

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Third Sunday of Lent
March 4, 2018

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

"If this god is God, he would live on every mountain, in every valley. He would not be the god of Ishmael or Israel alone, but of all men. It is said he created all men in his image. He would dwell in every heart, every mind, every soul."

– Charleton Heston as Moses in *The Ten Commandments*, 1956

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Messe pour les Convents: Tierce en Taille François Couperin

WELCOME

EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Hymn #395

L: Sisters and brothers, why have you come?

P: **We've come to hear the word of Jesus!**

L: And what do you want?

P: **We want to be filled with unclouded light!**

We want Jesus to touch our lips and ears and hearts.

L: Friends, know that Christ hears your cries.

The Spirit is here to bless our prayers and praises.

Let us sing with joy!

*HYMN #395

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Despite everything we know about the wisdom of God, we still act foolishly.
In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace.
We offer our confession, trusting in God's wisdom and strength
rather than our own.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) based on Psalm 19:12-13; Exodus 20:4-17

God of grace,
 how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it.
Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,
 and save us from willfully ignoring your way.
Let your commandments rule and guide us.
Forgive us for worshipping anyone or anything except you;
 keep us faithful.
Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships –
 with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors.
Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,
 rather than words that belittle or destroy.
Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness.
Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power,
 for you are the God who made us, led us out slavery,
 and brought us into the community of faith.
Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE** based on Mark 8:35-36

L: Brothers and sisters,
 in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again,
 we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness
 with God and with one another!
P: Thanks be to God!

L: And as God's forgiven and free people,
let us begin that new life of faith with
signs of reconciliation and friendship.
May the peace of Christ be with you.
P: And also with you.

Please return to your seats when the music begins.

PARISH LIFE & CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Word Is Proclaimed

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

based on Psalm 19:14

Holy Spirit of God, let the words of our mouths
and the mediations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, our strength and our redeemer. 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 20:1-17 (OT p.66)

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 2:1-22 (NT p. 93)

L: The gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ. P: Glory to you, O Lord.

SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #301

“Let Us Build a House”

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

based on Exodus 20:1-17

Holy God,
you have called us to live before you and with one another
in all faithfulness.

Unable to live as you intend,
we inflict harm and hurt on others and on ourselves as well.

In all these ways,
we know we grieve your heart also.

Hear, then, our prayers of intercession.

Restore us to communion with you and one another
that we might live in the freedom you have bestowed.

We pray for people who are victims of crime, from petty theft to murder.

We pray that those harmed will find healing and will dwell in safety.

Hold especially close to your heart, O God,
those who have lost a loved one to violence;
and help us to offer tenderness and care in their struggles and grief.

We pray also for those who have committed crimes,
that they may seek and find forgiveness,
and begin a new life of responsibility and integrity
before you and in the community.

We pray for healing and reconciliation where trust has been broken,
hostility has flared, or misunderstanding has grown.

Restore us not only to one another,
but reconcile us to ourselves and to you, loving God.

If restoration proves beyond hope,
then grant new beginnings and possibilities for all.

In every relationship, we seek your grace as we honor others
by caring for them, being truthful, and working for their welfare.
Root out in us any jealousy toward what others possess,
and let generosity grow in and among us instead.

Gracious God,
we pray for those who are ill, in mind, body, or spirit;
for those lonely and isolated from community;
for those burdened by guilt or grief, by depression or despair.

Do not let us turn inward as a church,
lest we shut out or neglect
those who long for a community of welcome and companionship.

And for all the other prayers of hearts, that have not yet been offered,
we pray now, aloud or in silence.
[Here you may say aloud your individual prayers and petitions.]

Send us out in love, with open eyes, ears, and hearts.
Make us true neighbors to one another and true children of your own calling.
We pray in the name of Christ, who has come to set us free
and who taught 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

Out of the Depths

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.
 Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
 If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand?
 But with Thee is forgiveness, that Thou mayest be feared.
 My soul waits for the Lord, and in His word I hope;
 My soul waits for the Lord, my God, more than the watchmen for the morning.
 Hope in the Lord, O Israel.
 For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plenteous redemption;
 And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

— Psalm 130

DOXOLOGY #605

“Praise to God the Father”

Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;
 praise to God the Spir - it: praise to the Three - in - One.
 Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
 Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly One.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (unison)

based on Exodus 20:2-4, 17

O Lord our God,
 we want to follow all your commandments —
 to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world;
 to love our neighbor freely,
 not desiring for ourselves something they possess.

Accept these offerings, we pray,
and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves
that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (people read **bold**)

O God, Creator of our wilderness world,
O God, Savior of the lost,
O God, Comforter of the sick and suffering,
we give you thanks for your everlasting might;
we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.

For forty days you cleansed the earth
with the waters of the flood.
We praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

For forty days you illumined Moses
with the words of your law.
We praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

For forty years you fed your people
with manna from heaven.
We praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

You became truly human in Jesus our brother.
For forty day, with fasting and prayer,
he renounced the power of Satan.

On the night before he died...[the Words of Institution]

We extol his life. **Amen.**
We lament his death. **Amen.**
We celebrate his resurrection. **Amen.**

Transform us, O God, with your lively Spirit.
Make this food into manna for our journey,
the body and blood of your Son.
Save us, O God.
Save us, O God.

Grant us, like Jesus, forty days of self-examination.
Save us, O God.
Save us, O God.

Teach us your words of wisdom and justice.
Save us, O God.
Save us, O God.

Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace.
Save us, O God.
Save us, O God.

At the last, lead all your pilgrim people out of our deserts
to your Easter garden.

To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter,
Father and Mother, Son and Spirit,
be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.

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.

ANTHEM DURING COMMUNION

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

John Hilton

Lord, for Thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge,
But forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives.
To decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in an upright heart
Before Thee this day and evermore.

— Henry Bull's *Christian Praiers and Holy Meditacions*, 1568

And Bear It Into the World

*HYMN #320

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Today's communion liturgy, *A Eucharistic Prayer for Lent*, was written by Gail Ramshaw. Professor Ramshaw is a noted scholar of liturgical language and crafts.

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 and Worship

Note to Parents of Small Children: 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 effective 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 on the table in the narthex.

If you have questions or ideas for children's ministry, please contact Suzie Lane at suzielane@dpchurch.com.

DPC Directory Update

We want to stay in touch with our Members and Friends, so please take a minute to update your contact information for the Church Directory! There is a table in the narthex with our current directory and instructions for providing new information.

If you have any questions please call Dena in the office at 615-254-7584 or email info@dpchurch.com.

Electronic Giving!

Want an easy way to donate to DPC? Just text "dpchurch" 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!

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 February 17.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:78, Children:8

Visitors and Tourists

41 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

12:30 First Sunday Lunch Meet-up at Nashville Farmers' Market

Monday, March 5

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, March 6

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study – Parlor 1

Wednesday, March 7

Thursday, March 8

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, March 9

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, March 10

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

Sunday, March 11

9:00 Juveniles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Christian Education

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 2018

Rev. Mike Wilson, Moderator

Jack Henderson, Clerk

Jeff Koontz, Treasurer

Class of 2018

Cary Gibson
Michael Korak
Jim Dickson

Class of 2019

Chuck Cardona
Jack Henderson
Justin Near

Class of 2020

Dave Coleman
Debra Gentry
Vickie Coffin

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

