



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas Sunday, May 21, 2023 Seventh Sunday of Easter

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUALS OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE

Organ/Piano Young Ju Oh

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 145)

Rose : Sing to God

All : Sing praises to God's name.

Rose: Sing to God O kingdoms of the earth

All : Sing praises to the Lord.

Rose: Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN # 292 As the Wind Song

As the wind song through the trees, As the stirring of the breeze So it is with the Spirit of God. As the heart made strangely warm, As the voice within the storm, So it is with the Spirit of God Never seen ever known, Where this wind has blown, Bringing life bringing power to the world As the dancing tongues of fire, As the soul's most deep desire So it is with the Spirit of God

As the rainbow after the rain, As the hope that's born again So it is with the Spirit of God. As the green in the spring, As a kite on a string, So it is with the Spirit of God Making worlds that are new, Making peace come true Bringing gifts bringing love to the world As the rising of the yeast As the wine at the feast So it is with the Spirit of God

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession is a mirror by which we see ourselves more clearly. Let us offer our prayers to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that too often we have our head in the clouds. We are more comfortable with dreaming of the world as we wish it would be instead of working with you to bring that wish to reality. At times, we find it difficult to claim the power you have given us. Surely you have others more capable to be your witnesses? And so, we continue to gaze heavenwards. Jolt us out of our complacency, O God. Remind us to get a move on. Remind us we have work to do with you. Give us your energy, courage, and vision to be your witnesses to the end of the earth. (Silent Prayer) Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON: "Lord, Have Mercy"

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: We are God's people

People: created, loved and forgiven.

Pastor: The God of all grace has called us by name.

People: God will restore, support, strengthen and establish us.

Pastor: It is good news to celebrate.

People: We are forgiven!

*GLORIA PATRI "Glory be to the Father" Hymnal #581

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.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM We Are Yours, Lord (by Don Besig) Central Choir

When we pray, we will pray with thankful hearts. When we sing, we will sing with joyful voices. When we serve, we will serve with willing hands for we are Yours, Lord. We are Yours, Lord.

When we speak, we will speak with loving care. When we act, we will act with firm conviction. When we give, we will give with boundless joy for we are Yours, Lord. We are Yours, Lord.

You lift us up. You give us hope. You fill our lives with power of Your Spirit. You give us life. You make us whole, and we are changed forever through Your love.

Within this calm and peaceful place, near to your heart, O Lord. We find the joy of saving grace, near to you heart, O Lord. Your gentle hand will lead us, guiding us ever more. Your tender love will keep us near to your heart, O Lord.

As we live, we will live in grace and truth. As we share, we will share with love and kindness. As we walk, we will walk in humble faith, for we are Yours, Lord. We are Yours, Lord. You lift us up. You give us hope. You fill our lives with power of Your Spirit. You give us life. You make us whole, and we are changed forever through Your love.

CHILDRENS SERMON

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE Acts 1:1–14 (ESV)

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white

robes, 11 and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Do Not Depart, but Wait Rev. Jai Kwak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing: Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, We will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, And 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow" Hymnal #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You each are encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you love and pray.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 295 Go to the World!

1 Go to the World! Go into all the earth, Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.

2 Go to the world! God into every place. Go live the word of God's redeeming grace. Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.

3 Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant of church, you follow Christ's own way Alleluia.

Alleluia.

4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!" Alleluia. Alleluia.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Go forth into the world rejoicing. Love and serve the Lord.

^{*}Those who are able, please stand.

^{**} Please be seated and remain for the postlude if you can.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Emil & Carol Brown
Hester Insley
Karen Perdue
Jemmie Moseley

Laura Brown Hayes Munn Family Mosley Family

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
Allie Cooper &	Friends of Denise Mosley	Rebecca &	Friends of Karen Perdue
Carol Taylor		Earl Phillips	
Max Zeng	Mike and Lan Kelly's son	Dr. Laura Festa	Wife of Dr. Dan Festa
Luis Sanchez	Father of Lizabeth Sanchez	Haley Chandler	Friend of the Church
Bernice Collins	Friend of the Church	Pat Mosley	Mother of George Mosley
Jason McGriff	Friend of Jessica Munn	Harry Moore	Brother of Nina Reeves

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

Holly Grove Church, Holly Grove

First, Alma

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

Help us keep our prayer list up to date. If you have family or friends who need to be added or removed from the prayer concerns list, please let the Office know.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, where we come together to celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others. This congregation opens wide its doors and hearts and welcomes all in the name of Jesus Christ.

PastorPianist/OrganistRev. Jai D. KwakYoung Ju Oh

Treasurer Sound Board Operator

Rose VonTungeln Zac Cosner

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Session

Class of 2023 Class of 2024

Laura Cosner George Mosley

(Clerk)

Jane Judkins Zac Cosner

Denise Mosley Pat Drewett

Suzy VonTungeln

Standing Committee Moderators:

George Mosley - Building & Ground

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

Laura Cosner - Worship & Music

Announcements

Join us today for our monthly fellowship luncheon following the worship service. As believers, we understand that God designed us for community, and gathering around a meal is a beautiful way to strengthen our bonds and keep us connected. Everyone's invited. Come and bless one another with your presence. It is open to all, and we look forward to having all of you join us.

Stated Session meeting will be held immediately after the luncheon.

Next Sunday (May 28th) marks Pentecost Sunday, a momentous event that commemorates the descent and perpetual presence of the Holy Spirit.

