



Amplification devices are available from ushers at the rear of the sanctuary.

Order of Worship

Liturgist is Rev. Dr. Mike Farley **Themes and Keywords:** serve, humble, love

Prelude

O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

T. Williams

STANDING (IF ABLE)

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

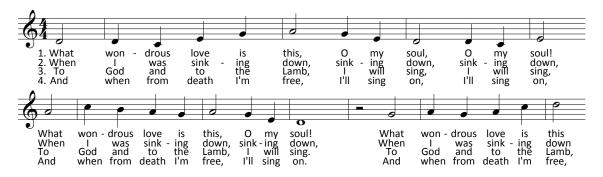
from Psalm 106:1; 116:13; 34:8, 10

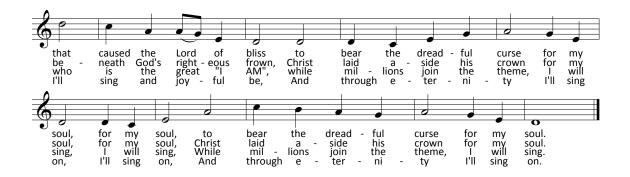
Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Suffering Servant, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Taste and see that the LORD is good. I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, for those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

WE PRAISE GOD

What Wondrous Love Is This

Text: American Folk Hymn Tune: William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835





WE PRAY FOR GOD TO HELP US WORSHIP

Christ laid down his life in love. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!

SEATED

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS OUR SIN

from Psalm 139:23-24

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden: Search us and know our hearts! Try us and know our thoughts! See if there be any grievous way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting, that we may perfectly love you and one another and honor your great name.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Lord Jesus, you gave yourself as our ransom to offer grace to everyone, but we often refuse to suffer unless we receive praise and honor from everyone. You are Lord and King over all things, and you humbled yourself to serve, But we often think too highly of ourselves and refuse to take a humble place. You have saved us to serve one another as you serve us, but we are often eager to be served rather than to serve. Lord, have mercy on us.

(silent prayers of confession)

Father, forgive our self-righteous conceit. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we will have the humble mind of Christ and grow more and more into his image and likeness as humble servants of all.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

GOD DECLARES OUR FORGIVENESS

from 1 John 4:9; 1 Peter 2:24

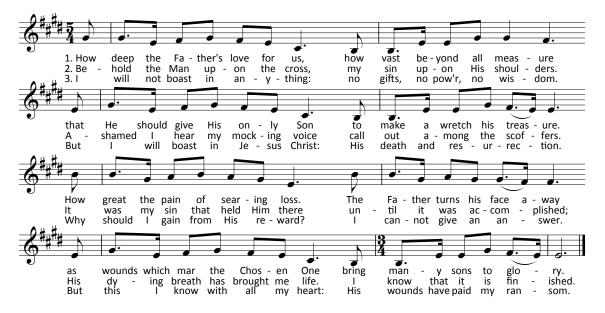
In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Text and Tune: Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music



SEATED GOD INSTRUCTS US IN SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:24-30

²⁴ So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will. ²⁶ And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ And their followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸ But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.'"

GOD INSTRUCTS US IN PREACHING

Sermon Notes:

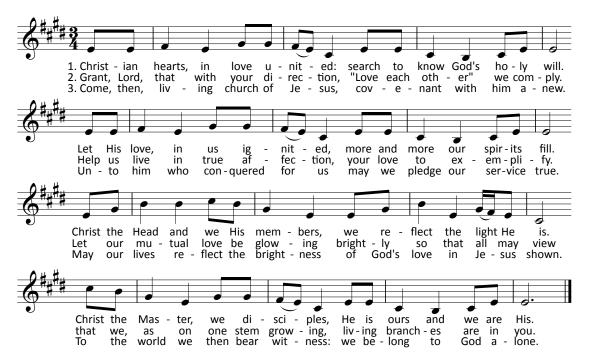
"Who Is the Greater?" Rev. Charles Godwin

WE OFFER OURSELVES IN GIFTS AND SONG

If you prefer to give electronically, you can give by texting CENTRALPRES to 77977, or visit www.centralpres.com/give.

Christian Hearts in Love United

Text: Nicolaus von Zinzendorf, 1723 Tune: B.F. White, 1844



STANDING (IF ABLE)

WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

(prayers for the church and the world)

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 and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SEATED God Feeds Us at His Table

Central Presbyterian welcomes all Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not ready to receive communion, we invite you to meditate on one of the prayers below.

Is your child interested in receiving communion for the first time? We'd like to help with that process. Contact Karen Brown (kbrown@centralpres.com) for more information or to get started!

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of new belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared believe, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE MEDITATE ON JESUS' SUFFERING

Luke 22:39-46

And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Psalm 88 with *Adagio for Strings* (S. Barber)

O Lord, God of my salvation, I cry out day and night before you. Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry! For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am a man who has no strength, like one set loose among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand. You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep. Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves. You have caused my companions to shun me; you have made me a horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eye grows dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon you, O Lord; I spread out my hands to you. Do you work wonders for the dead? Do the departed rise up to praise you? Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, or your faithfulness in Abaddon? Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? But I, O Lord, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you. O Lord, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me? Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless. Your wrath has swept over me; your dreadful assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in on me together. You have caused my beloved and my friend to shun me; my companions have become darkness.

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!" Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord preserves the simple;

when I was brought low, he saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;

I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
I believed, even when I spoke: "I am greatly afflicted";
I said in my alarm, "All mankind are liars."
What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.
O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord!

Were You There?

African American Spiritual

Musicians: Matthew Mazzoni (director), *piano, organ, vocals;* Kristi Williams, *vocals;* Christine Sasse, *violin I;* Robert Clemens, *violin II;* Julie Hoffman, *viola;* Marian Drake, *cello;* Julia Clemens, *bass.*

Readers: Caleb Farley

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 2	Good Friday	7:00pm (Online & In-Person)
April 4	Easter Sunrise	6:45am (Online & In-Person, Forest Park) 8:00am (Online & In-Person, Forest Park)
	Easter Sunday	9:30am (Online & In-Person) 11:00am (In-Person Only)

*Please note: Pre-registration is required for attendance at all in-person worship services.

Central Presbyterian Church Pastoral Staff

Clay Smith — Senior Pastor Mike Farley — Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation Charles Godwin — Assistant Pastor, Congregational Care Ben Tzeng — Assistant Pastor, Evangelism and Community Cole Lescher — Assistant Pastor, Young Adults

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Jeff Brown — Director, Communications and Technology Karen Brown — Director, Family Ministry Taylor Bruce — Director, Student Ministry Julie Geisz — Director, Women's Ministry Julie Kraus — Director, Hospitality Matthew Mazzoni — Director, Music Ministry Tim Page — Executive Administrator

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Eric Schmidt Gary Smith Pat Stark Tyler Stephens Mark Talbott Scott Wait Sandy Weltman Adam Woodard

Deacons

Michael Darmadi John Hamer Derek Lohse Travis Martin Paul Reising Don Stream Brian Ziebarth

At Central, we believe in and rely upon the power of prayer. If you have a specific need or concern for which you would like prayer, contact us at prayer@centralpres.com or visit *www.centralpres.com/prayer*.

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