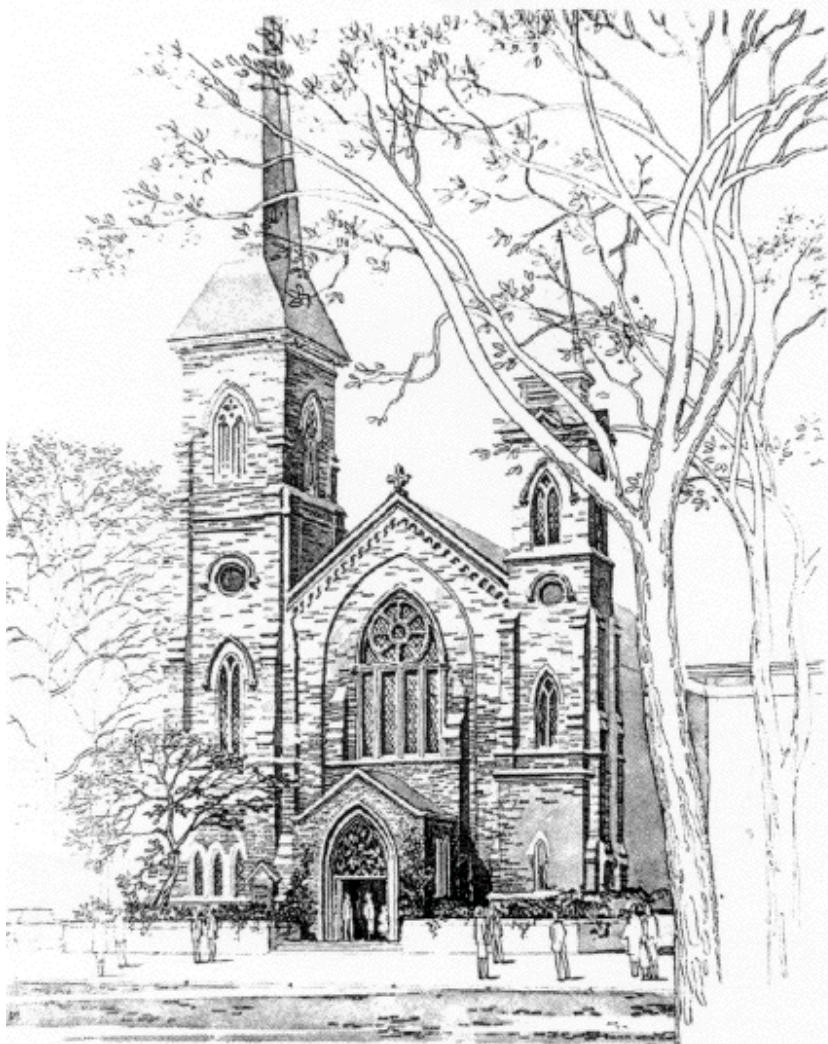


# PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Baptism of Christ*

**BAPTISM OF CHRIST**  
JANUARY 11, 2026 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**

Morgenstille (Peace of Dawn, Op. 82)

Emil Krause

Dan Blumenthal, *violin*

Sandra Murphy, *piano*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Thus says God, the Lord, who created  
the heavens and spread out the earth:

**I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you.**

God does not grow faint or discouraged,  
but brings light to those who sit in darkness.

**The former things have come to pass,  
and now God declares new things.**

Let us sing to the Lord a new song;  
let us offer our praise from the ends of the earth.

**Let us worship God!**

**\*HYMN 394**      Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

pg. 2

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you have called us to walk in your ways and to reflect your light, yet we often lose our way. We confess that we have been quick to judge and slow to show mercy. We have relied on our own strength and forgotten to trust your gentle guidance. We have ignored the "new things" you are doing in our midst, clinging instead to old habits and tired fears.

Forgive us for the ways we have dimmed the hope of others. Strengthen our flickering faith and guide us toward a justice that heals rather than harms. Renew us by your Spirit, that we may live as your covenant people in the world. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYER

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### \*PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

*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!*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

## 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

Isaiah 42:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the Most High,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am God; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am Yahweh; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 3:13-17

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Brigid Boyle

**SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

Wade in the Water

Michael Spencer, *guitar and vocals*  
Dan Blumenthal, *violin*  
traditional, arr. Eva Cassidy

Chorus:  
*Wade in the water*  
*Wade in the water, children,*  
*Wade in the water*  
*God is gonna trouble the water*

*See that band all dressed in red*  
*Wade in the water*  
*Must be the children that Moses led*  
*God is gonna trouble the water*  
Chorus

*Who's that yonder dressed in white*  
*Wade in the water*  
*Must be the children of the Israelites*  
*God is gonna trouble the water*  
Chorus

*See that band all dressed in blue*  
*Wade in the water*  
*Must be the children that's coming through*  
*God is gonna trouble the water*  
Chorus

*You don't believe I've been redeemed*  
*Wade in the water*  
*Just see the Holy Ghost looking for me*  
*God is gonna trouble the water*  
Chorus

# 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 295 Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Gavotte (from Sonata No. 5)

Thomas Arne, arr. Colin Hand

Sandra Murphy, *organ*

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

**Are you new to our church?**

We would love to connect with you!  
Please scan the QR code for our  
digital welcome pad!



## Announcements for January 11, 2026

Scan here to donate!



### Monday, January 12

- 2:00 pm Mission, Membership, and Outreach Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Worship and Education Committee meeting

### Tuesday, January 13

- 7:00 pm Deacons meeting

### Wednesday, January 14

- 12:00 pm Staff meeting

### Sunday, January 18

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

### Sound Bath

The next sound bath will be Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00 pm. If you would like to walk the labyrinth, please come at 6:30. Wear comfy clothing, and come ready to relax!

### Ash Wednesday

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year is February 18. We will gather on the third floor that evening for a simple meal and a worship service including the (optional) imposition of ashes. All are welcome! Please let the office know if you would like to help with the food.

### Get Involved!

There are sign-up sheets in the Gathering Hall for greeters and coffee hour hosts. You can get more information about each of these roles by emailing the office! You can also contact the office if you are interested in reading during worship. Don't hesitate to ask questions about how any of these roles can be adapted to fit your situation. For example, you can partner with someone else to host coffee hour, provide financial support, or even just make or bring a few things! Mission, Membership, and Outreach is happy to help you get involved in whatever way works best for you!

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Liturgist.....Ben Merchant

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.

Brigid Boyle.....	Parish Associate
Sarah McTyre.....	Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....	Music Director
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](mailto:office@parkcentralchurch.org)

Website: [www.parkcentralchurch.org](http://www.parkcentralchurch.org) • Facebook: Park Central Presbyterian Church

Instagram: [parkcentsalsyr/](https://www.instagram.com/parkcentsalsyr/) • TikTok: [parkcentralchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/@parkcentralchurch) • Bluesky: [parkcentralchurch.org](https://bluesky.app/@parkcentralchurch)