcomer

with Park Central Members and Friends

### Small Things Grow

*It's a cup of coffee when you arrive,  
A warm embrace and a grateful smile,  
It's a meal together and candle light,  
It's doing the dishes when it's not your night.*

Chorus:

*Small things grow  
In the simple things we do,  
This I know  
It's a seed to carry with you.  
Small things grow.*

*Blossoms falling from apple trees,  
Fireflies and bumblebees,  
An autumn frost and chrysanthemums,  
The first snow day when the winter comes. Chorus*

*Telling your story and being heard,  
Listening without a word,  
A ripple of light in a shadowed place,  
Joining hands making sacred space. Chorus*

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked the disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the realm of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

08/27/23

pg. 5

**\*HYMN 351** Give to Me, Lord, a Thankful Heart

GATESCARTH

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“Sonata No. 4 in G Major”

Georg Philip Telemann

II. Allegro

Sandra Murphy, *harpsichord*

Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

*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 lunch and a service project.*

## **Announcements for August 27, 2023**

### **Wednesday, August 30**

12:00 pm Staff meeting

### **Sunday, September 3**

9:00 am Bible study (virtual)

10:30 am Worship service

11:30 am Fellowship

### **Backpack Packing**

Please join us after worship today for lunch and a service project: packing backpacks for students going back to school.

### **Back to School**

All are invited to welcome the students of Dr. King Elementary School back for a new year of learning! Starting at 9, we will greet the students as they arrive, offering encouragement and stickers to each one. Let the office know if you are interested in attending and if you would like to carpool.

### **Church Cookout**

The church cookout will be Saturday, September 9 from 11-2. We will have food, ice cream, face painting, lawn games, and more! Please let the office know if you are willing and able to help with any of the following:

- Grilling and serving food
- Serving as a crossing guard
- Monitoring sidewalk chalk and other kids' activities
- Bringing supplies such as lawn games, coolers, and tents
- Set up and clean up

### **Congregational Meeting**

We will be holding a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 10 after worship. All are welcome to attend, and all active members are strongly encouraged to come so we can meet quorum and conduct our business! We will be receiving annual reports and electing officers to boards and committees at this meeting.

**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP**

Liturgist.....Ben Merchant

Gracious God, we thank you  
for the measure of faith you have given to each of us.  
Increase in us  
generosity, compassion,  
and prophetic courage  
so we may continue to be your body in and for the world.

Today’s liturgy is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*  
and *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*

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

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](mailto:office@parkcentralchurch.org)  
Website: [www.parkcentralchurch.org](http://www.parkcentralchurch.org) • Facebook: Park Central Presbyterian Church  
Instagram: [parkcentralsyr](https://www.instagram.com/parkcentralsyr) • TikTok: [parkcentralchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/@parkcentralchurch)