



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Sunday, September 13, 2020
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Zac: God is merciful and gracious,

People: **Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Zac: God does not deal with us according to our sins,

People: **Nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

Zac: For as the heavens are high above the earth,

People: **So great is God's steadfast love toward those who revere God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." So we pray O God; yet we confess our lives show forth little mercy. We pass judgment on people who think and live differently than we do. Suspicion, jealousy, and quarrels infect our relationships and keep us from building communities where everyone feels welcome and known. Merciful God, again we ask your forgiveness. Teach us and guide us to extend to others what we have received so abundantly from you: gracious acceptance, saving help, and love that binds us together. In Jesus' name we pray. (Now Silently) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

Ephesians 4:17-32

¹⁷Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer live as the Gentiles live, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart. ¹⁹They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practise every kind of impurity. ²⁰That is not the way you learned Christ! ²¹For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus. ²²You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, ²³and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbours, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labour and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING:

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'
²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
²⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.
²¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.
³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'
³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.
³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Timothy Reeves

Read by RE Zac Cosner

Liberating the Imprisoned Soul

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You each are encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you love and pray.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

(We use debts and debtors)

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

****POSTLUDE**

Go forth into the world rejoicing. Love and serve the Lord.

Those who are able, please stand.

**** Please be seated and remain for the postlude if you can.**

Lay Reader: Zac Cosner

PRAYER CONCERNS

*Donna McCaleb
Bernice Lackey
Emil & Carol Brown
Karen Perdue
David Perdue
Nelson Buchanan
Andy Matlock
Adam Vick
Sydney Hayes*

*Brad VonTungeln
Hester Insley
Jemie Moseley
Lurline Elam
Denise Mosley
Mary Light
Dominik Munn
Suzy VonTungeln*

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>	
<i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>	<i>wife of former pastor, Dr. Dan Festa</i>	<i>Carol Taylor</i>	<i>friend of Denise Mosley</i>
<i>Scott McGeorge</i>	<i>friend of Lawrence Fikes</i>	<i>Franklin Ward</i>	<i>uncle of Dana Neal</i>
<i>Rebecca and Earl Phillips</i>	<i>friends of Karen and David Perdue</i>	<i>Ryker Cheek</i>	<i>nephew of Bubba VonTungeln</i>
<i>Max Zeng</i>	<i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>	<i>Jennifer Place</i>	<i>friend of Laura Cosner</i>
<i>Luis Sanchez</i>	<i>father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i>	<i>Clara Hammonds</i>	<i>Step-Grandmother of Bubba VonTungeln</i>
<i>Jorga Walker</i>	<i>wife of Donald Walker</i>	<i>Lydia Wright</i>	<i>Rev. Timothy Reeves & Jane Reeves' Granddaughter</i>
<i>Pat Mosley</i>	<i>Mother of George Mosley</i>	<i>Thomas Porter</i>	<i>father of Dana Neal</i>
<i>Linda Minyard</i>	<i>friend of the church</i>	<i>Kara & Kyle Taylor</i>	<i>friend of Dana Neal</i>
<i>Kathy Griffin</i>	<i>Sister of Pamela Riegler</i>	<i>Rob Button</i>	<i>friend of Zac Cosner</i>
<i>The Mills Family</i>	<i>Former Members of Central</i>		

***PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW
PRESBYTERIANS:***

Church Camp Ministries

Faith, Pine Bluff

First, Beebe

***OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN
AROUND THE WORLD***

Help us keep our prayer list up to date. If you have family or friends who need to be added or removed from the prayer concerns list, please let the Office know.

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, where we come together to celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others. This congregation opens wide its doors and hearts and welcomes all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Announcements

Archives of our Online Services can be found on Facebook and YouTube! Links to each are on our website, CentralPrespb.com

CPC now has online giving available! Check out our website www.centralprespb.com and look for the "Donate Now" Link. We take credit cards, debit cards and checks! You can also set up recurring donations (Weekly, Bi-Weekly or Monthly).

Pulpit Supply

Rev. Timothy Reeves

Secretary

Justine Anton

Sound Board Operator

Zac Cosner

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Session

Class of 2020

Laura Cosner

Denise Mosley

Suzy VonTungeln

Jemmie Moseley

Class of 2021

Zac Cosner (Clerk)

George Mosely

Brad VonTungeln

Danny Reeves

Standing Committee Moderators:

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

George Mosley & Danny Reeves

-Building & Grounds

Laura Cosner & Jemmie Moseley

-Worship & Music