

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 12, 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

Give me a pure heart—that I may see Thee,
A humble heart—that I may hear Thee,
A heart of love—that I may serve Thee
A heart of faith—that I may abide in Thee.

— Dag Hammarskjöld

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 146

L: Praise the Lord with all your soul!

P: As long as I live, I will praise the Lord!

L: The Lord opens the eyes of blind and watches over the stranger

P: As long as I live, I will praise the Lord!

L: The Lord comforts the orphan and the widow

P: As long as I live, I will praise the Lord!

L: Come, let us offer our worship to the One who made us and loves us

all: As long as I live, I will praise the Lord!

*HYMN #610

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Hebrews 4

Our High Priest is not a distant, untouchable figure who cannot understand our weaknesses. Jesus lived as a human, experienced temptation, and has compassion for us even when we stumble. Let us confess our failings and shortcomings to the One who is always ready to make us whole.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on Mark 7:24-38

all:

God of expansive grace,
You made and love every person,
every one we see is Your beloved child;
But we look for differences
and offer more compassion to those who are most like ourselves.
You saw great faith in people society rejected
and worked signs of your power in those who were pushed to the margins,
Yet we value the powerful and confuse privilege with worthiness.

L: Forgive us, Lord, for our limited kindness

P: When we do not see your image in others, open our eyes

L: Christ have mercy

P: When we do not listen to Your voice calling, open our ears

L: Lord have mercy

P: When we do not share your love with others, open our hearts

L: Christ have mercy on us

all: Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

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

L: Jesus Christ is the fountain of life and holiness
God washes away the stain of our sins and omissions.
Sisters and brothers, we are forgiven!

P: We are forgiven!

L: And as forgiven and renewed people, let us turn to each other now in love
and encouragement, saying:

The peace of the Lord 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)

Lord, give us humble and teachable hearts as your Word and truth are shared. Open and prepare our minds to hear what you have to say to us. Amen.

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

Isaiah 35:4-7a

(OT p.615)

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

SECOND READING

Mark 7:24-37

(NT p.874)

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

SERMON

Weighty Questions

Rev. Carol Tate

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #203

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

& THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read bold)

adapted from Dionysius of Alexandria (3rd century)

God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair,
in you is calmness, peace and concord.

Heal the dissensions that divide us from one another and bring us back to a
unity of love, bearing some likeness to your divine nature.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, good beyond all that is good, we are grateful that you have given us a beautiful and diverse world as our home. Help us to see your fingerprint on creation and to be sensitive caretakers of what you have made.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, fair beyond all that is fair, thank you for the community you have given us. Strengthen the voices that speak from a spirit of love. Open the ears of our civic, national, and international leaders to hear and heed your wisdom. Give us discernment and courage to be advocates for justice and peace.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, faithful beyond all that is faithful, you see the desperation of people who are driven out of their homelands by poverty, disaster and war. Guide them as they seek refuge. Let divisions crumble where they stand in the way of compassion. Still the suspicions and fears of those in the places where they seek a new start.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, loving beyond all that is loving, you know the pain of the sick and the weary. Where there is pain and discomfort, lay your hand with its calming touch. Where there is brokenness in body, mind or emotion, bring your spirit of restoration and hope.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, wise beyond all that is wise, thank you for creating us with curiosity and intellect. Be with the teachers, students and parents who are embarking on a new school year and help us all use our knowledge in service to your mission of grace and stewardship.

We pray to you who does all things well.

God, gracious beyond all grace, we offer to you our individual prayers for the people and circumstances that are on our hearts today.

(here you may offer your prayers and petitions silently or out loud)

Merciful God, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all.

We offer these prayers to you through Christ, 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

God Be In My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in my heart and in my thinking.
God be at mine end and at my departing.

– Old English prayer from *Sarum Primer*

*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)

God, be in our hearts, our mouths, our hands as you call on us to act in your service. God, be in the use of these gifts which we return to you today. God, be in the understanding of this congregation's leaders as they listen for your voice and discern your plan for these resources. Amen.

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

*HYMN #766

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

Join us after worship

at the coffee pot in the Fellowship Hall for interesting conversation and light refreshments. A good way to meet the pastor and make new friends at DPC!

Children and Worship

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 today by Jessica Cardona.

For effective faith development, children over 5 years old are encouraged to experience the entire worship service with their parents. To help, children's bulletins, books and coloring pages are available on the table outside the chapel.

If you have questions about children and worship, please contact Suzie Lane at suzielane@dpchurch.com or 615-406-4915.

Children's Sunday School

School-age children (kindergarten and up) gather for Sunday School in room 211 from 9:45 am-10:45 am. Following Sunday School, their leaders will bring them to the chapel to meet their parents for worship.

It is wonderful for adults to share their gifts in ministry with children. If you would like to help with children's Sunday School, please contact Suzie Lane at suzielane@dpchurch.com or 615-406-4915.

Preaching Texts

July 8 – September 2

The preaching texts for the summer are a continuous reading from Mark 5:21 through 9:29. Your experience of the series will be enhanced by reading that section straight through several times.

