



**Central Presbyterian Church**

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**September 24, 2023**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

## Welcome

### Announcements

*Please take a quiet moment to prepare your heart for worship.*

Prelude                    “Chorale Prelude on ‘Autumn’”                    Blake  
(*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*)

### **Prayer of Preparation** (*for your personal use, during Prelude*)

*Lord, my heart feels heavy today with the realization of how deeply rooted my jealousy has become. It has consumed my thoughts at times, and directed my actions. I ask that you would please be so gracious as to forgive me for my sins, and cleanse me from these feelings of jealousy. Amen.*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### **\*Call to Worship – From Psalm 105:37-43; 45b**

- L: The Lord brought his people out of Egypt, loaded with silver and gold; and not one among the tribes of Israel even stumbled.
- P: Egypt was glad when they were gone, for they feared them greatly.**
- L: The Lord spread a cloud above them as a covering and gave them a great fire to light the darkness.
- P: They asked for meat, and he sent them quail; he satisfied their hunger with manna—bread from heaven.**
- L: He split open a rock, and water gushed out to form a river through the dry wasteland.
- P: For he remembered his sacred promise to his servant Abraham.**
- L: So he brought his people out of Egypt with joy, his chosen ones with rejoicing.
- P: Praise the Lord!**

**\*Hymn**                    “*Come, We that Love the Lord*”                    **RED #275**

### **Call to Confession**

## Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus we long to be perfectly whole. We know that this does not necessarily mean perfection. We have embraced no dangerous delusions that we might ascend unto your throne. We embrace a wholeness that leads to a full life in devotion to you. We desire to be a complete people, living a complete life, completely for your Kingdom. Lord wash us and we shall be whiter than snow. Thank you for your grace. Amen.

(Time of silence for personal reflection)

## Assurance of Pardon

### The Peace

L: Peace be with you.

P: And also with you.

\*Gloria Patri

*"Glory Be to the Father"*

PH #579

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Time with Young Disciples

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 16:2-15

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

New Testament Reading/Sermon Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

Sermon

*"Living is Christ, Dying is Gain"*

Pastor Ryan

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

From Philippians 2:5-11

**"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of**

**Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Amen.**

**\*Hymn**                                **“Be Still, My Soul”**                                **RED #324**

**Prayers of the People**

As prayers are offered:

**L:** God of Mercy,

**P:** hear our prayer.

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Offering**

**Offertory**                                *“Kum Ba Yah”*                                Smith

**\*Doxology**                                **PH #591**

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD  
INTO THE WORLD**

**\*Hymn**                                **“Come, Come, Ye Saints”**                                **RED #405**

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**                                *“And Crown Him Lord of all!”*                                Martin

*Please be seated for the Postlude.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** Pastor Ryan Edgecombe  
**ORGANIST:** Emma Lou Denton  
**GREETER/USHER:** Ben Kiningham  
**LITURGIST:** Beth Kiningham

***\*Please stand, if able***                                CCLI License #2716138  
Hymnals: PH-blue hard cover; Red-red hard cover; SF-small blue soft cover