

Central Church

5th Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m.

April 28, 2024

Central Church is a Christian fellowship whose mission is:

To Know Christ ~ *as Savior and Lord,*

To Share Christ ~ *by our Words and Actions.*

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements, Prayer Cards, and Connect Cards

***Greeting One Another**

***Centering** (*Moment of silence in preparation for worship.*)

***Call to Worship** (Responsively):

Leader: Come now and seek repentance!

People: I come now, humbly seeking repentance for my sin of _____?

Leader: By the grace of God, through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to Jesus, my redeemer and savior!

Leader: Now turn from your old ways and toward your true identity in Jesus Christ.

People: With the help of the Holy Spirit, I will embrace my identity in Jesus Christ and work on turning away from the worldly lifestyle I've been living.

Leader: We are God's people, empowered and blessed to be sent out and share the good news.

People: With God's help, I will share the good news of Jesus Christ so others may have a relationship with Him and receive eternal life.

All: Thank You, God for calling me here today. Thank You, God that You do not leave me alone. Thank You, God for Your mercy in my life. Thank You, God for the hope I have in this life and eternal life. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Amazing Grace – 378

***Opening Prayer** (In Unison): **Here in this time of worship, O Lord, I offer myself fully to You. May Your will be my guide. May Your grace be the pattern of my life. May Your way be my hope. May Your path be my help. Lord, I surrender to You my hopes, my dreams, my goals, my ambitions. I place into Your loving care my family, my friends, my life, my future. Care for them with Your loving care! I release into Your loving care, my fears and sorrows, my sense of loss, my pain and numbness, my sadness and hurt. Fill me, Lord, here and now with a deep sense of Your presence and a strong sense of the Holy Spirit. Take this time today to renew my faith. In the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Prayers of Celebration and Care

The Lord's Prayer (*"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us..."*)

***Congregational Hymn**

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine – 465

Scripture Lesson

Romans 6:1-2 (ESV)

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Children's Message

Sermon

"There's Always Forgiveness" – Bray Bowsher

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn of Response**

Trust and Obey – 467

Affirmation of Faith (In Unison): **We belong to God, eternal and infinite, Creator of all things and all that is to come. We follow Christ, who comes to us from God and reveals God to us. He heals people and transforms lives and calls us to join in His ministry. He was crucified, died, and was raised again by God, and reigns over all creation, and He bids us to die and rise with Him in the service of the healing of the world. We are moved by the Holy Spirit, together with the communion of saints, as members of the body of Christ, God's holy universal church. We are confident in the forgiveness of sin, the power of the resurrection, and the reality of eternal life. In all things, it is our desire to follow Christ, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, for God's glory. Amen.**

Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology**

95

***Offertory Prayer** (In Unison): **Generous and gracious Savior, we offer our gifts and our lives in response to the extravagant gift of Your redeeming grace. With joy and thanks, we happily give our generous tithes and offerings, grateful for the privilege of taking part in Your salvation story. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn:**

Here I Am, Lord – 593

***Benediction & Postlude**

*Please stand as you are able.

Check It Out!

- If you are a new visitor to Central, we invite you to stop by the **Welcome Center** and receive a **Welcome Gift** and fill out a **Connect Card** with your information so we can stay in contact with you! We hope you enjoyed your visit! Come back soon!
- If you are in **need of a Bible**, please ask for one from a Welcome Team Member at the Welcome Center.
- A **nursery** is available for children ages 4 and younger South of the Main Entrance.
- **Assistive Listening Devices** are available. **See an usher.**

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