



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Sunday, January 21, 2024
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE

Organ/Piano Young Ju Oh

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 148:11-13)

George: To all searching for grace and truth,

People: Come and see!

George: To all searching for meaning and purpose,

People: Come and see!

George: To all searching for abundant life,

People: Come and see!

George: Let us worship our God together

***OPENING HYMN # 81. Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken**

**1 Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken formed you for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, you may smile at all your foes.**

**2 See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply your sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.**

**3 Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them on their way.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls to us: change your hearts and change your lives! Repent, and believe the good news. The mercy and forgiveness we have already received enables us to be honest about the places in our lives in need of transformation. Let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in Nineveh.
We have gotten comfortable in our categories: haves and have-nots,
makers and takers, bigots and bystanders, self-starters and subordinates,
law-abiders and illegals, the perpetrators and the innocent.
We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and
exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask
idolatries.
Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change
our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let
us hear your good news again. (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: God desires relationship with us, and reconciliation for all of creation.
Jesus comes bearing the good news of forgiveness and transformation. Receive

the good news of God's grace

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen

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

**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.**

ANTHEM

People Need the Lord

Every day they pass me by I can see it in their eyes.
Empty people filled with care headed who knows where?
On they go through private pain Living fear to fear.
Laughter hides their silent cries Only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
When will we realize people need the Lord?

We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right.
What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who's lost?
Through His love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear.
They must hear the words of life only we can share.

People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord. People need the Lord.
When will we realize that we must give our lives.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDRENS SERMON

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 5:21–22, 43-48 (ESV)

**21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder;
and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' 22 But I say to you that
everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever**

insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Be Perfect?

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN # 445 God How Can We Forgive

1 God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn? When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love give strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow, how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe? The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs. A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.

3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again? No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive

*** Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from The Second Helvetic Confession)**

We believe that we the saints are chosen in Christ by God for a definite purpose, which the apostle himself explains when he says, "He chose us in him for adoption that we should be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption to be his sons through Jesus Christ that they should be to the praise of the glory of his grace. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Hymnal #606

**"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"
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.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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 LORD'S PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN # 751 From the Nets of Our Labor

1 From the nets of our labors, through the noise and confusion, from the city or seashore, Jesus summons us all.

(Refrain) We will rise up and follow, Christ before and beside us, loving pattern to guide us, as we answer the call.

2 When we faint and grow weary from the bearing of burdens, with a message of comfort, Jesus summons us all. (Refrain)

3 In the eyes of the stranger— tearful, joyous, or frightened— in the face of each neighbor, Jesus summons us all. (Refrain)

4 When we hear words of hatred spreading fear or false witness, words that cry to be challenged, Jesus summons us all. (Refrain)

5 In each moment of courage, steadfast even through trembling; in the yearning for justice, Jesus summons us all. (Refrain)

6 Like disciples before us, from the city or seashore, risking selfless compassion: Jesus summons us all. (Refrain)

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
Jemmie Moseley
Karen Perdue
Mike & Lan Kelly*

*Hester Insley
Munn Family
Laura Hayes
Linda Vick*

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
<i>Max Zeng</i>	<i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>	<i>Rebecca & Earl Phillips</i>	<i>Friends of Karen Perdue</i>
<i>Luis Sanchez</i>	<i>Father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i>	<i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>	<i>Wife of Dan Festa</i>
<i>Bernice Collins</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>	<i>Haley Chandler</i>	<i>Friend of the Church</i>
<i>Pat Mosley</i>	<i>Mother of George Mosley</i>	<i>Allie Cooper & Carol Taylor</i>	<i>Friends of Denise Mosley</i>
<i>Mary Owens</i>	<i>Friend of Rose VonTungeln</i>	<i>Family of Casey Hardin</i>	<i>Relative of Bubba VonTungeln</i>

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center

Active Ruling Elders

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.

Announcements

Pastor

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

Pianist/Organist

Young Ju Oh

Treasurer

Rose VonTungeln

Sound Board Operator

Zac Cosner

Email: Office@centralprespb.com

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Session

Class of 2023

Laura Cosner

Jane Judkins

Denise Mosley

Suzy VonTungeln

Class of 2024

George Mosley (Clerk)

Zac Cosner

Pat Drewett

Standing Committee Moderators

George Mosley - Building & Grounds

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

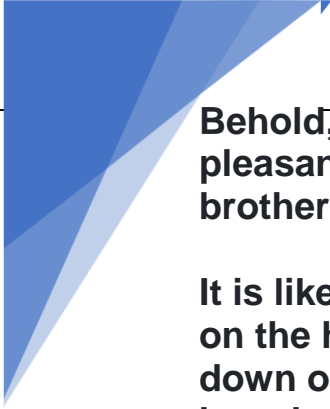
Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

Laura Cosner - Worship & Music

Following worship, let's break bread and build bonds! Our monthly fellowship luncheon is open to all. Come hungry for friendship and fellowship - together, we'll be a blessing to one another.

A regular session meeting will be held immediately after the luncheon.



Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

Psalm 133:1-3