

# Central Presbyterian Church

Hanley Road and Davis Drive

Rev. Theodore S. Smylie, D.D. - - - Minister

## Ninetieth Anniversary

APRIL 22nd, 1934

*"Our Father's God, from out Whose Hand,  
The centuries fall like grains of sand,  
We meet today united, free,  
To thank Thee for the era done,  
And trust Thee for the opening one."*

1844-1934



### Home Coming Service 11 A. M.

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Prelude, "Chorale in A-Minor".....	Cesar Franck
Processional No. 196, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"	
Doxology—Apostle's Creed—Invocation	
The Lord's Prayer	
Responsive Reading, Psalm 48	
Anthem, "Lord, We Pray in Mercy Lead Us" ("Finlandia").....	Sibelius
Hymn No. 529, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"	
Scripture Reading.....	Rev. Walter M. Langtry, D.D.
Pastoral Prayer.....	Rev. Theodore S. Smylie, D.D.
Choral Response, "Seven-fold Amen".....	Stainer
Offertoire Anthem, "Sanctus".....	Gounod
Sermon.....	Rev. Henry H. Sweets, D.D.
Recessional No. 346, "He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought"	
Benediction.....	Rev. Walter M. Langtry, D.D.
Postlude, "Anniversary March".....	Erb

## NINETY YEARS

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1844—when the United States had had a Constitution only fifty-six years, only forty years after Lewis and Clark started exploring the West, thirty-two years after the War of 1812, thirteen years after Missouri had been admitted to the Union as a State, thirteen years after the Baltimore and Ohio had put into operation its first steam engine, four years before gold was discovered in California, two years before the Declaration of War with Mexico, Texas was not yet a State, the National debt was less than sixteen million dollars, Davidson College was only seven years old, and St. Louis had a population of 34,140 people, (but no railroads, no concrete highways, no telephones, electric lights, water connections.)

1844—the year in which the Y. M. C. A. was organized in London, when Joseph Smith succeeded Brigham Young as head of the Mormon Church, when James K. Polk was elected the eleventh President of the United States, in which S. B. Morse invented the magnetic telegraph, Goodyear patented a process for vulcanizing India rubber, and the Second Presbyterian Church of Memphis, Tennessee, was organized. In this year, on the 19th of April, in a frame building on the southeast corner of 6th and St. Charles Streets, was born a new church with thirty-two charter members. This church, a daughter of the Second Presbyterian Church, was christened the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Saint Louis.

Who then dreamed of the changes ninety years would bring? Broad paved avenues, electric lights, steam railways, electric railways, automobiles, radios, X-rays, etc., and Saint Louis a metropolitan area of a million people. For the church itself, who could foresee: four buildings—one at 8th and Locust (1848-1873); one at Garrison and Lucas (1873-1906); a third at Delmar and Clara (1908-1929); the fourth on Hanley Road at Davis Drive (1931—); one merger, with the Clayton Presbyterian Church. (This church had been organized May 8, 1892, and for thirty years preceding the union with Central, had been served by Dr. Walter M. Langtry); ten Ministers: Rev. Alexander Van Court, Rev. S. J. P. Anderson, D.D., Rev. Robert Brank, D.D., Rev. Edward G. Mack, D.D., Rev. A. S. Carr, D.D., Rev. J. Layton Mauze, D.D., Rev. Donald McLeod, D.D., Rev. James L. Fowle, D.D., Rev. Walter M. Langtry, D. D., Pastor Emeritus, and Rev. Theodore S. Smylie, D.D.; and ten decades of faithful testimony and magnificent usefulness.

These years have enlisted the devotion of prominent men and families too numerous to mention: leaders in the past and present civic life of this great city, statesmen, financiers, lawyers, bankers, publishers, theologians, businessmen. Its membership, influenced by the times and three removals Westward, has fluctuated up and down. Never less than the original thirty-two, in 1922 it reached a total of 1106. Its strength for service is indicated by the contributions of a single year. During 1928, the congregation raised for all Causes \$59,685.88.

