

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 2017

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Happiness ain't prison but there's freedom in a broken heart.

- Miranda Lambert in her song "Runnin' Just in Case"

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude on *Land of Rest*

George Shearing

Melody taken from Hymn 796

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on hymn #267

L: Come, Christians, join to sing!

P: Loud praises to Christ our king!

L: Come, lift your hearts on high!

P: Let praises fill the sky!

L: Let us sing for evermore!

P: Alleluia! Amen!

*HYMN #267

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Philippians 1:27

Because we do not always live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, we offer our confession before God and one another. Let us turn toward God's grace and mercy....

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on Exodus 16:2-15

It seems we cannot decide, Cloud of Glory.
We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs.
We claim to live in a way that honors Christ,
but we do not take him to work, school, home.
We believe that the gospel can transform lives
(at least, for those who need it.)

Forgive us, Presence of Peace.
Instead of grumblers,
may we be ambassadors of grace.
Instead of continual complaining,
may we carry compassion to the hurting.
Instead of whiners,
may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.

(time for silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE**

L: This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kingdom.
God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life.
God has kept the covenant.
We have been forgiven, we have been made new people.
P: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!**
L: Now, as people restored and full of new life,
let us reaffirm the covenant we have with each other,
sharing signs of reconciliation and affection.
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 Psalm 119:34; Matthew 18:20

Awaken our hearts and minds to your Word, O God.
Give us understanding so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we are able to do all that you desire for love's sake
Gathered in Christ's name, gathered around the Word, we pray.
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 Exodus 16:2-15 (OT p. 62)

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING Philippians 1:21-30 (NT p.196)

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

SERMON A Manner Worthy Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
& THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read bold)

based on Psalm 145:8; Jonah 4:2; Matthew 20:3-16; Phil. 1:29

God of unending mercy and steadfast love,
we are grateful that you are slow to anger,
for there is much in this world that is wrong
and set against your purposes.

Overcome our many injustices with your justice;
overtake our lust for revenge with your great mercy.
We pray for nations locked in enmity to be set free from old patterns
and to embrace a new way of relating.
We pray for people who wield economic power
to take notice of those whom you notice
and to have compassion for those who are vulnerable.
We pray for day laborers and the unemployed and the homeless.
Inspire us who have enough to share what we have,
not in measured and resentful amounts, but gladly, abundantly,
so basic needs do not go unattended.
Gather up the first and the last, the least and the greatest,
in the common work of your kingdom,
until there is no more first or last at all, for all are one in your name.

We pray now aloud or in silence for those particular people or circumstances
who are in need of your justice, healing, provision and revision.
[Here you may say aloud your prayers of petition and concern.]

Help us all to see not only your grace at work in the world,
but also your humor at work among us,
the holy laughter that heals us and helps us see ourselves rightly.
We thank you for the privilege of believing in Christ,
of living in Christ, and of living for Christ.
In all things, at all times, we give thanks to you, who never lets us go;
through Jesus Christ our Savior, you urged us to pray ...

**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

Steal Away

African American Spiritual

Arr. Nicholas White

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thunder;
The trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a-trembling;
The trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

*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 hymn #769

May we offer our gifts, not with grumbling under our breath about what you might do with them, but with thanks that you will use them to bring healing, hope, grace, and peace to all whose lives are empty of such needs. In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

**We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts
And Bear It Into the World**

*HYMN # 321 "The Church's One Foundation"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Three Liturgical Preludes for Organ: III. Chorale Gordan Young

Join us 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!

Children's Sabbath Donations

DPC is collecting the following items for Safe Haven Family Shelter as a way to address the needs of children in our area. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW**. Items will be collected in worship on October 1. Questions? Contact Suzie at suzielane0@gmail.com.

Crayola paint brush sets
Crayola Washable Kids Paints
Lego sets
Duplo sets
Mr./Mrs. Potato Head
Play-Doh
Baby wipes, unscented

Handbell Update

We are almost there! We have just under \$500 left to go!

A super-huge thanks to all of you and all of your friends who made a donation towards the purchasing of handbells for DPC!

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you donated via mobile or check and did not designate handbells specifically, please contact the church office at [615-254-7584](tel:615-254-7584) to make sure that your money goes to the right place.

