

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Easter

April 8, 2018

Rev. Stacy Rector - Guest Preacher

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

“Since before the foundation of the world, God has longed to be one with us. Jesus is the mutuality of God in creation. The incarnation is God’s presence in our world—not an event of the past. The incarnation is still going on in our lives. And our vocation is to join God’s dynamic, incarnate energy in the world and to be that presence wherever we find ourselves.”

— Dr. Mary Beth Ingham

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Fantasy Prelude on *Christ ist Erstanden* Gilbert Martin

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 133

L: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

P: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

L: How good and pleasing it is

P: when the people of God live together as one.

L: Let us worship God!

***HYMN #254**

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession is an act of belief, the belief that God can and does forgive us. If *you* believe this, join us as we pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on John 20:19-31

**You have shown yourself to us, O God,
by Word and Spirit,
with signs and wonders,
in flesh and blood.**

**Yet we still struggle to live and believe
the good news of Jesus Christ.**

Have mercy on us; forgive us.

**Enter into our lives and cast out our fear
so that we may come to trust in you
and have life in Jesus's name. Amen.**

(Time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

based on 1 John 2:1-2

L: We have an advocate with God— 1 John 2:1-2
Jesus Christ, the righteous one—
who offered his life in love to save the world.
This is the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God!

L: And with the joy of those who know they are saved,
let us celebrate with 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 John 20:27-28, 1 John 1:1

God of all who doubt and believe, by the gift of your Spirit
enable us to hear with our ears,
to see with our eyes,
and to touch with our hands
your Word of life—Jesus Christ— our Lord.
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.)*

FIRST READING John 20:19-31 (NT p.115)
L: The gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ. P: Glory to you, O Lord.

SECOND READING Acts 4:32-35 (NT p. 122)
L: The Word of the Lord. P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Stacy Rector

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #318 "In Christ There Is No East or West"

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

based on Psalm 133:2-3, John 20:21-22

Living God, giver of life,
hear us as we pray, saying,
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for the church...
Let your church be a living sign of the woundedness and healing of Christ,
sharing the gift of forgiveness and the gospel of reconciliation.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for the earth...
Help us to see the scars of death that mark your good creation,
and to seek the blessing of life that you offer to all creatures.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for all nations...
Show us how good and pleasant it is when people live together in unity,
and anoint us with your wisdom so that we may seek the ways of life.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for this community...
Give us a vision of the common good:
not clinging to our own possessions
but seeking the fullness of life for all as a testimony to Christ's
resurrection.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

We pray for loved ones...
Be near to those who walk in darkness and lead us all into Christ's light
so that our fellowship may be true and our joy may be complete.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord;
send us your Spirit of peace.

By the blessing of your Spirit,
help us to live as we pray so that the world may come to know
the gift of life in Christ our Lord,
who invites 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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION Tennesseans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Chorale Prelude on *Christ ist Erstanden* Johann K.F. Fischer

DOXOLOGY #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (unison) based on Acts 4:32-35

**Just as that community of believers was of one heart and soul, sharing
everything they had, we surrender these offerings to the common good of
this church and her mission. And we ask, O God, that you would inspire
and guide those responsible for our money’s distribution so that they
would use it to answer real need. Amen.**

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

*HYMN #246

"Christ Is Alive"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* Wilbur Held
Tune taken from Hymn 234

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!

Letter from Session

At the most recent congregational meeting on February 25th, some questions were raised by a member of the congregation about the nature of the terms of Rev. Mike Wilson's call. The session, in cooperation with the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, want to make sure these terms are clearly communicated so that there is no confusion or disruption. In October of 2016, the congregation voted to approve a call for Rev. Wilson as a designated pastor for a "term not exceeding four years". This motion was carried and Mike transitioned from being our "stated supply pastor" to being our "designated pastor". According to the Presbytery, the "designated pastor" is effectively the permanent, installed pastor but with a set term. It is also worth noting that it is common practice for churches of our size and is in fact a recommended practice by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, due to the long and often destabilizing nature of the pastor search process.

The business on the table at the meeting on February 25th was solely to review and approve the financial terms of Rev. Wilson's call. There was confusion as to if this was a "renewal" of his call or a "review". After communication with the Presbytery and review of records and correspondence from 2016, the financial terms of his call shall be reviewable each year and approved by the congregation. This would be the same process with a permanent pastor. The congregation approved the financial terms of Rev. Wilson's call at the meeting. Questions were raised as to what the process would be once Rev. Wilson's term was concluded. The Presbytery's policy gives us as a congregation clear directions for when this happens: approximately six months in advance of the culmination of the term (in our case February of 2020), the session will communicate with Rev. Wilson and the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. We would then decide to call Rev. Wilson for a permanent call, call for another 4-year term, or agree to part ways. If and only if the third option is decided the session will then at that time call a congregational meeting to elect a pastor nominating committee (see Book of Order G.2-0802) with the presbytery supplying another stated supply pastor for approximately 18-24 months.

The session wants to make it clear that we maintain strong confidence in and deep appreciation for the spiritual leadership and stewardship that Rev Wilson has provided and continues to provide for the congregation.

We the session hope that this provides clarity. Please contact any of us if you have questions.

With Love,
Jack Henderson, Clerk of Session

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.

New Adult Education Experience **Living the Questions**



Many people have an intuitive sense that there is more to Christianity than the rigid rules and shallow platitudes that so often pass for theology in many churches. *Living the Questions* hopes to expose people to ideas and concepts that have been taught and discussed in seminaries, but

sometimes not in our churches. So if you've ever found yourself puzzled by or disillusioned about religion this may be a dialogue you might like to join. We'll meet for six weeks starting on Sunday, April 15, at 9:45 a.m. in Parlor 2. Each session includes a video presentation and a written lesson; all materials will be provided.

Video presenters include some of the leading voices in progressive Christianity including Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Amy-Jill Levine, John Bell, Helen Prejean, Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza and many more.

DPC moderators for our sessions will include Rev. Mike Wilson, Jim Dickson, David Maddox and Samera Zavarro.

We hope to see you at 9:45 on April 15!

Lunch Meet-up



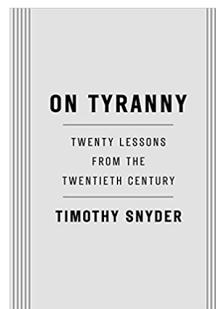
Join us today, right after worship, at the Nashville Farmers' Market for our Sunday lunch meet-up. Get some food from one of the fantastic vendors, then look for friendly faces in the dining area.

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

DPC Book Group

The DPC book group will meet this Tuesday, April 10, at the home of Cary Gibson and Joel Dark. We will be discussing *Citizenship Papers* by Wendell Berry and *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder.

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



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.

Volunteers from DPC are welcome EVERY Saturday. We 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 dpcbfast@gmail.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

109 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on March 28.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:183, Children:17

Visitors and Tourists

37 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

12:30 Lunch Meet-up -
Nashville Farmer's Market

Monday, April 9

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, April 10

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study - Parlor 1

Wednesday, April 11

6:00 F&P, B&H Meeting - Cookery

Thursday, April 12

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, April 13

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, April 14

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

Sunday, April 15

9:00 JuveNiles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Christian Education

11:00 Worship - the Sanctuary

1:00 Session Meeting - Parlor 2

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

