

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 26, 2017

Hearing assistance devices are available.
Please ask a greeter for a receiver.

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"God without you won't; you without God can't."

– Desmond Tutu

OPENING VOLUNTARY

René Frank

Chorale Preludes on *Crusaders' Hymn and Coronation*

Tunes taken from Hymns #630 and #263

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our lives scattered on the floor of the world,
our limits pushed by stress and impatience,
we come:

P: **For here, God would gather us,
bringing us to the realm of peace.**

L: Wondering if truth is fake or worth pursuing,
questioning whether anyone is worth following or believing,
we come:

P: **For here, God would feed us with wisdom,
sending the One who would lead us to the realm of hope.**

L: Questioning the motives of everyone in power,
doubting that justice can be found anywhere,
we come:

P: **For here, God brings us to worship with our sisters and brothers,
scooping us up from every place we have strayed.**

*HYMN #673

“Jesus, Light of Joy”

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Ephesians 1:18

The Apostle Paul prayed that the eyes of our hearts would have enough light to see what the hope of God’s call is. Confession offers an opportunity to see the world and our lives with bright clarity and embrace God’s hope. Let us pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O Christ,
We participate in a world of dominance, scarcity,
 competition and hierarchy.
We measure and compare.
We elevate some and diminish others.
And we create structures that reflect those realities -
 in our institutions, in our relationships,
 in our homes, and even in our churches.
Yet you call us all into a different reality,
 a realm of equality and justice and abundance;
 relationships of trust and generosity.
Help us to enter into your reign of the common good,
 in which all that matters is that we - like you -
 reflect the image of God.
Amen.

(time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The magnificent scandal of grace is that it is poured out on everyone.
So right now we are all citizens of the kingdom of heaven.

P: Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

L: Now let us recognize in each other our divine image by 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)

based on Ephesians 1:17-18

Revealing God, open your Word. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that our eyes may be enlightened and we may know the hope to which we have been called; through Jesus Christ 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 1 Samuel 8:10-21 (OT p.251)

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING Ephesians 1:15-23 (NT p.192)

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

SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #821

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

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

Through Jesus Christ,
God has shown us that real strength is in compassion
for the least, the lost, and the lonely.
So, we pray, saying,
Compassionate God, receive our prayer.

We live in a world of plenty
in which the poor struggle for daily bread.

We pray for those who lack the basic necessities of life
and those who willingly share the resources you have given.
Correct those who hoard resources
out of anxiety, ignorance, or selfishness.
Open their eyes to your presence among the poor of the world
and free them for joyful giving.

For the poor, the benevolent, and the hard-of-heart,
Compassionate Lord, receive our prayer.

God, you admonish us to offer hospitality to the stranger
and to welcome the weary.

We pray for travelers,
for those who emigrate to new lands,
for refugees of political and religious wars,
and for those who have no place to call home.
Bless those who offer refuge to the wayfaring stranger.
Convict the conscience and open the heart
of any who would raise walls of self-preservation and isolation.

For the stranger, for those who minister to them,
and for those who would refuse them,
Compassionate Lord, receive our prayer.

God, you hear the cry of all who are in distress.
Heal those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit,
including those we name aloud.

[Here you may say aloud your individual prayer for healing and wholeness.]

Comfort them in their need and help those who care for them.
We also pray for those who abandon the sick and suffering out of fear.
Teach us to serve our sisters and brothers
and to share the burden of disease of body, mind, and heart.

For the sick and those in distress, for those who care for them
and those who are afraid to offer fellowship to them
Compassionate Lord, **receive our prayer.**

God, Jesus our Lord was a prisoner of Rome before his execution,
and he instructed his disciples to visit those in prison.

We pray for those who are incarcerated:
for those who are guilty of crime
and for those who are unjustly imprisoned.
Save the lost, reprove the arrogant, liberate the captive,
and let your disciples be a sign of your forgiving, liberating love.
We also pray for those who work in prisons,
that they may respect the humanity
of the women and men they guard and not be overwhelmed
by the moral dangers of their employment.

For prisoners, for those who minister to them,
and for those who guard them,
Compassionate Lord, receive our prayer.

And hear us now as we call into being your realm, saying ...

**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

King of Glory, King of Peace

Harold W. Friedell

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee;
 And that love may never cease, I will move Thee.
 Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me;
 Thou didst note my working breast, Thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee,
 And the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.
 Though my sins against me cried, Thou alone didst clear me;
 And alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee;
 In my heart, though not in Heaven, I can raise Thee.
 Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll Thee:
 E'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.

– George Herbert

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*)

Our efforts to provide for ourselves and our families have yielded as surplus that which we return to you, generous God. May those entrusted with this offering's distribution do so faithfully and in ways that make visible your realm and give honor to Christ. Amen.

We Bear God's Word Into the World

*HYMN #757 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postlude on *Diademata*
Tune taken from Hymn #268

Gordon 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!

Waffle Shop Pizza Party & Work Day!

Sunday, December 3, immediately after worship there will be a pizza party and work day from noon till 3:00pm to set up tables and decorate for Waffle Shop. Waffle Shop is Thursday, December 7. Lots of help is needed and sign-up sheets are in the narthex!

Calling All Singers

Lessons and Carols is Sunday, December 10, 2017! If you want to join the choir for this service, rehearsals will be every Sunday at 10:20 a.m. in the choir room leading up to December 10. There is also a dress rehearsal on December 9, 10 a.m. - noon. Please contact William Taylor, DPC's Director of Music, at wrtaylori@comcast.net to sign up.

Andrew Bird in Concert at DPC

Andrew Bird debuts his intimate *Gezelligheid* performances in Nashville this winter for a two-night residency at DPC on Friday and Saturday, December 8 & 9. Appropriating a Dutch term that loosely translates to cozy, the performances concentrate mainly on instrumental violin pieces amplified only by his signature giant Victrola horns.

Bird notes, "What I hope to do with these shows is adapt my music completely to the atmosphere of the space and the season. I want the audience to be both lifted and comforted as we head into another cold and dark winter. I feel the space should be sacred so the audience can experience my music in a different atmosphere."

Go to andrewbird.net for more information and tickets. Note: the December 9 show is already sold out!

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 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

Pastor Mike has been holding session for anyone you're interested in becoming a member of DPC or just learning more about the church or being Presbyterian. There is one more session in this fall series on:

- December 3



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 Book Group

ARLIE RUSSELL
HOCHSCHILD
STRANGERS
IN THEIR
OWN LAND



The DPC book group will have its next meeting on Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be determined. We will be discussing *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Russell Hochschild.

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!

Thanks for supporting the ministries of Downtown Presbyterian Church!

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
- Gloves, hats, and scarves
- Sample Size Toiletries
- WINTER COATS!

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!

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

150 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on November 18.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:51, Children 10

Visitors and Tourists

12 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

4:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Monday, November 27

11:30 AA Meeting—Parlor 2

Tuesday, November 28

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study – Parlor 1

Wednesday, November 29

Thursday, November 30

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, December 1

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, December 2

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

Sunday, December 3

9:00 Juveniles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:45 New Member Inquiry
– Morning Brew Lounge

9:45 Christian Education – all ages

11:00 Worship – the Sanctuary

12:00 Waffle Shop Pizza Party

12:00 Liturgist Training – Sanctuary

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
or scan this QR code