A single handbell ranges from \$215-375 if you're interested in "sponsoring" a bell. Better yet, would you like a handbell piece written in your honor or dedicated to a loved one? \$500 or more will get you just that - a brand new handbell composition written by DPC composer-in-residence, Eric Near, with your name on it.

Calling for DPC Liturgists

From September 2017, each Sunday worship will be led by 3 liturgists. In preparation, we are creating 3 new liturgy teams. Pastor Mike will work with the teams to develop your specific gifts & skills. Whether you're a seasoned DPC liturgist or want to join this important ministry, here's a quick guide to the 3 liturgy teams & their distinctive liturgical gifts & responsibilities.



1. Dialogical

Opening our worship, the dialogical team is ideal for liturgists who can look the congregation in the eye & "go big" with confidence, authority & enthusiasm.

Responsibilities: Call to worship; invitation to & prayers of confession; assurances of pardon.

2. Scripture



With clear diction, a strong voice & a flair for the dramatic, much like an actor, scripture readers spend time with a passage & prepare it for oral presentation much like a script. A scripture might be in the form of a story, a letter or a poem & each demands a different style of performance.

Responsibilities: Read first scripture lesson & help the lead other dialogical elements

3. Prayers



Good prayer leaders infuse their words with nuanced emotions, tone & pace- each prayer can include petitions of concern, sorrow, plea, celebration, contrition, thanksgiving, demand & more. These liturgists create a calm, confident space for the congregation to pray aloud or in silence.

Responsibilities: Prayers of the people & other occasional prayers

To join a team: add your name to the sign up sheet in the narthex or email Pastor Mike mikewilson@dpchurch.com. You can also contact Pastor Mike if you want to discuss which team you feel called to serve.

DPC Book Group



The DPC book group will have its next meeting on Tuesday, October 10 at the home of Jim and Faye Dickson. We will be discussing *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* by Jill Lepore.

Please contact Joel (joelhdark@gmail.com) for more information.

Electronic Giving!

Want an easy way to donate to DPC? Just text "dpchurch offering" to **73256**. You'll get a link to a secure site that will scan your credit card info. You can even choose what special DPC fund you want to give to. It only takes about a minute!

Clothes Closet Help!

We maintain a clothes closet to help our homeless and urban poor guests on Saturday morning. We are in need of many items, including:

- Men's and Women's long sleeve shirts: all sizes
- Men's and Women's sweatshirts: all sizes (hoods preferred)
- Men's and Women's jeans – all sizes
- Men's and Women's underwear—MUST BE NEW
- Socks for men and women—MUST BE NEW
- Sample Size Toiletries
- WINTER COATS
- Gloves, hats, and scarves

Perhaps you have some things you haven't worn in a while and can donate. Or maybe you can pick up a few extra items at Target or the drugstore. And remember, your clothing dollars can go a long way at one of Nashville's several Goodwill locations!

Volunteers Needed for Saturday Breakfast

Every Saturday morning DPC opens its doors to Nashville's homeless and urban poor community to provide hot, nutritious meals in a warm, inviting space.

Starting this month, Otter Creek will start sending volunteers for the Third Saturday breakfast that was previously run by the DPC Community. Volunteers from DPC are welcome EVERY Saturday, but are greatly needed for the 5th Saturdays in September and December. We also want to enlarge our pool of experienced DPC hosts for those Saturdays when other churches and organizations are sending volunteers.

Go here to sign up for any Saturday and to see who else is coming: <https://goo.gl/yQi9wA>

Or use this QR code:



We provide complimentary parking for all volunteers.

If you can volunteer please respond to dpcbreakfast@gmail.com.

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

145 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on September 9.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:83, Children:12

Community Assistance Fund

26 people received assistance from the Community Assistance Fund this week.

Visitors and Tourists

72 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Monday, September 28

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, September 29

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Wednesday, September 30

Thursday, October 1

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, October 2

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, October 3

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

Sunday, October 4

9:00 Juveniles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:45 Christian Education – all ages

11:00 Worship – the Sanctuary

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
Dena Swoner, Office Manager
Suzie Lane, Director of Children's Education

Paulino Jarquin, Facilities Manager
Dr. William Taylor, Director of Music

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

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

