

Central Scene

Central Presbyterian Church

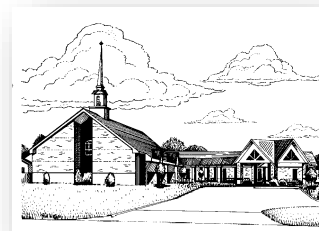
Church Mission Statement

To celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith, and serve the needs of others

Church Membership

Membership in Central Presbyterian Church is open to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. New members will be received upon baptism and profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or by letter of transfer.

CPC Christmas Eve Candle Light Service



Upcoming Events

CPC Women's Circle meets on Monday Jan. 13th at 6:30 p.m.

The Session would like to announce that we will be holding a congregational meeting during the worship service on January 5th. No votes will be held and this is for information only.

CPC will be installing session class of 2021 on Sunday January 19th. We would like to thank Logan Mosley for his two years of service and pray for abundant blessing in his future.



CPC Christmas Ornaments are available for \$5. Display stands are also available. See Zac Cosner for more details.

We Need Volunteers for taking Advent Décor down on Jan. 4th.

Sunday School 9:45 am

**Young Adults Sunday School
9:45 am**



January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Taking Down Advent Decor
5	6	7	8 Choir Practice 6:30pm	9	10	11
12	13 Women's Circle Meeting 6:30 p.m.	14	15 Choir Practice 6:30pm	16	17	18
19 Fellowship Luncheon / Session Meeting	20	21 Central Circle of Comfort 6:30 p.m.	22 Choir Practice 6:30pm	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Events:

January 19th
Fellowship Luncheon
Session Meeting

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Young Adults Sunday
School 9:30 AM
(New class forming)

Choir Practice
Wednesdays at
6:30pm

CPC Women's
Circle meets on
Monday Jan. 13th at
6:30 p.m.

January 4th
Taking down
Advent Decor

Lectionary Readings

January 2020

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2020

Jeremiah 31:7–14

Psalms 147:12–20

Ephesians 1:3–14

John 1:(1–9) 10–18

Baptism of the Lord

January 12

Isaiah 42:1–9

Psalms 29

Acts 10:34–43

Matthew 3:13–17

January 19

Isaiah 49:1–7

Psalms 40:1–11

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

John 1:29–42

January 26

Isaiah 9:1–4

Psalms 27:1, 4–9

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

Matthew 4:12–23

Central Presbyterian Church

6300 Trinity Drive

P.O. Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71613

...a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
through Synod of the Sun and the
Presbytery of Arkansas.

Directory

Office Number (870) 879-9074

Email: office@centralprespb.com

Website: www.centralprespb.com

Secretary :

Justine Anton

Soundboard Operators:

Zac Cosner

George Mosley

Presbyterian Women Moderator:

Kay Cromwell

Session

Class of 2019

Zac Cosner

George Mosley

Brad VonTungeln

Logan Mosley

Class of 2020

Laura Cosner

Suzy VonTungeln

Denise Mosley

Jemie Moseley

Standing Committee Moderators:

Zac Cosner

Suzy VonTungeln

Jemie Moseley

George Mosley

Denise Mosley

Laura Cosner

Budget & Finance

Fellowship & Nurture

Missions & Outreach

Building & Grounds

Education

Worship & Music

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the February issue of Central Scene is January 24. Please let us know if you would like to continue your subscription by emailing us at office@centralprespb.com.

History of Hymns

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

by Folliot S. Pierpoint

Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), a graduate of Queens' College, Cambridge (BA, 1857), and a teacher of classics at Somersetshire College, has provided us with one of the most enduring hymns in Christian hymnals.

Pierpoint was the author of several poetry collections, including *The Chalice of Nature and Other Poems* (1855), *Songs of Love, the Chalice of Nature, and Lyra Jesu* (2nd Edition, 1858). The words of this hymn appeared in *Lyrical Eucharistica, The Hymnal Noted* (second edition, 1864).

As the title of the collection in which the hymn was published indicates, this hymn was originally written for the celebration of the Eucharist. The original poem was published in eight, four-line stanzas under the title, “The Sacrifice of Praise.” British hymnologist J. R. Watson suggests, “It is said to have been inspired by the view of Pierpoint’s native city of Bath on a spring day.” The original refrain, “Christ, our God, to thee we raise/This our sacrifice of praise,” reflects the theology of the Lord’s Supper as a sharing in Christ’s sacrifice. “For the beauty of the earth” appeared in the final “Miscellaneous Hymns” section of *Lyra Eucharistica*, echoing the post-Communion prayer in the *Book of Common Prayer* (1662): “. . . we thy humble servants desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. . . .” Alterations made to the hymn and approved by the author made it useful for a broader range of liturgical occasions.

The original eight stanzas have been pared down to five for *The Glory to God The Presbyterian Hymnal*. Each stanza paints a picture of gratitude embodied in some aspect of God’s creation: the earth (stanzas 1 and 2), the senses (stanza 3), “human love” (stanza 4), the church – in the original, “thy Bride” – (stanza 5), and the gift of God as manifest in Christ (stanza 6).

