

Welcome!

We welcome you in the name of Christ! Our website ChristCentralPCA.org offers a lot of helpful information about our church family. For questions or to share a prayer concern, call the office at 813-774-3881, ext. 700 or email us at church@ChristCentralPCA.org.

Here are some things that might be helpful to you:

- The Welcome Center is located in the lobby. If you are a first-time guest, we would love to meet you.
- We have bible study / Sunday school classes for all ages. You can find the time, topic, and location for each class at the Welcome Center
- We have a clean, efficient and safe nursery available for infants and toddlers in the education wing of the church. We also have a cry room in the back of the sanctuary, so please feel free to use it when needed.

COVID Protocol Update

At the May Session meeting, your elders decided to eliminate the facemask requirement. All are still welcome to wear facemasks, but they will no longer be required while in church buildings. We will continue to supply plenty of hand sanitizer and additional facemasks for those who desire.

However, the last two rows in the sanctuary will remain mask mandatory, so that people who desire to remain masked can use those rows, to space out as they see fit. If you wish to remain mask-free, we ask that you refrain from sitting in the last two rows, which will be marked.

The Session will continue to regularly reevaluate our safety requirements and notify the congregation of any subsequent changes. If you are experiencing any symptoms or if you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive to the corona virus, out of an abundance of caution, please refrain from attending.

Despite these safety precautions we understand that there are still many who do not yet feel safe to gather for public worship. This is one reason why we have instituted live streaming of our worship service. Though live streaming our service is no substitute for the gathering of Christ's church for Lord's Day public worship, it does provide some connection to our church community.

Order for the Divine Service of Worship

August 15, 2021 - 11:00 AM

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Lowly Before Thee

By John Neat

Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.

Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord.

Welcome & Announcements

****Call to Worship** *(Please Stand)*

Psalms 95:1-6

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

People: **Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.**

Leader: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

People: **In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.**

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

All: **Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; 7 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.**

****Hymn**

Rejoice the Lord is King

Hymn #310

****The Invocation**

****The Apostles' Creed**

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen."

****The Gloria Patri**

Hymn #734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

The First Scripture Lesson

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹ Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

(Continued...)

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40:1-11 ESV

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

The Confession of Our Sins

“Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. “

- A prayer attributed to St. Francis

Assurance of Pardon

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

The Second Scripture Lesson

¹² Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³ Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel? ¹⁴ Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? ¹⁵ Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. ¹⁶ Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. ¹⁷ All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

(Continued...)

¹⁸ To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him? ¹⁹ An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains. ²⁰ He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move. ²¹ Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

Isaiah 40: 12-26 ESV

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Pastoral Prayer & 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.

The Third Scripture Lesson

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:27-31 ESV

Leader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

**The Offertory Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus
Hymn #170

**Offertory Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory

O Church Arise
By Getty/Townend

The Doxology

Hymn #731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Message

Rev. John K. Keen
Senior Pastor

****Hymn**

Be Still, My Soul

Hymn #689

****Benediction**

Postlude

***All who are able, please stand*

**Unless specified, all Scripture texts are from the NIV-1984*

Announcements

ESL Ministry Update

After a long hiatus, we are excited to begin preparations to resume our English as a Second Language (ESL) ministry. We need volunteers to help with teaching, registration, refreshments, childcare, placement interviews, and advertisement. We will have training as needed later in the month.

Important ESL Ministry dates:

- August 22 - Training for teachers, registration, interviews, etc. - 5:30pm, room 15
- Sept 23 - Tentative start date (meeting day is still in review) - 7:00-8:45pm

For more information, contact Brian Waugh at (813) 215-0130 or bwaugh1964@gmail.com.

Prayer Meeting

Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, August 29 at 5:30 pm** as we will gather again as a church body to pray for our Lord's blessing on this church. Our elders will lead us through an hour of corporate prayer together. We encourage all to come - both young and old - as we eagerly await the great things God will do through this church body.

This Week at Christ Central

August 15– August 21

SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 am
Morning Worship, 11:00 am

WEDNESDAY: Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Room 9

Christian Education – Adults, Youth, & Children

Class/Grade	Class Teacher(s)	Class Room
Ages 2-3/Toddlers	Bev Thomson	6
Ages 4-5 / K4-K5 Grades	Diane Keen	5
Ages 6-10 / 1 st - 5 th Grades	Tami Lang	8
Middle School /High School 6 th -12 th Grade	Brian Waugh	Rio Center
Adult - Recurrent Heresies - Rinse, Recycle, & Repeat	Blake Williams	13
Adult - Survey of the New Testament	Bryan Toenes	15

CHRIST CENTRAL AT WORK AND WORSHIP

Last Sunday's Attendance: 86
 Last Sunday's Offering: \$12,335.28
 August 1, 2021 Offering: \$7,288.00

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. 2 Cor. 8:12

Volunteers

Greeters / Ushers

	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
<u>Greeters:</u>	The Strickland Family	Larry and Judy Smith
<u>Ushers:</u>	Steve Strickland Luis Salgado	Brian Waugh Larry Smith

Nursery Volunteers

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Marilyn Horst</i>
<i>Aug. 22:</i>	<i>Kelly Fernandez</i>
<i>Aug. 29:</i>	<i>Stephanie Williams</i>

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays