

CALL TO CONFESSION

God invites us to speak the truth about ourselves to our neighbors and to God, acknowledging what we have done and what we have left undone.

Let us offer our confession, saying ...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on 1 Thessalonians 2:5-6

God of good news,
we do not live as those worthy to be entrusted
with the gospel of your grace;
we relate to others callously
as though we do not trust that gospel ourselves;
we seek to please and manipulate,
using flattery to gain praise and distinction;
we use condescension as a mask
to cover insecurity or a need for power.
Our motives are mixed, impure.
Lord, reassure us and make us new,
in Jesus's name. Amen.

(time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

L: Nothing will deter God from sharing this good news with us:
we are heard, we are forgiven,
we are offered new lives of service and faith.

P: Thanks be to God,
who offers justice not judgment;
who shares grace with us
and does not hold grudges against us.
We are forgiven!

L: Let us celebrate our restoration and renewal
sharing 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)

Come, Holy Spirit, in the Word of God, as the breath of life, amidst your people gathered here, into our hearts and minds.
Stir us to know the happiness of life in your blessings. 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 Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 (OT p.106)

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (NT p.203)

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

SERMON

Three Points, No Poem

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #722

"Lord, Speak for Me That I May Speak"

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

Spirit, Christ and Creator,
we begin today close to our hearts and minds,
offering prayers and petitions for those who need
reformation, healing, comfort and justice.
[Here you may say aloud you individual prayers and petitions.]

Always reforming God,
we garble your Word;
we distort your creation;
we twist ourselves out of shape
conforming to values and attitudes
that betray our citizenship in your kingdom.

And yet you continue to reshape us.
You melt us down and skim off the dross.
You remold us like a pot on a wheel.
We are challenged in the wilderness
and refreshed by still waters in green pastures.
We are made new in baptism and nourished at the table.

You have held us accountable, offered us guidance,
revealed your truth, challenged our assumptions,
offered us salvation, shown your love, told your story,
and, sometimes, confused us mightily through
your Word written, your Word made flesh,
prophets, apostles, saints, theologians, preachers,
teachers, hymn and song writers, prayer partners,
parents and grandparents, partners in mission and those we serve,
the deacon with a casserole,
the person today who said, "Peace be with you."
Oh, if only we could count the people through whom you speak, O God.
And we are shaped - we are reformed - by every encounter.

May our hearts and minds be alert for bold shoves or gentle nudges.
May our eyes be open to unmistakable signs and subtle clues.
May our ears be attentive to loud shouts and barely audible whispers.
And may we be willing to go where we are pointed, pushed and called,
whether it is to a new place, a new vision, a new responsibility,
a new idea, a new beginning.

And hear us now as we say these words that describe
and call into being your grand reformation:

**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

A Mighty Fortress

Gordon Young

The congregation is invited to stand and sing on the third verse.

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He.
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same;
and He must win the battle.

**His Word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever!**

— Martin Luther, 1529; trans. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1852

*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*)

Generous and life-giving God, you made your people in your image,
sent your Son to be the face of your healing love in our midst,
and promised through the Holy Spirit your guidance and power.
We thank you for the ways in which your people have cared for each of us.
We thank you for the ability to give for the sake of others.
We ask your blessing on these offerings that through them the needs of
this world can be met. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

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

*HYMN #610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

CHARGE AND BLESSING

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Tocatta in D minor, BWV 565* J.S. Bach

Note about the Offertory Anthem

Today, October 29, is Reformation Sunday. This year Protestants celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. The theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation – a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone. Today's anthem was selected in honor of Martin Luther who composed the text and tune in 1529, some dozen years following the posting of the 95 Theses.

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!

Cauldron Cook-off



Today is our annual competition for soups, stews, chilis, desserts and carved pumpkins! The event is in the Fellowship Hall, immediately following worship. Entry for competition is not required.

Categories for which prizes will be awarded are Traditional Chili, Non-traditional Chili, and Vegetarian Chili, with a separate category for Soups & Stews. There is also a prize for Best Dessert AND Best Carved Pumpkin.

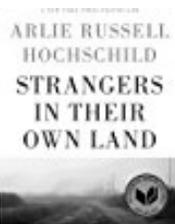
Handbell Choir

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who are eager to begin our DPC handbell choir. It is not too late to sign up!

Please see William Taylor, our director of music, if you wish to join. Our first rehearsal is today, October 29, at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



DPC Book Group



The DPC book group will have its next meeting on Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the club room of the Viridian Condos two doors down from the church. We will be discussing *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Russell Hochschild.

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

All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 5 we will be decorating our prayer station in the Sanctuary to honor those who have gone before us.

You are invited to bring photographs (unframed) and/or flowers to add to the station in an act of remembrance and celebration of your loved ones.

Liturgist Training

For two months now you've seen and heard announcements about our anticipated move to using as many as three liturgists in our Sunday worship, each one specifically trained as a dialogical, scriptural or prayer leader. The training sessions for each of the three areas will happen after worship on the following Sundays:

- November 5 - Dialogical
- November 26 - Scriptural
- December 3 - Prayer

Even if you haven't already signed up to be a part of the liturgical team, you can still sign up in the narthex or simply attend one or more of the sessions.

New Member Inquirer Sessions

If you're interested in becoming a member of DPC or just learning more about the church or being Presbyterian, Pastor Mike will be holding sessions on the following Sundays:

- November 5
- November 19
- November 26



Ideally inquirers will attend the first three Sundays with the fourth as a make-up day, if necessary.

This is a great opportunity to explore membership, meet new people and hang out with Mike. And attending the sessions in no way obligates you to actually join the church.

We'll meet at 9:45 in the Morning Brew Lounge (the comfy room by the parking lot door). Coffee and snacks will be provided! So Mike knows how much new member material to order, please let him know you're coming at: mikewilson@dpchurch.com

DPC Financial Update

Our financial status through September 30th (Q3) has needed some help. Pledges are behind for the year by \$14,425. A Giving Statement will be mailed soon and will show your amount given through September.

The Session approved a budget amendment to increase the draw from the Corporation from \$92,000 to \$127,000 to help cover operating expenses. An additional \$35,000 draw from the Plant Fund was used for the final payment of the new sound system. Committee expenses are all within their budgets or as approved. Please see Jeff Koontz with any questions or for more details.

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!

Thanks for supporting the ministries of Downtown Presbyterian Church!

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.

Otter Creek is 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 Saturday in 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>

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

151 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on October 21.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults: 73, Children: 8

Visitors and Tourists

126 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Sunday, October 29

- 12:00 Cauldron Cookoff
4:00 Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, October 30

- 11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, October 31

- 11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2
12:00 Bible Study – Parlor 1

Wednesday, November 1

Thursday, November 2

- 11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, November 3

- 11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, November 4

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

Sunday, November 5

- 9:30 Juveniles Rehearsal
9:45 New Members Class –
Morning Brew Lounge
9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:45 Christian Education – all ages
11:00 Worship – the Sanctuary
12:00 Liturgist Training—Dialogical
4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal

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

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Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

Check us out at: www.dpchurch.com
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