



**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas**  
**Sunday, April 23, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

**GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUALS OF FRIENDSHIP**

**PRELUDE**

**Organ/Piano Young Ju Oh**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

George: We have been walking, Lord.

**All : on roads of uncertainty and fear, on roads of exhaustion and doubt,  
on winding roads that have led us here**

George: Join us on our journey, Lord.

**All : By your presence, refresh our spirits, set our hearts ablaze,  
and give us new direction!**

**\*OPENING HYMN # 14 For the Beauty of the Earth**

**1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.**

**Refrain: Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.**

**2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light, [refrain]**

**3 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and  
friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]**

**4 For yourself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given,  
agent of God's grand design: peace on earth and joy in heaven. [Refrain]**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**Rev. Jai Kwak**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

We live "gifted" lives, but we often fail to notice the goodness and grace that surrounds us. Let us come now to God in a time of confession.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving God, today we confess our lack of attention to all the goodness and grace that You lavish upon us. You offer us sunsets that we sometimes do not see; family and friends that we often take for granted; and the astonishing gift of salvation in Jesus Christ that we fail to mention often to others. Please forgive us, Lord, and create in us hearts filled with openness and thanksgiving for all Your good gifts. (Silent Prayer) Amen.

## **KYRIE ELEISON: "Lord, Have Mercy"**

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor: "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but that the world through Him might be saved.

**People: In Christ, we are saved! Amen!**

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

**"Glory Be to the Father"**

**Hymnal #581**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **ANTHEM**

### **HYMN OF PROMISE**

**Central Choir**

**In the bulb there is a flower; In the seed, an apple tree; In cocoons, a hidden promise:  
Butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter There's a spring that waits to be  
Unrevealed until its season, Something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, Seeking word and melody; There's a dawn in every darkness,  
Bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; What it holds, a mystery,  
Unrevealed until its season, Something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; In our time, infinity. In our doubt there is believing, In our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; At the last a victory, Unrevealed until tis season, Something God alone can see; Unrevealed until its season, something yet unknow which God alone can see.**

**CHILDRENS SERMON**

**Rose VonTungeln**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Jessica Munn**

**John 9:1–41 (ESV)**

**1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud 7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.**

**8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” 9 Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” 10 So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” 11 He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” 12 They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”**

**13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” 16 Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. 17 So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”**

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” 20 His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. 21 But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” 22 (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) 23 Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” 25 He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26 They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” 27 He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28 And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30 The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” 34 They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” 36 He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” 37 Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” 38 He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON**

***WAS BLIND, NOW I SEE***

**Rev. Jai D. Kwak**

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**HYMN**

**#649 Amazing Grace, vs. 1,3,4 &5**

**1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**3 Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**4 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**5 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease:  
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed)**

**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 on 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**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

## **OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow" Hymnal #606**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF 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 THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*CLOSING HYMN HYMN # 839 Blessed Assurance**

**1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**Refrain:**

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

**2 Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight.**

**Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*\*POSTLUDE**

**EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

*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.***

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

*Mosley Family  
Jemmie Moseley  
Karen Perdue*

*Emil & Carol Brown  
Hester Insley  
Munn Family*

**FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

| <u>Name</u>                                |                                   | <u>Name</u>                            |                                |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <i>Allie Cooper &amp;<br/>Carol Taylor</i> | <i>Friends of Denise Mosley</i>   | <i>Rebecca &amp;<br/>Earl Phillips</i> | <i>Friends of Karen Perdue</i> |
| <i>Max Zeng</i>                            | <i>Mike and Lan Kelly's son</i>   | <i>Dr. Laura Festa</i>                 | <i>Wife of Dr. Dan Festa</i>   |
| <i>Luis Sanchez</i>                        | <i>Father of Lizabeth Sanchez</i> | <i>Haley Chandler</i>                  | <i>Friend of the Church</i>    |
| <i>Bernice Collins</i>                     | <i>Friend of the Church</i>       | <i>Pat Mosley</i>                      | <i>Mother of George Mosley</i> |
| <i>Jason McGriff</i>                       | <i>Friend of Jessica Munn</i>     | <i>Harry Moore</i>                     | <i>Brother of Nina Reeves</i>  |

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:**

*Alpine Church, Amity*

*Church Groundskeepers*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR 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.

**Pastor**  
Rev. Jai D. Kwak

**Pianist/Organist**  
Young Ju Oh

**Treasurer**  
Rose VonTungeln

**Sound Board Operator**  
Zac Cosner

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### Session

#### Class of 2023

Laura Cosner

Jane Judkins

Denise Mosley

Suzy VonTungeln

#### Class of 2024

George Mosley  
(Clerk)

Zac Cosner

Pat Drewett

#### Standing Committee Moderators:

George Mosley - Building & Ground

Zac Cosner - Budget & Finance

Suzy VonTungeln - Fellowship & Education

Denise Mosley - Missions & Outreach

Laura Cosner - Worship & Music

## Announcements

From Tuesday, 4/25 to Monday, 5/1, Pastor Jai will participate in the CREDO pastor's conference, which is being hosted by the Board of Pension of the Presbyterian Church.

The upcoming Sunday sermon will be delivered by Rev. Elton Lewis.



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**" One thing I do know, that though I was  
blind, now I see!"**

John 9:25

