

## **Central Reformed Church Statement on Worship**

### **What's the purpose of worship?**

We worship God because we love him, and because the Bible tells us that God desires the praises of his people. Our primary focus, therefore, is to fellowship with God as a community. Together we bring to God our prayers and our praise, and together we learn more of his plan for the world and his will for our lives.

### **How do we worship at Central Reformed Church?**

Worship at Central Reformed Church draws on 2000 years of tradition and experience within the broader Christian church. Our goal is to blend the best of the rich traditions of the past with the best of contemporary expressions of worship using the gifts of God's people. Our desire is to seek authenticity in our worship regardless of worship style. In doing so, we hope to give each worshipper the means and the opportunity to exercise both mind and heart whenever we come together to know and adore God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

First and foremost, Reformed worship is characterized by the centrality of the Word of God, given to us in the Bible. This is why the sermon, a teaching from Scripture, has the premier place in our services.

Many other elements may be utilized in Central's worship. An example of these elements include music (both traditional and modern), corporate statements of faith such as the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, dramas, our confession of sin and the assurance of God's grace, prayer, the reading of the law and dramatic readings.

This does not mean, however, that every service has the same character or that every element identified above will be utilized.

### **Are we traditional or contemporary?**

The technical term for Central's worship style is "convergence worship". Worship that "converges" is worship in which a diversity of expression arrives at a common destination. As Christians, that destination is an encounter with God, who calls us into life and love of our neighbor as the Body of Christ.

We invite you to join us on this exciting journey as we come to know God and his great love for us.