

# THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 9, 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

“Love is anterior to life, posterior to death,  
initial of creation, and the exponent of breath.”

— Emily Dickinson

#### WELCOME

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Song of Solomon 2:12-13; 8:6

L: The Beloved fills the earth with abundant life.  
Flowers appear, the time of singing comes.  
All creation resounds with the joy of love.

P: **O you who dwell in the gardens,  
let me hear your voice!**

L: God calls to us, “Arise and come away.  
The rain is over and gone.  
The fig tree has put forth its figs  
and the vines have blossomed.”

P: **Set me as a seal upon your heart, O God;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.**

#### \*HYMN #20

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

We live and breathe and have our being in human flesh. And yet we are often not good stewards of our bodies or those of others. Let us consider that contradiction and seek wholeness in body and spirit.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, we confess our ambivalence about the gift of our bodies.  
We judge ourselves by conventions which are shallow.  
Seeking approval from others makes us critical  
of our own gifts and genetic makeup.  
We admit we judge others by the way they look.  
Our bodies sometimes seem to rule our minds.  
We age, get sick or break;  
our faces show feelings we'd rather hide.  
We become more adept at hiding than giving thanks to you  
for the wonder of our flesh and bone humanity.  
We do not love ourselves as you love us,  
and as you give us the capacity to love others.  
Forgive us and help us, we pray.

(Time for silent confession)

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

L: The Apostle Paul said that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.  
Overflowing with grace poured out by God,  
let us connect our spirits and our bodies  
with those around us with a handshake or a hug.  
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 James 2:21

My the Holy Spirit's illumination drive out all distractions so that we might  
hear and receive the Word already planted inside us, the Word that is able  
to save. 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

James 1:13-18

(NT p.229)

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

### SECOND READING

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

(OT p. 623)

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

### SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

## **We Respond to God's Word**

\*HYMN #27

"Sacred Body"

### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

& THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read **bold**)

based on Psalm 45:1-8; Song of Solomon 2:8-10; James 1:25-27

Let us bring our prayers of intercession to God, saying,  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Beloved One, you have called us to your embrace  
and our hearts overflow with your goodness.  
Your power endures forever.  
You desire justice and love righteousness.  
Let the fragrance of your love and the grace on your lips  
anoint us now as we pray for the church,  
the creation, and all those in need.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Unshackle your church from bondage to human tradition  
that we may worship you freely and serve others with a pure heart.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Redeem and renew your creation to bud, blossom,  
and bring forth fruit as we care for the land and love one another.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid**

Extend your compassionate justice in our nations and neighborhood  
as we unite with people of goodwill to do right for those in need.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Let us embrace the distressed, the diseased,  
the devalued, the denied.  
Cause us to care for the abandoned, the bereaved,  
the weak, and the weary.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Make us be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.  
Let us persevere in your perfect law of liberty  
and bless us to do your Word.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Clothe those we remember now  
with your fragrant grace and renewing love.  
*[Here you may say aloud your prayers and petitions.]*  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Blessed forever are those who have answered your invitation:  
“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.”  
They now rest in your embrace.  
Bless us now to follow in their footsteps of faith.  
Arise, God of Love.  
**Come to our aid.**

Anointed with your oil of gladness,  
let our prayers rise as fragrant incense before you  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who invited 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.**

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Chuck Cardona

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

This is The Day

John Rutter

This is the day which the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
O praise the Lord of heav'n: praise him in the height.  
Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.  
Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light.  
Let them praise the Name of the Lord.  
For he shall give his angels charge over thee: to keep thee in all thy ways.  
The Lord himself is thy keeper: the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand;  
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day: neither the moon by night.  
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.  
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in:  
from this time forth for evermore.  
He shall defend thee under his wings.  
Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart, and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

— Anthem text taken from Psalms 118, 148, 91, 121, and 27

**\*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 Song of Solomon 2:12-13; James 1:18; Augustine

Living God, thank you for your gifts of life –  
fragrant flowers, fruitful vines, singing creatures,  
and our own lives, renewed in Christ.

Let your grace infuse the gifts we offer  
with life-giving power for those in need.

In the name of the Trine God,  
Lover, Beloved and Love.

Amen.

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

\*HYMN #37

“Let All Things Now Living”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Sortie in D

Benton Price

**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!



Sunday, September 23rd, Annual DPC Picnic

Time: Following Church (~12:30 pm)

Location: Shelby Park (East Nashville) at the Mission Shelter (same place as last year)

Shelby Park

2009 Sevier St

Nashville, TN 37206

All members, regulars, & guests are welcome to attend & encouraged to bring a side dish. Fried chicken, biscuits, soft drinks, ice tea, & water are on the menu.

