

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday in Easter

May 7, 2017

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"Moments fade as time packs them away and starts new ones on the go."

— Erik Lee Skjon from his song "Caught in a Moment"

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chanson Religieuse

Gordon Young

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Acts 2:42-47

L: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together
with glad and generous hearts.

P: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

L: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

**P: Let us give what we can to all who have needs
so that all people, no matter who they are,
may regard us with good will.**

L: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

P: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

*HYMN #246

"Christ is Alive!"

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Psalm 23:1, 3

L: Friends, God is our shepherd; there is no need to fear.
With that assurance, let us offer our confession
so that God may restore our souls.

Protecting God,

we confess that we have strayed from proper paths;
we have willingly entered dark valleys;
we have entrusted our care to false shepherds.

We are grateful today that you welcome us back to your fold,
and have laid out a feast for us.

And if we should stray again,
thank you for your faithful love which will pursue us
all the days of our lives.

(time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

based on John 10:1-0

L: Friends, Jesus, our Good Shepherd,

assures us that he will never abandon us, but will seek us out
even when we go astray.

It is with that knowledge that we can know that we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God!

L: And as Christ's disciples, members of his flock,
let us prove that we are made new by exchanging
signs of reconciliation and friendship.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you!

*GLORIA PATRI #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.*

PARISH LIFE & CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Word Is Proclaimed

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

based on Acts 2:42; John 10:4

Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit will strengthen us to be devoted
to the teachings of your Word, that through it we may hear your voice and
follow it into eternal life. Amen.

WORD FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

BLESSING

based on 1 John 4:4, 7

Little children, you are from God...

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

*(Infants and small children are dismissed to the care of the nursery staff.
Older children are invited to remain and worship.)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 23

(Common English Bible translation, alt.)
right side reads **bold**; left side reads *italics*

The LORD is our shepherd.

We lack nothing.

God lets us rest in grassy meadows;

God leads us to restful waters;

God keeps us alive.

God guides us in proper paths

for the sake of God's good name.

Even when we walk through the darkest valley,

we fear no danger because you are with us.

Your rod and your staff—

they protect us.

You set a table for us

right in front of our enemies.

You bathe our heads in oil;

our cups are so full they spill over!

Yes, goodness and faithful love

will pursue us all the days of our lives,

and we will live in the LORD's house as long as we live.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 2:42-47

(NT p.)

L: The word of the Lord. P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Really Great Day

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #316

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

& THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read **bold**)

based on Acts 2:42-45; Psalm 23

[A time of silence follows each petition.]

Shepherding God,
in a dangerous world,
let us hear your voice and
come and go through your gate.

We pray for the whole church,
that we may be devoted to your Word
and to universal fellowship,
being generous to all who have need.

We pray for the earth,
for green pastures and still waters,
that we may restore them to
the goodness and purity that they had
at the time that you created them.

We pray for the people of the world,
their nations, and leaders,
that your wisdom and peace may govern all,
so that no one will fear.

We pray for all those in need,
for those in want,
those ill and those dying,
that we may be the banquet that you set before them
as we anoint them, feed them, and comfort them in your name.

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.
May no one live in fear; may all dwell in your presence.

We pray for all those people and situations we now name aloud.
[Here you may say aloud your prayers of petition and concern.]

Here us, O God, as we pray that prayer that our Good Shepherd taught:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether Harold Friedell
Anthem text taken from Hymn #529

*DOXOLOGY #609 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures



high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise



God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it



one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (*unison*) based on Psalm 23

Holy and generous God, you have anointed us and we are yours.
Bless these tithes and offerings that they may become green pastures
and still waters for any and all who need your comfort and restoration.
Amen.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: The God of early mornings be with you.

P: and also with you.

L: People of the first day, lift up your hearts!

**P: We lift them to the One
who makes every day Easter.**

L: People of Easter joy, give thanks
to the One who is your salvation.

