



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

May 14, 2023, 9:15 AM
Central Christian Church

About our service:

We want worship to be comfortable for you. Feel free to bring your **coffee** with you into the worship area.

You are welcome to leave an **offering** with us if you are motivated. Simply deposit your offering in the box on the south wall of the worship area or follow prompts to text-to-give or to give online.

MEDITATION TABLE

STONES & VASE

Use the stones as a physical representation of your burden. Put the stones in the vase and leave the burden with God.

CANDLE

Light a candle for any praise or prayer concerns you have.

COMFORT CROSS

Feel free to pick up a cross and take it with you as a reminder that Jesus loves you unconditionally. His comfort, care, and transformative power is at work for you, in you, and through you today and always. Receive it. Praise God and share His never-ending love with others.

PRAYER WALL

Stop by our prayer wall and leave a prayer for others to offer with you or to pray for those already posted.

Heritage Center Open House

Celebrate the completion of our new Heritage Center on Sunday, May 21st by visiting between 9:00 and 12:00 noon. The Heritage Center is located down the North Ramp Entrance.

Everyone is invited to view beautiful displays and artifacts of Central's history. Décor Committee members will be on hand to answer questions and describe the updated historical items.

On May 21st the Center can easily be reached by entering the North Ramp Entrance or by taking the Gallery elevator on the Sanctuary level down to the Ramp Area. Use of one of these entries will not interrupt the Great Hall Contemporary Service from 9:15 - 10:15.

Pentecost Offering

The Pentecost offering supports the New Church Movement of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

This movement has allowed us to grow our Disciples Family by welcoming many new and affiliated faith communities into the fold.

Our church planters are eager to answer God's call to spread the gospel in new ways and places. Established congregations like ours are sharing resources, love and support for this effort.

The Pentecost Offering will be received two consecutive Sundays, May 21 & 28. Please consider giving generously to this important ministry for advancing faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sabbath Retreat

The upcoming Sabbath Retreat will be on Saturday, June 10, 9-11:30 am with a theme of "Everybody Needs a Break".

We will slow down and explore some practices that help us to spend time with one another and with God.

All ages are welcome. Nursery care will be provided for our youngest children.

Are you interested in joining Central?

The only thing required to be a member of Central Christian is having faith in Jesus Christ. If you are moved during the service to confess your faith, or transfer your membership to Central, simply come up to the minister at the communion table **during the communion time**. If you wish to talk with a minister more about membership, simply let Pastor Michael know after worship.



Wifi= CCCGuest
No password
needed.

Help us spread the word about our service!

- "Check in" on Facebook (let your friends know you're here)
 - "Like" our page (Central Christian Contemporary Worship / Central Christian Church)
 - "Follow" our page (click on the ellipse and then select "follow")
- Take pics and share to your FB page too!**

Sabbatical 2023 Send-Off Litany

Kim Maple: Throughout holy scripture, ministries undertaken by God's servants are periodically set aside for rest and restoration. God has given us, God's people, the Sabbath pattern of regular rest and renewal as a way of helping remind us of whose we are and what we are called to do.

Scott Woolridge: In that spirit, sabbaticals are gifts given to the entire congregation. The called pastor is offered a chance to step away and explore quiet places and pursue reflection. Similarly, it is an opportunity for other leaders to step forward and share their gifts with the faith community.

In the Christian tradition the laying-on of hands is believed to communicate the presence, power and promises of God. In the Book of Acts we read how the apostles laid hands on those called to a special purpose. The laying-on of hands is also a reminder of the connection of all things through the Holy Spirit. This ritual is done at special times when these gifts from God are most especially desired. At this time we call on all elders present to come forward and gather around Michael and place hands on his head and shoulders. We also invite everyone to participate.

Jeannie Backes: Let us pray: Almighty God, may the hands we lay on Michael convey our love and prayers that he may commune with you, O God, and find what you have already prepared for him to receive. And may the hands we lay one another communicate our promise to be present to one another in a spirit of grace and kindness and love.

People: With joy and gratitude, we send out our pastor in his sabbatical journey. We know that neither time nor distance could ever separate us in the One Holy Spirit. As he goes, we pray God's blessing on him; his family; and all that he will experience. And we look forward to reuniting with him upon his return, and traveling the new path God holds out for us. In your holy name we pray, amen.

Michael: I receive your blessings with a grateful heart. I similarly pray that God's provision and protection be with you. And I look forward to what God has in store for all of us when I return.

Responsive Reading

Leader: Jesus commands us to love him more than all other things.

People: We have come to take hold of our one true source of security and hope.

Leader: Jesus commands us to feed his sheep.

People: We have come to be fed with the Bread of Life.

Leader: Jesus commands us to take care of his flock.

People: We have come to walk more closely with him and to learn more of his ways.

Serving Today

Elder- Charlotte Ballance
Deacon- Angie & Ron Ingram
Greeter- Andy & Theresa Fulk
Liturgist- Donna Rutherford
Snacks- Randy & Deb Trei

Serving Next Sunday, 5/21

Elder- Kevin Wilmot
Deacon- Rod & Laurie Damery
Greeter- Angie Horvath
Liturgist- Isabella Karunas
Snacks- Jodi Van Uytven