

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2017

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Classic Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Greeting

Rev. Carl Palmer

Opening Voluntary

Meditation from Thais
Rebekah Grace, harp & Vicky Swicegood, flute

Jules Massenet
(1842-1912)

* Call to Worship (based on Psalm 108:1-4)

Dr. Frode Gundersen

Pastor: Our hearts are ready, O Lord, our hearts are ready!

**People: We will sing and make melody!
We will awaken the dawn!**

Pastor: We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,
we will sing praises to you among the nations.

**People: For your steadfast love is great and reaches above the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

* Hymn 715

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148th

* Affirmation of Faith 883 (A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada)

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Gloria Patri 70

MEINEKE

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.**

Sacrament of Baptism (10:45)

Lincoln Brooks Sexton

* New Testament Lesson

Acts 8:1; 9:1-9

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Confession

**O God of grace, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies,
but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls.
Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own
hearts with our enemies. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for
each other and for you, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Giving our Tithes and Offering

Offertory

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Rebekah Grace, harp

arr. Rebekah Grace

* Doxology 95

OLD 100th

**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.**

* Hymn 526

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

* Sermon Text

Philippians 3:4b-11

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Unlikely Heroes
Saul/Paul

Rev. Carl Palmer

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

* Hymn 580

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

* Benediction

* Closing Voluntary

Fugue in G, BWV 541

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

(*) The asterisk indicates to please stand, as you are able.

Central UMC Pastors:

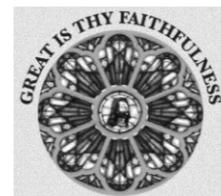
Dr. Jan Davis, Dr. Steve Pulliam, Rev. Carl Palmer, Rev. Greg Gibson
Rev. Emily Burch - College Pastor; Rev. Jody Farrell - Genesis Campus Pastor
Dr. Jack Wilson - Pastor Emeritus; Rev. Tony Holifield - Pastor Emeritus

Director of Music and Worship Arts: Dr. Frode Gundersen

Associate Director of Music/Organist: Scott Montgomery

Acolyte: (8:30) Henry Hanes & Caroline Tallmadge
(10:45) Victor Blasingame & Emma Harvey

Sound: Sam Thomas & Kyle Ross



Great is Thy Faithfulness 30 Days of Prayer

As part of the Great is Thy Faithfulness campaign, we are asking that the Central family join in corporate prayer beginning July 28 and continuing until commitments are made on Sunday August 27. Join us as we ask ourselves, "Lord, what do you want to do through me?"

So Long Summer Block Party

Get ready for our So Long Summer Block Party on August 11 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. All are invited to this free community event featuring: water slides, bounce houses, food, tropical snow cones, and more!

Promotion Sunday &

Back to School Blessing

August 13 is Promotion Sunday! Children ages 3 - 12th grade will begin a new Sunday School year during the 9:30 hour. Following Sunday School, all are encouraged to be present in either of the 10:45 worship services to receive a "back to school blessing" from our pastors and a backpack tag. As we conclude our Unlikely Heroes sermon series, children are invited to wear a superhero costume. Parents, check out centraltolife.com for a Sunday morning class of your own.

Central CARES

Central's CARE Night is designed to offer support and help navigate through difficult times and overcome trials that we all encounter. Gather in the Student Ministries Building at 5:00 p.m. for dinner and then break into individual classes or ministries at 6:00 p.m. There is coffee and dessert offered at 8:00 p.m. in the café for continued fellowship.

Ways to Give

Our ministry is made possible by your generosity and we are truly thankful for you! To streamline giving, we have several ways to give including the offering plate, giving kiosk in the CAC South Foyer, on our mobile app and online! For more info on how to give, visit centraltolife.com/give.

Israel Trip Deadline

Still thinking of going on the Holy Land Tour with Dr. Steve Pulliam? Registration closes on September 20 so be sure to sign up today! For more info and to register, email Steve at spulliam@centraltolife.com.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given in honor of Tony and Marty Williams on their first wedding anniversary; and in memory of John Reeves and Shirley Williams.