



*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of The United Church of Christ*



Order of Worship for

November 17, 2024 10:30 am

Welcome to Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are with us today.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

PRELUDE Now Thank We All Our God

D. Buxtehude

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, let us present ourselves before our God.

Bring all your troubles and anxiety to God in prayer.

All: Surely God knows our thoughts and hears our prayers.

We find strength for living as we praise God.

One: Lay down your arrogance and false pride.

Admit your needs as you seek God's favor.

All: We pour out our souls before the living God.

We do not withhold from God our misery and distress.

One: God grants our petitions and gives us peace.

The counsel of our God gladdens our hearts.

All: In God's presence there is fullness of joy.

As we meet together, we are encouraged and comforted.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Our hearts exalt in you, O God. All knowledge has its origin in you. Our deepest hungers are satisfied as you give counsel and instruct our hearts. Be known to us now, that our covenant with you may be strengthened. Give confidence to all who enter this sanctuary, that our faith may grow, our love expand, and our hope find fulfillment. Show us the path of life, and grant us the courage needed to walk in your ways. Amen.

*HYMN NCH 28 For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Congregation sings:

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja (3X) Halleluja! Hal-le-lu-ja!

Caribbean Melody

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, help us to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 119: 161-168
Philippians 4: 4-7

SERMON *Rejoice, Be Glad, & Be at Peace: A Message for the Season of Thanksgiving*
The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

MUSICAL RESPONSE He Shall Feed His Flock G. F. Handel
Mica Guzman, Warburton Music Intern

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY With a Voice of Singing M. Shaw
Center Church Choir

*DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, you heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN NCH 423 Great is Your Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

One: Go forth in confidence that God remembers you.
Go in peace, knowing you will find blessings in abundance.

**All: God is with us wherever we go.
We seek to recognize the blessings we have ignored.**

One: Live your lives in a continuing relationship or prayer.
Listen for the counsel God offers every day.

**All: There is a word for us in every situation.
God is always ready to guide our decisions.**

One: A new and living way opens before us.
We are learning to encourage our sisters and brothers.

**All: We seek to provoke one another to good deeds.
Love for one another will be our highest motive.**

One: Amen.

All: Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE Praise to the Lord

arr. D. Bish

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's worship!

