

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Communion Sunday

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

“With the demise of religion, many people are left stranded in a chasm of emptiness and doubt; without rituals to recognize, celebrate or negotiate the vital thresholds of their lives, the key crossings pass us by, undistinguished from the mundane, everyday rituals of life.”

— John O'Donohue in *Benedictus, A Book of Blessings*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Messe pour les Convents: Elevation/Tierce en Taille François Couperin

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 26

L: The Psalmist cries out:

P: **Examine me, LORD;
put me to the test!**

Purify my mind and my heart.

L: May that also be *our* desire today.

P: **And we will bless the LORD
in the great congregation;
in the beauty of God's house.**

*HYMN #435

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Psalm 26

In God, we find light for our darkness, and through that light we discover the things that separate us from God. And so we ask God to prove us and try us, and to test our hearts and minds, that we may receive God's grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on Mark 10:2-16

**You gave us commandments, God of love,
because you know the hardness of our hearts.
You have created us to live in community,
and still we oppress others and separate ourselves
from each other and from you.
Jesus loved the children,
but there are still children in the world
who live in hunger or fear, rejected and unloved.
Forgive us, and call us to faithfulness.
Bind all your children together as sisters and brothers,
and nurture us with your love and forgiveness,
that we might share what we have been given,
and receive your kingdom
with the wonder and gratitude of children.
In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.**

(Time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

based on Psalm 8:4; Hebrews 2:6, 10-12

**L: Brothers and my sisters,
if any of us who wanders from the truth is brought back by another,
you should know that whoever brings back someone
from wandering will save that person's soul.
Rejoice! You have been brought back
by the redemption of God
and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Savior.
You can live in peace. So:
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 Hebrews 1:1-2

Lord God, as you spoke long ago through the voices of your prophets,
speak to us here, speak to us now,
through the power of your Spirit
and the promise of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Savior. 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

Genesis 2:18-24

(OT p. 2)

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

SECOND READING

Mark 10:2-16

(NT p. 46)

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

SERMON

We Have Our Limits

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #530

“One Bread, One Body”

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

O God, we come before you like children,
full of trust and hope,
knowing that you listen to us attentively;
that you take us seriously.

And so...

We pray for those who are suffering,
through sickness, through loss,
without support, in loneliness.

Vindicate them, O Lord.

We pray for those who seek justice,
who frown upon evil
but are still shunned and persecuted.

Vindicate them, O Lord.

We pray for those who feel like the smallest of the small,
the weakest of the weak,
those who feel ignored and unloved.

Vindicate them, O Lord.

We pray for those who have been abandoned or abused,
who have been neglected and left powerless,
who have been limited or rejected.

Vindicate them, O Lord.

We pray for all those other circumstances and people
who have moved our hearts.

[Here you may say aloud your prayers and petitions.]

Take them into your arms
as Jesus did with the children,
and bless them every day
so that they are supported,
liberated,
loved,
and accepted.

In the name of the one who welcomed the children;
the one 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.**

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Justin Near

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Set Me As a Seal

René Clausen

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.

— Song of Solomon 8:6-7

*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 Psalm 8:6

**Generous God, you have entrusted us with the works of your own hands.
Now we return these gifts to you with thanksgiving and praise.
Use them all for your glory
and for the good of your world;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (people read **bold**)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord our God, creator of the universe.

Even when we were nothing but topsoil in the fertile land,
when our story began in dirt,
you were there, your word was there,
your breath into the creating life.

And upon your word all creation sprang into life.

When we were in the wilderness, terrified, timid,
you were there, your word was there,
with manna just enough for today,
with water even from the driest rock,
with the abundant grace upon which our story always rests.

And when we fell short, slaves to power and greed,
you were there, your word was there,
on the lips of prophets, and in the hearts of servants,
in stories of revolution and revelation and liberation,
calling us even now to acts of courage and witness and peace.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Indeed blessed are you, O Christ, our Lord,
for risking yourself among us, vulnerable and rejected;
for teaching among us, teaching the radical hope of God;
teaching grace to a world bent on vengeance,
teaching love to a world bent on destruction,
teaching peace to a world bent on tearing itself apart.
You were there, your word was there, even to the point of death itself.

Even faced with terror and hatred and the brokenness of the world,
you rose again, to new life, to new creation, to resurrection,
that we might know something other than the dust,
that we might expect something other than the end,
that we might work for something other than ourselves.

And so you speak to us us again,
with these abundant gifts of bread and wine,
with which we joyfully celebrate your dying and rising,
as we await the table of the Kingdom yet to come,
and as we dedicate ourselves again to you,
thankful, and transformed, as living and holy sacrifices,
that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us,
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break together, and the cup we share together,
may retell our common stories together
and reshape our common bonds together,
and remember our common grace together,
in the communion of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ,
the one in whose life and death you have torn down our divisions.

And so may we be one with all who share this feast,
on this day, of all days, with all your children at every corner of
your table.

May we share this abundant cup with all those who thirst for your justice.
May we share this abundant bread
with all those who hunger for your righteousness,
May we be united with every corner of your story,
united in hope, united in vision, united in purpose,
united in ministry in every place.

As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us from this table to be the body of Christ in all the world.
Send us with a spirit of courage, a spirit of power and love,
that we may be witnesses in all creation
to the unending story of your word breathing life into creation.
Keep us faithful, and fruitful, and hopeful, and peaceful,
until we come at last to the one table of your Kingdom,
to feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm,
with you, with the Holy Spirit and with your Word, Jesus, the Christ.
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 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

— Percy Dearmer

THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we offer our thanks,
for the whole communion of saint's witness to this feast,
and for the ministry of churches around the world
who gather with us today.

By this broken bread may we each be restored for the work yet to come.

By this shared cup may we each be claimed
for the proclamation of your Kingdom.

At this shared table may we be united as children of your promise,
children of your word, dying and made new again,
sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace.

Amen.

And Bear It Into the World

*HYMN #306

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Messe pour les Convents: Dialogue François Couperin

Today's communion liturgy was written for PC(USA) World Communion Sunday resources in 2016 by Rev. Matt Gaventa, the Pastor of Amherst Presbyterian Church in Amherst, Virginia, and the chaplain at Sweet Briar College.

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!

New Church Directory!

The new DPC directory is ready for final proofing. You'll find a copy in the narthex. Please check your information and make any corrections. Copies for all will be available soon!

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 Mckennan Henninger and Jackie Wong.

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 sanctuary.

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 sanctuary 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.

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 SP+ garage at **147 4th Ave. N.**

You must come down 4th from Church Street. Parking in this garage is complimentary from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Parking vouchers are necessary to exit the garage without having to pay. To get one, just ask one of our greeters.

Our Ministries Last Week

Saturday Breakfast Ministry

158 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on September 29.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:48, Children:8

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

Monday, October 8

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, October 9

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study - Parlor 1

Wednesday, October 10

Thursday, October 11

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, October 12

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, October 13

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

Sunday, October 14

9:00 JuveNiles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Adult Eduction – Parlor 2

9:45 Christian Education - Rm #211

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, 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
or scan this QR code

