

PARK CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Baptism of Christ

BAPTISM OF CHRIST
JANUARY 12, 2025 10:30 AM

Chiming of the Hour

The ringing of the bell invites us to quiet our hearts & minds as we gather for worship.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

*Welcome to worship at Park Central Presbyterian Church!
May you experience God's grace and love within the worship service.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

“Noel Nouvelet” (traditional French carol) arr. Evelyn R. Larter
Dan Blumenthal, *violin* and Sandra Murphy, *piano*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Beloved of God, rejoice!
God has set us free.
We have been baptized into Christ Jesus,
so let us walk in newness of life.
Let us praise the one who calls us children.
Let us worship God together.

***HYMN 67** Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning MORNING STAR

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We want to respond by mirroring your love,
but we confess that we fall into sin.
We cling to destructive habits,

**Please rise in body or spirit*

**participate in oppressive systems,
and live divided from one another.
Have mercy on us and free us from sin.
Fulfill the promises of our baptism
so that we may rise to new life,
and live together in grace. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA**

TAIZÉ

*Gloria, gloria,
In excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria,
Alleluia, alleluia!* (Sung twice)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

***HYMN 48** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS'

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you

**Please rise in body or spirit*

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with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION

I Wonder as I Wander

Sandra Murphy, *voice and piano*
arr. Doug Andrews

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor, orn'ry people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*Starlight on a cold winter's night,
So bright, near a town called Bethlehem.
In a manger stall He lay, a tiny young thing,
And who would have ever thought
He would be King!*

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 6:1-11

¹ What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will

never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the word of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Briana Vaught, ministry intern

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

LITANY OF BAPTISM

Lord and life-giving Spirit, who charged the waters with life when the world began:

Make us dead to sin, but alive to you.

Saving Lord, who sheltered us with Noah in the ark upon the flood:

Drown our sin and raise us to new life.

Giver of freedom, who led your people out of slavery through the waters that did not overwhelm:

Drown our sin and raise us to new life.

O God, our provider, who gave thirsty people water from a rock:

Make us dead to sin, but alive to you.

Holy Spirit, who anointed Jesus with your power of life which no death could conquer:

Make us dead to sin, but alive to you.

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, who poured yourself out as an offering on our behalf, filling us with your Spirit:

Make us dead to sin, but alive to you.

Spirit of the Living God, who charges the waters of baptism with resurrection power so we might live as part of God's new creation:

Drown our sin and raise us to new life.

Pour out once more your life-giving Spirit, Almighty God, that we might be redeemed, sustained, and freed for new life as we proclaim with boldness and live with joy the good news of love and justice.

Amen.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

Do you renounce the ways of sin and evil?

I do.

Do you renounce all powers in the world that defy God's intentions?

I do.

Will you resist the forces of sin that hold the world in captivity?

I will.

Trusting the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from evil to seek good?

By the grace of God, I do.

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world?

I believe Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.

Will you follow the Spirit of the living Lord and live into God's call?

By the grace of God, I will.

***HYMN 71** Lord, When You Came to Jordan

GENEVAN 130

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"The Heavens Rejoice!"

Todd Kendall

*During the postlude, some people sit or stand quietly and listen to the music.
Others prefer to connect with those around them or greet visitors as they leave.
Please feel free to make the transition between worship and re-entering the world
in whatever way is meaningful to you.*

*Please join us in the Gathering Hall following worship
for snacks, coffee, and fellowship.*

Announcements for January 12, 2025

Scan here to donate!

Monday, January 13

7:00 pm Sound bath

Wednesday, January 15

9:00 am Mission, Membership, and Outreach
Committee meeting

Thursday, January 16

12:00 pm Staff meeting

Sunday, January 19

9:00 am Bible study (virtual)
10:30 am Worship service
12:00 pm Mission study gathering



Sound Bath

The next sound bath will be Monday, January 13 at 7 pm. The sound bath is a time to allow your body and your mind to rest and recenter. All are welcome!

An Invitation from the Mission Study Task Force

Please join us after worship on Sunday, January 19 from 12- 2 pm. This is part of a series of congregational gatherings designed to help us understand who we are as a congregation and where and what God is calling us to be next. It will help us gather feedback and articulate who we are both individually and collectively. It will also be fun! We look forward to being with you. Lunch will be provided. All ages are welcome! Please sign up in the Gathering Hall or by emailing the church office.

Get Involved!

There are sign-up sheets in the Gathering Hall for greeters and coffee hour hosts. You can get more information about each of these roles by emailing the office! You can also contact the office if you are interested in reading during worship. Don't hesitate to ask questions about how any of these roles can be adapted to fit your situation. For example, you can partner with someone else to host coffee hour, provide financial support, or even just make or bring a few things! Mission, Membership, and Outreach is happy to help you get involved in whatever way works best for you!

Park Central has accepted the invitation from the Presbyterian Church (USA) to become a Matthew 25 congregation. We are answering Christ's call to become even more a church of action, where God's love, justice, and mercy shine forth and are contagious.

To learn more about Matthew 25, please visit pcusa.org/matthew25

Robert Allen.....Director of Arts and Technology
Brigid Boyle..... Parish Associate
Lenora Joyner-Hayes Finance Administrator/Bookkeeper
Sarah McTyre.....Pastor
Sandra Murphy.....Keyboard Musician
Kenneth Pfeffer.....Building Manager
Briana Vaught.....Office and Communications Manager

Church Office Phone: (315) 475-1677 • 504 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, NY 13202-1922

Church Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, M-Th

Church Office Email: office@parkcentralchurch.org

Website: www.parkcentralchurch.org • Facebook: Park Central Presbyterian Church

Instagram: [parkcentralsyr](https://www.instagram.com/parkcentralsyr) • TikTok: [parkcentralchurch](https://www.tiktok.com/@parkcentralchurch) • Bluesky: [parkcentralchurch.org](https://bsky.app/profile/parkcentralchurch.org)