

Meditation

Gail Prince

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Jim Fitzpatrick

*(All believing Christians are invited to share in the Lord's Supper, regardless of church affiliation.)*

Communion Music

One: The bread which we break is our communion in the Body of Christ.

**All: The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is our Communion in the blood of Christ. Amen.**

\*Benediction

\*Closing Hymn     *Let There Be Peace on Earth*     No. 677

*(After worship, a serving elder will be available at the back of each side aisle for personal prayer)*

Postlude     *March in B Flat*     G. F. Handel  
Dee Dee Gain, organ

*\*All who are able, please stand*

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**Michael E. Karunas**  
Senior Minister

**Vicky Woolridge**  
Pastor for Families

**Melinda McDonald**  
Pastor for Spiritual Formation  
and Pastoral Care

**David Martin**  
Youth Director

**Dr. Benjamin Hawkinson**  
Director of Music



# Central Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)  
Decatur, Illinois

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Central Christian Church

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Sharing Christ. Changing Lives. Delivering Hope.*

Prelude *Pastorale* Louis Vierne  
Dee Dee Gain, organ

Words of Welcome Michael E. Karunas

\*Introit

\*Opening Hymn No. 190  
*Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* (vs. 1, 3)

\*Responsive Reading Charlotte Ballance  
Leader: Jesus said, "In order to enter the kingdom of heaven  
you must become like children."

**People: We come today with open hearts, ready to learn,  
to trust, and to receive like children.**

Leader: Whoever humbles themselves like a child  
is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

**People: We lay down pride and ambition,  
seeking the grace to walk in humility.**

Leader: Jesus welcomes the little ones, and in doing so,  
invites us to welcome Him.

**People: Let us come as children, for in such hearts,  
God's presence draws near.**

**All: Come, let us worship the Lord with childlike faith  
and humble hearts!**

\*Invocation

\*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, and the power and the glory  
forever, Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri No. 35

A Time for All God's Children Vicky Woolridge

Prayer Hymn No. 687  
*In Christ There Is No East or West* (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Pastoral Prayer Melinda McDonald

(8:00) Prayer Response  
(10:30) Special music, Central Men's Quartet

Offertory Invitation

\*Doxology No. 46

\*Prayer of Dedication

(8:00) Special Music, Central Men's Quartet  
(10:30) Anthem Elaine Hagenberg  
*I Will Be a Child of Peace*

Scripture Reading Matthew 18:1-5 Pgs. 19 NT

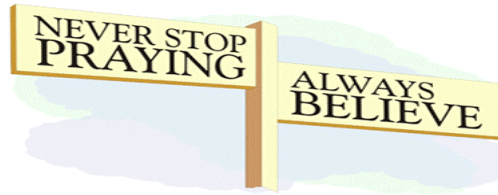
One: The Word of God for the People of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Child's Play*

Invitation to Discipleship

\*Communion Hymn *Jesus Loves Me!* No. 113  
*(In Christ's name we welcome all persons into membership into the church by confession of faith  
and baptism or by transfer of membership. Please step to the front pew during the singing of this  
Hymn of Communion.)*

# Prayer List



Last updated 9/5/2025

## Members

Evelyn Sanders  
Debbie & Jim Hoffert  
Gene Guthrie  
Jim & Diane Denzer  
Mike & Carole Holbrook  
Mickie Wilmot  
Misty Mochel  
Linda Kuhns  
Don & Brenda Tankersley  
Jack Dixon & Sue Burkham  
Dave Withrow  
Karen McFadin  
Larry & Debbie Foster  
Shane Garver  
Bill Moutray  
Brett Garver

## We Pray for Those in the Military:

Katy & Matt Holden (granddaughter & grandson-in-law of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Phillip Johnston (son of Becky Johnston)  
Mitchell Lucas (grandson of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Preston Wade (son of Larry & Karen Wade)  
Ryan Smithson (grandson of Jim & Vicki Fitzpatrick)  
Lucas May (nephew of Marci Baumann)  
Nicholas Lucas (grandson of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Mason Penhallegon (nephew of Babs & Tom McKay)

## Members in Nursing Home & Assisted Living

Merle Chapman (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Elaine Hynds (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Janet Deakins (Imboden Creek Gardens)  
Marilyn Riley (Randall Residence)  
Sally Thicksten (Randall Residence)  
Bob Garrett (Primrose)  
Dan & Nedra Brintlinger (Primrose)  
Eleanor Pritts (The Arc at Hickory Pt.)  
Don Boyd (Lincolnshire)  
Yvonne Purcell (Evergreen)  
Leona Bray (Tanglewood)  
Glen Dalluge

## Friends & Family

Jim Nuernberger (friend of Jim & Debbie Hoffert)  
Harriette York (mother of David York)  
Ron Price (brother of Debbie Hoffert)  
Quentin Wilmot (brother of Kevin Wilmot)  
Matt Andrews (son-in-law of Jean Maggioncalda)  
Ruth & Randy Helm (friends of Donna Dash)  
Tracy Cearlock (friend of Brett Swallow)  
Jean Lucas (friends of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Larry Baker (friend of Keith Backes & David Wagner)  
Evelyn Drahovzal (friend of Charlotte Ballance)  
Tina King (friend to many CCC members)  
Sharyl Craggs (wife of Bob Craggs)  
Curt & Malinda Jackson (cousin of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Jim Story (friend of Maria Jacobs)  
Tom & Jerry White (sister & brother-in-law of Joy Adams)  
Sara Foreman (friend of Susan Bryant)  
Kim Edwards (friend of Gale Barnes)  
Deborah Stokes (Angie Ingram's stepmom)  
Renee Spencer (daughter of Cecil & Sheila Griffith)  
Jerry & Crystal Ridgely (friends of Nancy Ellen Taylor)  
Jeff & Lori Powers (son-in-law of Dave & Nita Phillips)  
Dream (daughter of Unique Hess, friend of Janelle Beedle)  
Pat Berry (friend of Angie Ingram)  
Brett Moroney (grandson of Jeannie Rade)  
Lee TerHark (brother of Kelly Hildum)  
Mary Schilling (sister of Susan Bryant)  
JeanEva Smallwood (mother of Nanette Frank)  
Joyce Wakeland (mother of Becky VanMeter)  
All students, teachers, & school personnel

**Worship Extras**  
**September 7, 2025**

**Matthew 18:1-5 NRSVUE**

<sup>1</sup> At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” <sup>2</sup> He called a child, whom he put among them, <sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup> Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

**Notes:**

**Serving Schedule**

**Today, September 7, 2025**

**Elders:** Jim Fitzpatrick, Gail Prince

**September Prep Deacons:** Carol Bischoff, Susan Bryant,  
Carolyn Sunderlik

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Jane Davis, Nancy King

10:30 - Keith Backes, Cole Shartzter

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos,  
Brittney Moran, Blair Moran, Bobby Munos, Julia Munos

10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Stephani Martin,  
Gretchen Kirby

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Debbie & Jim Hoffert

10:30 - Andy & Theresa Fulk

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:30 - Luke Kirby

**Liturgist:** Charlotte Ballance

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**Next Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**Elders:** Janet Lyman, Brett Swallow

**September Prep Deacons:** Carol Bischoff, Susan Bryant,  
Carolyn Sunderlik

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance/Troy Swinford

10:30 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Rick Postlewait

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Carolyn Sunderlik, Capt., Dianne Devore

10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Kincaid, Donna Dash

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Carolyn McCall, Gail Prince

10:30 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Krista Rohrscheib

10:30 - Mike Kirby

**Liturgist:** Gretchen Kirby