



Central Congregational United Church of Christ

STEWARDSHIP SEASON: LOVING

OCTOBER 25, 2026

Ministers / **All of Us**

Pastor / **Rev. Gage Church**

Worship Leader / **Gayle Hassler**

Music Director and Accompanist / **Linda Smith**

Song Leaders / **Gayle Hassler and Janice Ayers**

Music for Gathering

Opening Breath

*Congregational Hymn

"All Are Welcome"

Let us set a place for all to come and all can safely be,
a place to join at table, where all sit equally.

Come proud and rich and liar, all have a part to play.

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome here today.

Let us set a table for the poor, for slaves and hungry, too,
a place for sinners and for saints, a place for me and you.

Come all rebels, straight and trans; there is no fee to pay.

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome here today.

Continued on next page.

** indicates to rise in body or spirit.*

***Bold** indicates to speak or sing in unison.*

Let us set a table full of grace, for hurt and broken souls,
a place to be accepted, a place to be made whole,
a banquet for all races, all nations, genders, gay.
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome here today.

Call to Worship

In the early church, all ages worshipped together.
**All people prayed, served, shared, learned, and ate meals together
because they were a family — God's family.**
Families come in all shapes and sizes — even one person can be a family.
**We come together as a church family —
praying, serving, sharing, learning, and even sometimes eating.**
As we come together to praise God's name above anything else,
let us remember that we come as a family,
Needing to be guided, needing to be supported, needing to be loved.

Prayer of Unburdening

We are called to rejoice when others rejoice,
**but many times we celebrate only when it's our victory,
our promotion, our own gain.**
We are called to mourn when others mourn,
**but many times we are desensitized to the pain of others
or don't want it to ruin our day.**
We are called to love ourselves,
**but many times we despise who we see in the mirror
and even look to cause harm to ourselves and others.**
We are called to join God in doing justice,
but we too often are the unjust.
May we recognize our wrongs and seek forgiveness.
Forgive us, God. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

Passing the Peace

The Readings

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' instructions and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. A reverent fear overtook them all, for many wonders and signs were being performed by the apostles. Those who believed lived together, shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, sharing the proceeds with one another as each had need. They met in the Temple and they broke bread together in their homes every day. With joyful and sincere hearts they took their meals in common, praising God and winning the approval of all the people. Day by day, God added to their number those who were being saved.

*Excerpt from a 1956 sermon
by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

I still believe that love is the most durable power in the world. Over the centuries men have sought to discover the highest good. This has been the chief quest of ethical philosophy. This was one of the big questions of Greek philosophy. The Epicureans and the Stoics sought to answer it. ... I think I have discovered the highest good. It is love. This principle stands at the center of the cosmos. As John says, "God is love." He who loves is a participant in the being of God. He who hates does not know God.

Special Music

"What a Wonderful World"

Tim Sharp

Message

Rev. Gage Church



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***Congregational Hymn**

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road.
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Time of Silence & Pastoral Prayer

The Prayer of Jesus

Please pray any version you wish. Here is one version:

Our Creator, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your Kin-dom come, your 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 yours is the Kin-dom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Words About Love

Cindy Wilder-Towery

Offering

God is good! **All the time!**
All the time! **God is good!**
Let us share the goodness of our God.

We are “centralchurchtopeka” on Venmo.

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God for all that love has done!
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.

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***Prayer of Dedication**

O God, giver of good things, we are grateful for these gifts.
As we bring our gifts together, may you multiply them
to meet the needs of your family. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

"Peace I Leave With You, My Friends"

Refrain: Peace I leave with you, my friends,
shalom, my peace, in all you do.

Peace I leave with you, my friends.
I give to you so you can give to others, too.

To share God's love is why I came,
to show God's kindness without end.
Go now, my friends, and do the same,
until I come again.

Refrain

Take my hand and be at peace;
the spirit of our love I send.
And with this love you will be free,
until I come again.

Refrain

***Benediction**

***Music for Sending**

"Amen"



OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT:

**Neighbors
in Need**

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SAVE THE DATES

Adult Sunday School @ 9 a.m.

Meditation on Mondays @ 5 p.m.

Book Club on Thursdays @ 4 p.m.

Bell Choir Rehearsal on Sundays after worship

Topeka JUMP Community Problems Assembly / October 26 @ 6:30 p.m.

Trunk or Treat / October 31 @ 2-4 p.m.

All Saints Sunday Remembrance / November 1 in worship

Nature Therapy / November 1 @ 3 p.m.

Kansas-Oklahoma UCC Annual Meeting / November 6-7

Soup and Dessert Sale / November 7 @ 11 a.m.

Game Night / November 13 @ 6 p.m.

Church Council Meeting / November 15 after worship

Transgender Day of Remembrance Service / November 20 @ 7 p.m.

Heritage Sunday Potluck / November 22 after worship

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service / November 22 @ 6 p.m.

Game Night / December 11 @ 6 p.m.

Holiday Bake Sale / December 12 @ 9 a.m.

Christmas Cookie Exchange / December 20 after worship

Longest Night Service / December 21 @ tbd

Christmas Eve at Ward-Meade / December 24 @ 5 p.m.



THIS SATURDAY FROM 2 TO 4. COME JOIN THE FUN!

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