

A Word from Our Pastor

Chronicle 21:20 reads, "King Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem, and he departed with no one's regret. They buried him in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the king."

A king of a nation just passed away at his age of 40, and no one regretted and there was no proper funeral for him. How pitiful! How disgraceful! Though he was a king, it seems that he had a life that was worse than a nameless common man. Wouldn't it be terrible if a man was refused to be remembered by others after his departure?

Some say life is a series of encounter and farewell. It is inevitable for us to have such events in our lives. We must meet and we must depart from each other. King Solomon says; "there is a time for everything ... a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,... a time to scatter and a time to gather..." (Ecclesiastes 3) Yet he also says; "He (God) has made everything beautiful in its time." Perhaps he tries to tell us that because there are times of departure, the time of encounter is more precious. The time we spend together is so precious to each of us for there is the end to it. The greater the value of the time spent together, the greater the mourning will be.

I am looking back now as my departure is getting near. What kind of encounters did I have here in Central? Have the people of this church and I been sharing the precious moment together? Or was it a series of terrible moments that no one wants to remember or honor?

I remember a phone call, a call from a member. He said, "I will miss you Jai..." From that one sentence, I heard a thousand words. So, there was a pause. I felt a lump coming up from deep in my heart and choked up my throat. Tears welled up in my eyes. It was such a sweet-bitter moment, a moment that tells me how precious and beautiful are the times that we spent together here at Central.

I thank you, everyone, for making my life here so bright, so beautiful and so meaningful.

And farewell, my friends. Please know that every each one of you and the time we spent together became priceless gems in my life. You will not be forgotten. And so, please remember me.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you until we see each other again.

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

Central Scene

Central Presbyterian Church

Church Mission Statement

To celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith, and serve the needs of others

Church Membership

Membership in Central Presbyterian Church is open to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. New members will be received upon baptism and profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or by letter of transfer.

Important News!

We have refreshed the batteries and headphones in the PA receivers. If you are having an issue hearing during worship, please feel free to ask for one.

Join us as we celebrate Jai and Young with a dinner at the Village in Star City on August 4th. We'll be leaving the church at 5pm. Hope to see you there.

We will be moving the August Fellowship Luncheon to August 12th after worship. This will be Jai and Young's last Sunday with us and we'll be sharing one last meal together.

The PLACE is happening. Late Registration is open for the Presbyterian Leadership Academy for Congregational Enrichment at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock on Aug. 4th from 9am to 1pm. Registration forms are available at our website or on the table in the Narthex. Zac Cosner has more information.



Upcoming Events

August 4th

PLACE will be held at Second Presbyterian in Little Rock from 9am-1pm.

August 4th

Dinner at Village in Star City to celebrate Jai & Young. We will leave at 5:00pm.

August 12th

Fellowship Luncheon

August 19th

Session Meeting

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Young Adults Sunday School 9:30 AM

Choir Practice Wednesdays at 6:30pm

History of Hymns

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

by Reginald Heber;

“Holy, Holy, Holy” by Reginald Heber (1783-1826) is unique in many regards. Indeed, it spans many Christian traditions and centuries, unifying them in four timeless stanzas. Not only that, but Heber was an Anglican bishop whose ministry spanned continents and races, placing him as one of the heroes of the Christian faith.

Perhaps the most intriguing characteristic of the hymn is how the text does not initiate praise, but instead encourages the singer to join in an endless song. Both Isaiah 6:1-5 and Revelation 4:2-11 inspire this hymn, spanning the Testaments, reminding us that the Trisagion (thrice holy) has been uttered in worship for centuries. Isaiah received his vision in the eighth century B.C.; John the Apostle recorded his revelation in the first century C.E.; while Reginald Heber composed his hymn in 1826, in the nineteenth century.

Congregations continue to be inspired by Heber’s text in the twenty-first century. It is safe to say that songs of praise, begun by the seraphim and cherubim, have been echoing throughout the millennia through the voice of the people.

What makes this hymn so special? First, the rhyme scheme is unique since all four lines of each stanza rhyme with the word “holy.” One won’t easily find another hymn written this way. Another reason why “Holy, holy, holy” is such a timeless hymn is its pairing with the well-known tune NICAEA. Written by John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876), NICAEA has a unique elegance and magnificence, which in turn complements Heber’s stately language. There’s no cheap emotionalism and subjectivity apparent in the music or the words. Named after the Council of Nicaea, where the nature of the Trinity was shaped theologically, NICAEA is also a classic example of Victorian hymn tune writing, notably with its solid harmonies and subtle chromaticism.

