

PARK CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 16, 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

“The Spirit Sings”

Colin Curtis

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Wherever God is, love is.

Wherever God's love is, hope is.

Hope is here

because God is present.

Hope and love are God's essential transformative forces.

Let us worship with joy and intention

that we might fulfill God's dream for us and for the world.

***HYMN 289** O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

**We confess that there is much that separates us
from one another and from you.**

**Sometimes we protect ourselves with boundaries,
but often they become obstacles to faithful relationships.**

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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**We too easily become anxious about overcoming differences,
fearful of others,
or worried that we will be rejected.
Forgive us, we pray.
Call us again to overcome separation with love.
Transform us and move us
that we may create your beloved community
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***LIVE INTO HOPE**

TRURO

*Live into hope of captives freed
From chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
To faith and hope and joy and peace.*

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

Genesis 12:1-9

¹ Now God said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as God had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then God appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to God, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to God and invoked the name of God. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

The Park Central Ensemble

Megan Hook, *soprano*, Beth Langley, *alto*,
Michael Spencer, *tenor*, Kent Bradshaw, *baritone*
Megan Hook

This Day That Is Given

This day that is given, rejoice!

In sun or in snow, let everything fall, let everything go.

Sky above us, earth below, let everything fall, let everything go.

May all beings be blessed.

This day that is given, rejoice! Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 9:18-26

¹⁸While Jesus was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with the disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she was saying to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that moment. ²³When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but

sleeping.” And they laughed at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, Jesus went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶ And the report of this spread through all of that district.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Crossing Identity Boundaries*

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** When God Restored Our Common Life
Please see hymn insert

RESIGNATION

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Promised Land”

traditional, arr. Joseph Martin

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

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

LiturgistsMichael and Susan Barbour

Community can only flourish where always
the boundaries are giving way to the coming of others from beyond them—
unknown and undiscovered brothers [and sisters].

~ *Howard Thurman*

Today's prayer of confession is adapted from a prayer
written by the Rev. Beth Merrill Neel.

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
Lenora Joyner-Hayes Finance Administrator/Bookkeeper
Sarah McTyre.....Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....Keyboard Musician
Kenneth Pfeffer.....Building 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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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)