**P: We offer our hallelujahs
to the God of steadfast love.**

L: We lift our praise to you, Gardener of Creation.
On the first day, your Light split the shadows of chaos,
and all goodness flowed forth.
Gently and tenderly, you gathered up the dust of the earth
and shaped us into your image.
But the day came when we chose to run away from you,
preferring our petty schemes to your dreams for us.
You sang to us through the prophets,
hoping we would join you in the heavenly chorus.
But we kept silent, believing our wisdom was far superior to your love.
And when we dug our heels in through blind stubbornness,
refusing to follow you, you became one of us
that you might lead us back to you.
Therefore we join our glad songs of Easter
with those in every time and in every place,
who sing to you their praise:

**P: Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ, our Lord, is risen!**

**L: You alone are holy, Steadfast God,
and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.
God's true Light, he wandered the shadows of hell to bring us out;
God's own Beloved, he endured our brokenness to heal us forever;
God's own Glory, he went into the grave,
that we might enter the gates of righteousness.
As we remember you raising him from the dead and giving us life,
we proclaim our faith:**

**P: Sin is conquered!
Death is defeated!
Christ is risen!
Alleluia!**

**L: Here at this Table
we are nourished by your steadfast love, Resurrecting God.
As you pour out your Spirit upon the bread and the cup,
fill us with the grace of Jesus.
As we have been raised to new life,
may we reach out to those who have fallen.
As we have been fed,
may we fill the hunger of the world;
As we have seen the empty tomb,
may we bear witness to the presence of the Risen Lord in our lives.

Then, when we are united with all the saints,
may we gather around your Table,
one people, lifting our voices in praise to you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Christ is host of this table. Everyone, without exception, is welcome. We will receive the Lord's Supper by coming forward and dipping a piece of bread into the cup. Please eat as you are served.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Christ Our Passover

Everett Titcomb

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of sincerity and truth.

Alleluia!

– adapted from the Proper Plainchant Communion for Easter Day

We Bear God's Word Into the World

*HYMN #738

“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: Let all God's people say, P: Alleluia, Amen!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Recessional

Gordon Young

Assisting in worship and hospitality today are:

Claire Armbruster & Jeff Koontz – *greeters and refreshments*

Eric Near – *liturgist*

Michael Arwood and Justin Near – *offering counters*

And next week:

– *greeters and refreshments*

– *liturgist*

Tom Byl and Chuck Cardona – *offering counters*



**Miss
MARTHA's
ICE CREAM
CRANKIN'
& SUMMER Social**

You're Invited!

Enjoy all the homemade ice cream you can eat!
Music! Games! Big Shade Trees! Support MOB!

Sunday, June 11, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
on the lawn at First Presbyterian Church
4815 Franklin Road, Nashville (rain or shine)
FREE PARKING

Buy your tickets Sunday mornings at DPC
\$10/adults, \$8/children 2-12, kids under 2 are FREE!
Tickets will be available onsite at the event (cash or checks) and online:
<http://www.marthaobryan.org/news/ice-cream-crankin/>
All proceeds benefit the Martha O'Bryan Center!

If you can't attend, please support this important benefit by purchasing tickets for friends or family members or surprise someone you don't know during worship at DPC with a gift!

Free parking is available at designated spaces at Franklin Road Academy, John Overton High School and Judson Baptist Church, with frequent complimentary shuttle service available.

Ice Cream Crankers - If you want to make and serve your ice cream at the event, you can sign up at the church on Sunday mornings or contact Jack Henderson

If you want to compete, the contest, rules and entry information will also be available on Sunday mornings or at:
<http://www.marthaobryan.org/news/ice-cream-crankin/forms>

Parking

Parking for Sunday worship is in the Premier lot at **147 4th Ave. N.**

You must come down 4th from Church Street. Parking in this lot is complimentary from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parking vouchers are necessary to exit the lot without having to pay. To get one, just ask one of our greeters.

Our Ministries Last Week

Saturday Breakfast Ministry

130 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on April 1

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:64, Children:6

Tuesday Noon Bible Study

5 people gathered for lunch, fellowship, and Bible Study.