Throughout the Mexican War, the Civil War, the War with Spain, the great World War, through a dozen panics, through the Old School—New School theological controversy, though the divisions and animosities that arose in the wake of the Civil War, in good times and in bad, this church has ministered with unfaltering fidelity to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Its sons have heard the call of the Gospel ministry, its wealth has promoted Missionary activities around the world. Under its ministry the hungry have found the Bread of Life, the sinner has found forgiveness, the sad and lonely have discovered comfort, and the discouraged have found new hope.

1934—Central finds itself located in one of the most beautiful and promising sections of the city, with a plant distinguished for its beauty, and second to few, if any, in the excellence of its equipment, with 978 members on its rolls, its different branches of service well organized, and the future as radiant as the promises of the God who has blessed the church through the years. We thank God and take courage.

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## GREETINGS FROM FORMER PASTORS AND SONS OF THE CHURCH

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**Dr. Edward Mack:** "Your generous and patient congregation took me in my youthful ministry, practically in my boyhood, and did its loving best to make a man of me. I have always been thanking God for such a blessed fellowship in service."

**Dr. Donald McLeod,** "I shall earnestly pray that the anniversary services will be in every way worthy of Central's ninety years of devoted service, for the City of St. Louis, and denomination, and the Kingdom of God."

**Dr. James J. Fowle:** "The influence for good has been incalculable, and the scope of your work has been world-wide. Countless thousands have found surcease of sorrow, mitigation of heartache and blessed peace and quiet of soul in the Sanctuaries of God that you have erected to His glory."

**Rev. Rockwell Brank:** "We may all look forward with firm faith in the guidance of the church by the Spirit of God into greater and better work."

**Rev. Grayson L. Tucker:** "I am proud to be numbered among the 'sons' of the church and will always be grateful for the inspiration and fellowship that came to me from Central Church."

**Mr. Walter D. Langtry:** "When a church through almost a century does well the tasks which fall to it, it is worthy of praise. And to the best of my knowledge, Central Church has done that."

**Mr. Louis D. Phile:** "I am very proud of being one of the many 'sons' of a church with such a distinguished record in the service of her Lord, Jesus Christ."

# Pan-Presbyterian Vesper

## 5 P. M.

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Prelude, "Passacaglia in C Minor".....	Bach
Precessional No. 88, "Holy! Holy! Holy!"	
Invocation	
Anthem, "The One Hundred and Fiftieth Psalm".....	Cesar Franck
Hymn No. 531, "The Church's One Foundation"	
Scripture Reading.....	Rev. John W. McIvor, D.D.
Prayer.....	Rev. William Crowe, D.D.
Choral Response, "Seven-fold Amen".....	Stainer
Welcome to our Guests.....	Rev. Theodore S. Smylie, D.D.
Offertoire, "Great is Jehovah the Lord".....	Schubert-Spicker
Anthem (The Choirs), "Divine Praise".....	Bortniansky
Sermon.....	Rev. Henry H. Sweets, D.D.
Recessional No. 483, "Onward Christian Soldiers"	
Benediction.....	Rev. C. M. Laing, D.D.
Postlude, "Pomp and Circumstance".....	Elgar

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## Announcements

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**WELCOME.** On our ninetieth anniversary, we welcome to our pulpit our distinguished guest, Dr. Henry H. Sweets, Secretary of Christian Education and Ministerial Relief of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., Dr. William Crowe, of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., Dr. John McIvor, of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., and Dr. C. M. Laing, of the United Presbyterian Church. We welcome back home the former members of this great old church, who have found it possible to attend these services. We welcome the Pastors, official representatives, and other members of the three branches of the great Presbyterian family of St. Louis: the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., the Presbyterian Church, U. S., and the United Presbyterian Church.

**PETERS MEMORIAL CHOIR.** Mr. Ray Howard Collins, President, and the delightful members of the Peters' Memorial Presbyterian Choir cement the relationship between these two churches more closely by graciously uniting with our own Choir for the music of the Vesper Service. We appreciate this courtesy beyond measure. We appreciate also the willingness of Mrs. Katherine Cowan to add to our Vesper the loveliness of her singing. We thank Mrs. Doyne Neale, director; our trio, Miss Mildred Adams, contralto; Mr. Waller Hornaday, tenor, Mr. Frank Ingalls, basso, and our chorus choir.