Omitted stanzas include themes characteristic of historical and theological views of hymns written by Church of England hymnwriters, the martyrs and prophets, and the Virgin Mary and the incarnation:

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

by Folliot S. Pierpoint

1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:

[Refrain]

3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:

[Refrain]

4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:

[Refrain]

5 For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:

[Refrain]

*For thy Martyrs' crown of light,
For the Prophets' eagle eye,
For thy bold Confessors' might,
For the lips of infancy:
Christ our God, to thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.*

*For thy Virgins' robes of snow,
For thy Maiden-mother mild,
For thyself, with hearts aglow,
Jesu, Victim undefiled:
Offer we at Thine own Shrine
Thyself, sweet Sacrament Divine.*

The later refrain, “Lord of all, to thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise,” broadens the focus of the original hymn from Christ’s sacrifice to one of gratitude for all creation and “Lord of all.”

Alterations to the original “Christ, our God. . .” have been many, some of which are poetically and theologically weaker, for example, “Gracious God.” A long tradition exists that God died on the cross. The Fifth Ecumenical Council (553 C.E.) holds that “our Lord Jesus Christ, who was crucified in the flesh, is true God, and the Lord of glory [I Cor. 2:8], and one of the Holy Trinity.” Thus Pierpoint follows a long tradition that equates Christ and God. As a eucharistic hymn in its original form, this theology is continued. The late Australian hymnologist Wesley Milgate lamented the changes to the refrain: “Practically every recent hymnal has a different version of the refrain, apparently fearful of the treading on the corns of ‘liberal’ theologians and those who shilly-shally with an essential part of the Christian doctrine.” Pierpoint himself, according to Professor Watson, “defended his original text, noting that Pliny, in his letter to Trajan, had described Christians as singing hymns to Christ as God.”

The concrete images of this text make it ideal for children of all ages. The theological scope of this hymn differs from many others on this theme. For example, earlier hymns by Isaac Watts – “I sing the almighty power of God” from 1715 – and Cecil Frances Alexander – “All things bright and beautiful” from 1848 – focus on the natural created order. Both of these hymns were written to expound on the first article of the Apostles’ Creed, “I believe in God the Father, Maker of heaven and earth,” for children. Pierpoint, writing for the Eucharist, expands the discussion beyond the natural created order to humanity, the church, and, in the original, the martyrs, prophets, and the incarnation. The final stanza addresses Christ himself as a gift:

*For thyself, best Gift Divine,
to the world so freely given,
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth, and joy in heaven.*

In the final line, Pierpoint joins hymn writers throughout the ages by echoing the cosmic connection between heaven and earth found in Luke 2:14: “Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth” (KJV)

Conrad Kocher’s tune DIX (1838) is not the only tune to which this text is sung, but is undoubtedly the most popular in the United States. British Composer John Rutter (b. 1945) renewed interest in this text with his popular anthem setting composed in 1978.

C. Michael Hawn is University Distinguished Professor of Church Music, Perkins School of Theology, SMU.

In Loving Memory of
Mildred Gaunt

Janice & B.J. Goodman

Connie Detmers

Suzy VonTungeln

Sheila Horn

Lawrence & M.S. Fikes

Kay & Jay Cromwell

Betty Coles

Ann Woolley

Jemmie Moseley

Patricia & Dave King

In Loving Memory of
Mildred Patterson

Lawrence & M.S. Fikes

Sheila Horn

Betty Coles

Jemmie Moseley

Suzy VonTungeln

Patricia & Dave King

In Loving Memory of
Bea Magee

Debbie & Vernon Collyge

Kay & Jay Cromwell



The Christmas
Poinsettias



In Loving Memory of
Cathy Cosner

Nina & Danny Reeves

To the Glory of God

Betty Coles

In Loving Memory of
Earl W. Vick, Jr.
Nell & Leon Horne

Lynda Vick & Family

For the Grace of God

Ann Woolley

In Loving Memory of
Danleigh Joyce Cosner

John & Janet Reeves

Charles & Harrylene Moore

Zac & Laura Cosner

In Loving Memory of
William D. VonTungeln, Sr.
William D. VonTungeln, Jr.

Dora VonTungeln

Lea Ann VonTungeln

Marylin VonTungeln

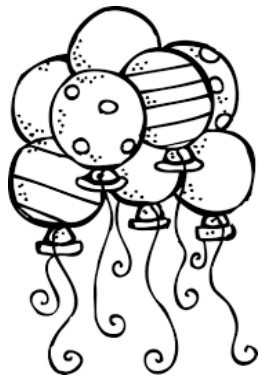
W.D.VonTungeln, III & Family

Central Presbyterian Church

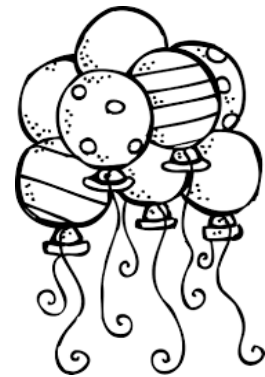
P.O Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71603

Happy Birthday



05	<i>Hester Insley</i>
05	<i>Jemie Moseley</i>
09	<i>Logan Mosley</i>
09	<i>Weston Mosley</i>
10	<i>Benjimen Neal</i>
12	<i>Donald Walker</i>
19	<i>Randy Neal</i>
26	<i>Alexander Perdue</i>
28	<i>Weston Vick</i>



If you or a family member has been omitted or would like to be added to the Birthday and Anniversary list, please contact the church office.