August 12

Mark 7:24-37

Rev. Carol Tate – guest preacher

August 26

Mark 8:27-38

September 2

Mark 9:2-29

August 19

Mark 8:22-26

Rev. Stacy Rector – guest preacher

Singing Workshops

July 8 - September 2

Some people think they can't sing or are not good at it, so they sing timidly or not at all. But the truth is **everybody can sing**. What they need is encouragement and a few easy-to-learn techniques. For our summer time in the chapel, our director of music, William Taylor, will supply both in a series of workshops right before worship each Sunday. The first Sunday we learned the importance of posture - relax the tension in your body and sit / stand with your back as straight as you can. The second Sunday we addressed breathing and how the diaphragm works to support breathing. The third we learned about the mechanics of vocal production and found our voice range. In the fourth and subsequent weeks, we will connect these initial lessons as we learn more about our voices by singing.

Let's continue to gather in the Chapel at 10:45 and learn how we can sing with greater confidence and enthusiasm and participate even more fully in our worship experience. Even if you think you can't carry a tune in a bucket, join us to discover just how much fun bold congregational song can be. There will be no judgment or singling-out - just big deep breaths and a lot of fun!

Liturgy for Summer Worship

For our summer worship in the Chapel we want to invite you - our DPC members and friends - to contribute to the services by crafting liturgy. And for our purposes you can think of liturgy as those things we say together and the prompts that introduce those elements. So, if you want to try your hand at composing the words and prayers of worship, send an email to Pastor Mike – mikewilson@dpchurch.com – noting which movements and Sundays you'd like to tackle. You can also tell him whether or not you'd be interested in a liturgy workshop or get-together.

Want to know even more? Here are the specific elements of worship you can work on:

- Call to Worship**

An invitation to the congregation to come into God's presence with praise. It reminds us that our worship centers on God and not ourselves.

- Invitation to Confession**

A reminder of *why* we need to offer confession, both individually and as a community.

- Prayer of Confession**

Confessing the truth about ourselves and the ways we have fallen short of both God's and our own best intentions.

- Assurance of Pardon and Passing the Peace**

We are assured that in all things we are loved, forgiven, restored and renewed, and encouraged to share that love with others.

- Prayer for Illumination**

An invitation to God to open our hearts and minds by the power of the Holy Spirit to receive and understand the Word written and proclaimed.

- Prayers of the People**

An opportunity to join together for prayers of petition and joy, with particular attention to world, national, local and personal concerns.

- Prayer of Dedication**

We give thanks for our offerings and pray that they would be used to further reveal God's kingdom.

Pastor Mike is primary responsible for our weekly liturgy and he either selects it from pre-written liturgy sources - books, websites, journals - or writes it himself. Almost always the liturgy is tied to the Revised Common Lectionary that Mike uses for preaching and reflects the lectionary's scripture and themes.

Your liturgical contributions can be for any part of or all of a service and should be tied to the custom lectionary we'll be using for our Chapel worship. (You can get that from Pastor Mike or by emailing Dena in the office: denaswoner@dpchurch.com)

A good way to understand how liturgy, theme and scripture tie together is by looking at this bulletin or those on the DPC website. Most movements are accompanied by a note that says “based on...” with scripture verses listed. If you read the passages and then the liturgy you’ll see how the two come together.

And of course, we’ll give full credit each week to everyone who contributes!

Summer Worship in the Chapel

July 1–September 2

Through September 2 we’ll continue to gather for Sunday worship in the Chapel. The Chapel allows us to worship with greater intimacy and gives us the opportunity to do some things with liturgy, narrative, music and art that will be more effective in that space.

One of creative elements the Worship & Arts committee will encourage is congregational participation in crafting liturgy - things like the call to worship, prayer of confession, assurance of pardon and prayers of the people. We’ll be creating some guides and resources to help you, and maybe even having a workshop or two. More on that will follow soon.

Our worship will more deliberately focus Mark’s gospel following a *lectio continua*, or “continuous reading.” Normally Pastor Mike and the Worship & Arts committee follow the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle, as a guide for preaching and our worship. But for our ten weeks in the Chapel, Pastor Mike created a custom lectionary that takes us from Mark 5:21 through Mark 9:29 with almost no omissions. This long section of Mark is almost entirely action with very little sermonizing from Jesus or authorial theologizing. Our broad focus will be on touch, embodiment and movement.

We also have some ideas for participatory and cumulative art projects, drama, movement and more. Again, more info will follow!

The W&A committee is really excited about the possibilities of our summer worship and we hope you all will join us not only with regular attendance but enthusiastic participation.

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!

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 dpcbreakfast@gmail.com.

Clothes Closet Help!

We maintain a clothes closet to help our homeless and urban poor guests on Saturday morning. We are currently in need of the following items.

- 1) JEANS for Men and Women - all sizes
- 2) SOCKS for Men and Women - **New Only**
- 3) UNDERWEAR for Men and Women - **New Only**

Thank you for your support!

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

141 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on August 4.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:42, Children:7

Visitors and Tourists

32 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

Monday, August 13

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, August 14

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

6:00 Finance, Building & History, and Personnel Committee Meeting
- The Cookery

Wednesday, August 15

Thursday, August 16

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, August 17

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, August 18

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

11:00 JuveNiles Choir Fun Day

Sunday, August 19

9:00 JuveNiles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Christian Education - Rm #211

10:45 Singing Workshop - The Chapel

11:00 Worship - The Chapel

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, Maintenance 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

