

Though I May Speak...

James 1:17-27

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

July 23, 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.

SCRIPTURE CARDS

Feel free to read and take one of the Scripture cards with you. You are encouraged to place it where you will see it throughout your week as a reminder of God's message for you.

Many Thanks To Scott and Vicky!

The time is flying by, and we hope you are finding joy, rest, and connection during Michael's time away. We are so thankful to Scott and Vicky for their service throughout our sabbatical! They have guided us, challenged us, and cherished us by providing unfailing leadership and wonderful sermons. Their love for this church and God is evident in all they do for our church community.

To celebrate and thank Scott and Vicky, we invite you to a reception in the Welcome Center Sunday, July 30th, after third service. Light refreshments will be provided. We hope to see you there!

From the Sabbatical Committee

On Sunday, August 6th, we will have a luncheon after the 10:30 service to celebrate Michael's return. Sign up sheets will be placed at the Welcome Center and in the Great Hall this Sunday, or you can call the church at 217-428-4336 or email central@cccdisciples.org to RSVP.

The Sabbatical committee would like to thank all of you here at Central Christian Church for your support throughout the Sabbatical.

Food Drive

The next food collection for the Northeast Community Fund pantry will be Sunday, August 6. Cereal, canned meat, & cans of vegetables & fruit will all be gratefully accepted. The grocery cart is located in the Connection Cafe. Let's fill it, CCC!!!

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")

Feel free to take pictures and share to your FB page too!

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 Vicky or Pastor Scott know after worship.



Wifi= CCCGuest
No password
needed.

James 1:17-27 NRSVUE

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹ You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, ²⁰ for human anger does not produce God’s righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶ If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

A Prayer for Sabbatical – One God, One Church

God of Oneness,
In this time of sabbatical, may we rest in you, finding quiet that connects us with you in deeper ways.
May we be present to you with open hearts and minds, trusting you to show us the way to peace.
May we be present to one another with gentleness and understanding, seeking to be more loving and authentic.
May we hold Michael in our love and prayers, that he may commune with you, O God, and find what you have already prepared for him to receive.
May our time of distance be one of renewed commitment to our shared ministry.
We pray with thanksgiving and hope, in Your holy name.
Amen.

Responsive Reading

Leader: We open our ears. We open our minds. We open our hearts, O God, to hear your word.
People: But you have called us to do more than hear your word.
Leader: You have called us to be doers of the word.
People: We open our arms, outstretched and ready to serve.
Leader: Empower us to be your tangible touch of love in this world.
All: We thank you and praise you for calling us to serve.

Serving Today

Elder – Jeannie Backes
Deacon – Laura Moma
Greeter – Randy & Deb Trei
Liturgist – Marci Baumann
Snacks – Angie Horvath

Serving Next Sunday, 7/30

Elder – Janet Lyman
Deacon – Hugh & Linda Rowden
Greeter – Andy & Theresa Fulk
Liturgist – Greg Barnes
Snacks – Angie Horvath