Wednesday Lunch Ministry

226 people enjoyed lunch in a warm and friendly environment.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Assistance

13 people received assistance from the pastor's discretionary fund this week.

Visitors and Tourists

8 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Monday, May 8

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 1

Tuesday, May 9

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 1

6:30 Book Club – home of Joel Dark

Wednesday, May 10

Noon Lunch served to Nashville's homeless and urban poor

Thursday, May 11

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 1

Friday, May 12

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 1

Saturday, May 13

8:30 Breakfast served to Nashville's homeless and urban poor

6:00 Art Crawl w/Nashville Citizens' Orchestra concert

Sunday, May 14

9:00 Morning Brew
– Morning Brew Lounge

9:00 JuveNiles Rehearsal

9:45 Christian Education – all ages

9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal

11:00 Worship – the Sanctuary

Children and Worship

The presence of children in worship is a gift to our church. We welcome them, wiggles and all. Families are encouraged to sit together in worship, at least through the children's message. After that, parents may take younger children (5 and under) to our nursery, staffed by loving caregivers. A greeter can direct you to the nursery. For faith development, we value older children (over 5) experiencing the entire worship service. To help, children's bulletins and activities to keep little hands occupied can be found outside in the narthex.

Join us every Sunday...

after worship at the coffee pot in the narthex for interesting conversation and light refreshments. A good way to meet the pastor and make new friends at DPC.

First Sunday Lunch Meet-up

Join us today, right after worship, at the Nashville Farmers' Market for our Sunday lunch meet-up. Get some food from one of the fantastic vendors, then look for friendly faces in the dining area.

Nashville Farmers' Market is at 900 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.



Wired Word



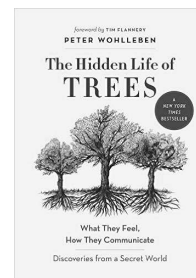
This month our adult education group will be using The Wired Word, a curriculum that takes current events and relates them to relevant Scripture.

The conversation begins at 9:45 in Parlor 2.

The stories and passages are available in advance, but you must be on the distribution list. To receive the weekly lesson, contact Denny Harris: glenden5129@comcast.net

DPC Book Group

The DPC book group will have its next meeting on Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 at the home of Cary Gibson and Joel Dark. We will be discussing the *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. Please feel free to contact Joel (joelhdark@gmail.com) for more information.



Family Outing

Join us for a family outing on Saturday, May 20 at Beaman Park in Ashland City. We'll gather at 9:00 a.m. for a morning of hiking the nature trails – there are many to choose from!

The address is 5911 Old Hickory Blvd., Ashland City, 37015. Meet in the parking lot of the nature center.

Our Mission

Gathering in the heart of Nashville, we are a community of disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek the welfare of the city as we seek the kingdom of God. We are an historic church working to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation. Together we actively share God's grace and love through worship, education and service, and through being an active voice in promoting justice and peace in our community and the world.

Our Values and Ethos

We believe that every person is a beloved child of God.

Our welcome extends to everyone, whatever your economic circumstances, your faith background, your racial or ethnic identity, your sexual orientation or gender identity, or your political affiliations.

As a diverse community we seek to intentionally embody God's radically inclusive and transformative love for everyone. With love and grace, we are called as a community to grow together as a voice for justice and peace – each as we are, with our unique human stories of joy and struggle.

SESSION 2017

Rev. Mike Wilson, Moderator

Betsy Bahn, Clerk

Jeff Koontz, Treasurer

Class of 2017

Tom Byl
Michael Arwood
Ridley Wills II
Claire Armbruster

Class of 2018

Cary Gibson
Michael Korak

Class of 2019

Chuck Cardona
Jack Henderson
Justin Near

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mike Wilson, Pastor
Reginald Hughes, Office Manager
Suzie Lane, Children's Education Director

Paulino Jarquin, Facilities Manager
Dr. William Taylor, Organist/Choir Director

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
154 5TH AVE North, NASHVILLE, TN 37219
(615) 254-7584; FAX (615) 254-4741
Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

Check us out at: www.dpchurch.com
or scan this QR code