Heber is careful to describe the Trinity without encroaching upon its mystery. This is especially evident with the phrase, “though the darkness hide Thee” in stanza 3, and this separation between God and man is exacerbated by sin (“though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see”). Though we may not see or completely understand the Trinity in its fullness in this lifetime, Heber’s and Dykes’s collaboration reminds us those are not reasons that preclude our worship of the Triune God.

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

by Reginald Heber

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning

our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty!

God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy!

All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns

around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim

falling down before Thee,

Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy!

though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man,

Thy glory may not see:

Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee,

Perfect in power in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise

Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, Holy, Holy! merciful and mighty,

God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

One particular characteristic of “Holy, holy, holy!” is the unusual meter of 11.12.12.10. This distinguishes it from most English texts that preceded it, especially those of Isaac Watts (1674-1748) and Charles Wesley (1707-1788), who wrote in relatively short stanzas including CM (8686), SM (6686), and LM (8888). This unusual meter, however, is finessed by Dykes’s craftsmanship with the rhythm.

Along with the rhythm, the melody was masterfully constructed. The tune commences with a rising third, which could easily symbolize the Trinity, and continues with a chant-like character (there are few leaps and many consecutively repeated notes). Hymnals have left the original four-part harmony of Dykes's untouched, although most of them have transposed the key down a whole step from the original of E Major.

Reginald Heber was born in Cheshire, England, in 1783, with a precocity toward poetry. By the time Heber was twenty, he had already penned a poem titled “Palestine,” which won the prestigious Newdigate Prize. Four years later, he was writing numerous hymns while he was vicar of Hodnet, Shropshire. This is the most probable time he composed “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty,” as he stayed there fifteen years.

Most of his hymns, though, were not published until he passed away in 1826. His widow published Heber’s impressive volume of hymns, which are arranged according to the church year, *Hymns Written and Adapted to the Weekly Church Service of the Year* (1827). This, along with *A Selection of Psalms and Hymns for the Parish Church of Banbury* (Third Edition, 1826), brought his most eminent hymn into the spotlight.

Heber intended for “Holy, Holy, Holy,” written for Trinity Sunday, to be sung between the sermon and the creed by his parish in Hodnet. This was iconoclastic at the time, since hymn singing was prohibited in Church of England liturgies. In contrast, the Methodist societies in the eighteenth century were known for their hymn singing, along with the dissenting churches that had been using the hymns of Isaac Watts for nearly one hundred years. Consequently, then, British hymnology scholar J. R. Watson notes Heber was a man who “helped to dispel the idea that hymns were associated with Methodists and extreme Evangelicals” (*Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology*). Unfortunately, he failed to persuade church authorities within the Church of England to grant permission for hymn singing during Sunday services while he was alive.

In 1826, Reginald Heber died in British India from a stroke while bathing (often referred to in India as *coup de soleil*), leaving an impressive legacy within Christianity. That was because Heber was the Anglican bishop over all of British India from 1823-1826. He worked tirelessly to build a training school for local clergy and traveled extensively around India preaching the gospel. He also embodied nineteenth-century British missiology, which purposed to use Britain’s divine right and calling to evangelize the rest of the world. This is seen in Heber’s hymns “From Greenland’s Icy Mountains” and “Brightest and Best,” two others of his commonly sung hymns. Heber had continued to write a few hymns, although most of his corpus was written during his Hodnet vicarship.

John Bacchus Dykes was not quite as copious in his output with hymn tunes as Heber was with hymn texts, but of his hymn tunes, NICAEA was his best-known work. He worked as the choir director of the Durham Cathedral for most of his life and passed away in northern England at the age of fifty-three. It is safe to say Dykes would be pleased his NICAEA has stood the test of time paired with “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty,” and may that it “evermore shalt be.”

By Stanton Nelson, a student in the doctor of pastoral music program at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, studies hymnology with Dr. C. Michael Hawn.

Missions News

Laura Cosner is now hosting the Central Circle of Comfort support group at CPC. The group focuses on those who have lost a child through Miscarriage, Still Birth, and those who have lost a child unexpectedly. Their next meeting is on August 14th at 6:30pm in the Library. If you know someone who might be interested, please spread the word.

The Church collected 66 - 3 Ring Binders that were delivered to Neighbor to Neighbor for their School Supply Drive. Thanks to everyone for their support.

Youth News

The Youth enjoyed their trip to the Mid America Science Museum. Ten children and six adults enjoyed the Dino Trek and Tesla Coil exhibits on top of so much more! Pictures of the trip are posted on our website and social media platforms!