Stephanie Coleman and Erin Bell will be coordinating Hospitality committee volunteers willing to help set up and clean up.

## 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 Jackie Wong and Mckennan Henninger .

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 in the narthex.

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

## New Adult Education Continuing Next Sunday

Next Sunday Pastor Mike will continue to reveal to you the

### **MYSTERIES OF THE HYMNAL!**

Our hymnal, Glory to God, features 853 hymns, songs, chants, responses and more. But that's not all! There are also liturgies, commentary, indexes and other strange codes and markings.

In a fun and informative two-week series we'll explore all those parts of the hymnal before and after the words and music. Along the way you'll learn how Mike and William pick hymns (it's not random!), how tunes, texts and meter work (8.7.8.7.D will blow your mind), and how evolving theology and language affect hymnal content and hymn texts (where did Onward Christian Soldiers go?)...*and more!*

There might be some singing but no musical knowledge is required!

We'll meet in Parlor 2 at 9:45 next Sunday, September 16.

## **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 narthex 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](mailto:suzielane@dpchurch.com) or 615-406-4915.

## **Returning to the Sanctuary**

In an effort to sustain that extraordinary feeling and renewed and energizing spirit we felt worshipping in the Chapel, we are inviting everyone use the first ten rows in the center section and the first six rows on the sides. (For those who like hard numbers, that's more than twice the pew-feet available in the Chapel).

We enjoyed a wonderful intimacy in the Chapel that feels very different from the "big room." The smaller space certainly put us in closer physical proximity; we might describe the feeling as "comfortably full." It also put us closer together aurally - we could hear each other better and consequently sing and do liturgy with greater confidence, volume and enthusiasm. Of course much of that has to do with William's pre-worship singing workshops that have gone a long way to building our enthusiasm and confidence in singing. And while it may be a less tangible measure, we also experienced a spiritual and emotional intimacy that flows out of simply sitting close to other people.

Our hope is that you'll want to continue to worship close to those folks whose voices and spirits have surrounded you this summer. Like all new efforts, we know this will take some getting used to. So after a few weeks we'll evaluate how things are working and refine our practice.

And we are not simply going to let empty pews sit fallow. The Worship & Arts committee is working on ways we can transform parts of the sanctuary into spaces for prayer and meditation, art projects, kid-friendly zones and more.

Our summer worship in the Chapel was amazing! Let's do everything we can to continue that extraordinary enthusiasm in the Sanctuary and have a great fall!

## Summer Worship Thank-yous!

Worshiping in a smaller space most definitely *did not* require less effort!  
So some special thank-yous are in order:

*Thank you* to Dave Coleman and the Hospitality Committee for going beyond the usual greeter duties and making sure that folks knew where to go and what to do every week. And, of course, laying out the snacks and offering a gracious welcome to all.

*Thank you* to Jim Hoobler and Michael Korak for taking on docent duties, giving visitors tours of the Sanctuary after worship.

*Thank you* to William Taylor for leading wonderful singing workshops before worship and helping us become more confident and enthusiastic singers.

*Thank you* to Suzie Lane for leading intergenerational Christian education and making it relate to our worship themes. Suzie also created our Chapel baptismal font - nice work, Suzie!

*Thank you* to Chris Leonard, Nina Cardona and Cary Gibson for writing new, original and beautiful liturgy that brought us deeper into the worship experience.

*Thank you* to Cary Gibson and Justin Near for creating our prayer closet, an imaginative and provocative use of space and a beautiful spiritual experience.

And *Thank you* to every person who gave themselves over to worshiping in a different space in a different way. Your willingness to try something new opened us to new possibilities and a deeper worship experience.

## 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.

## **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**

148 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on September 1.

#### **11:00 Worship Service Attendance**

Adults:54, Children:10

#### **Visitors and Tourists**

15 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

### **Schedule of Weekly Events**

#### **Today**

#### **Monday, September 10**

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### **Tuesday, September 11**

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study - Parlor 1

#### **Wednesday, September 12**

#### **Thursday, September 13**

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### **Friday, September 14**

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### **Saturday, September 15**

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

#### **Sunday, September 16**

9:00 Juveniles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Mysteries of the Hymnal - Parlor 2

9:45 Christian Education - Rm #211

11:00 Worship - The Sanctuary

1:00 Session - 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, Maintenance 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](http://www.dpchurch.com)  
or scan this QR code