Choir News

Do you know someone who is knows how to play the organ? The Choir is in search of an Organist who is available to play on Sunday mornings and at choir practice on Wednesday Nights. Contact Lynda Vick if you or someone you know is interested.

Building and Grounds News

Work continues on the roof and steeple. Please be aware of possible roofing nails in the parking lot until the work is completed. Also, are you aware of something that needs to be taken care of around the church? Please make a note of it on our Job Board in the Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

Fellowship and Outreach Group News

We had a wonderful time at the Village last month and at our Blue Moon Bowling Night.

Thanks to everyone who came out and fellowshiped with us. Pictures of both events are on our website and our social media platforms.

Central Women News

Tuesday, December 11--Dinner at Margland--cost unknown at this time. More details as the dates are closer.

Trinity Village Assisted Living

Betty Coles has been designated as your "go to" person for Central Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in Assisted Living at Trinity Village or you know someone who may be interested but hesitant to make a phone call, she will be more than happy to meet with you or that person and/or go with you on a tour of the facility.

We are very proud to be a part of Trinity Village. Please contact Betty Coles (501)-535-3729 for more information.

Central Presbyterian Church

6300 Trinity Drive

P.O. Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71613

...a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
through Synod of the Sun and
the Presbytery of Arkansas.

Directory

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Pastor:

Reverend Jai D. Kwak
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Secretary:

Justine Anton

Nursery Attendants:

Laura & Zac Cosner

Clerk of the Session:

Zac Cosner

Presbyterian Women Moderator:

Kay Cromwell

Session

Class of 2018

Kay Cromwell
Mike Kelley
Lynda Vick
Karen Perdue

Class of 2019

Zac Cosner
George Mosley
Brad VonTungeln
Logan Mosley

Standing Committee Moderators:

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Zac Cosner | Budget & Finance |
| Zac Cosner | Fellowship & Nurture |
| Kay Cromwell | Missions & Outreach |
| George Mosley | Building & Grounds |
| Logan Mosley | Education |
| Lynda Vick | Worship & Music |

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September issue of Central Scene is August 22, 2018. Please let us know if you would like to continue your subscription by emailing us at office@centralprespb.com.

All Through the Town

(Mark 11)

As Jesus rode the donkey through Jerusalem, people shouted, "Hosanna."

Help Jesus finish His ride through the city.



Lectionary Readings for August 2018

| 11th Sunday after Pentecost August 5 | 12th Sunday after Pentecost August 12 | 13th Sunday after Pentecost August 19 | 14th Sunday after Pentecost August 26 |
|---|--|--|--|
| 2 Samuel 11:26–12:13a | 2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33 | 1 Kings 2:10–12; 3:3–14 | 1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10–11) 22–30, 41–43 |
| Psalm 51:1–12 | Psalm 130 | Psalm 111 | Psalm 84 |
| Ephesians 4:1–16 | Ephesians 4:25–5:2 | Ephesians 5:15–20 | Ephesians 6:10–20 |
| John 6:24–35 | John 6:35, 41–51 | John 6:51–58 | John 6:56–69 |

Ephesians 5:15-20

15 Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, **16** making the most of the time, because the days are evil. **17** So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, **19** as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, **20** giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

August 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---|--------|--|
| | | | 1 Choir Practice 6:30 pm | 2 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30 | 3 | 4 Dinner at Village in Star City to celebrate Jai & Young. We will leave at 5:00pm. |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Choir Practice 6:30 pm | 9 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Fellowship Luncheon | 13 PW Circle 6:30 pm | 14 | 15 Choir Practice 6:30 pm | 16 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Session Meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 Choir Practice 6:30 pm | 23 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Choir Practice 6:30 pm | 30 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30 | 31 | |

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PLACE will be held at Second Presbyterian in Little Rock from 9am-1pm

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August 19th
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Sunday School 9:30 AM

Young Adults Sunday School 9:30 AM
(New class forming)

Choir Practice Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Noon Bible Study Thursdays

Evening Bible Study Thursdays at 6:30pm

Central Presbyterian Church

P.O Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71603

August Birthdays

*05 Kessler Perdue
06 Lawrence Fikes
13 Robert Brown
16 Mike Kelley
17 Ansley Howsen
18 Rick Pierce
20 Broc Detmers
24 Charlotte Perdue
24 Mary Kientz
28 Allison Mosley
29 Brynne Massey*

August Anniversaries

*01 Mr. and Mrs. James Hayes
09 Mr. and Mrs. Emil Brown
11 Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Judkins
15 Mr. and Mrs. George Mosley
17 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kelley*

*If you or a family member has been omitted or would like to be added to the
Birthday and Anniversary list, please contact the church office.*