



THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS DAY 2018

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY Still, Still, Still Austrian Melody
Tune and text taken from Hymn #47 arr. Robert J. Powell

*CAROL #28 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Christ is born!

P: Alleluia!

L: Jesus is among us!

P: Alleluia!

L: The Word has become flesh!

P: Alleluia! Alleluia

*CAROL #27 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (*unison*)

On this day, Gracious Lord, you come to us
as Word,
as Light,
as Flesh.

Teach us to know you so well that our lives may befriend
this world you have made,
in the name of the Holy Trinity: Creator, Christ and Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Time for silent prayer)

PASSING THE PEACE

L: Born that day was grace - for the broken and bereft;
born that day was hope - for the vulnerable and forgotten;
born that day was love - for all of us!

P: Thanks be to God!

L: And as people filled with grace, hope and love, let us greet each other
in the name of Christ.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

*GLORIA #23 “Angels We Have Heard on High” (verse 1)

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

God's Word Is Proclaimed

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

By the power of the Holy Spirit shining in our midst,
open our hearts and minds, O God, to your Word,
present now and always for the sake of your holy name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE & MEDITATION

Rev. Mary Louise McCullough &
Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #48

“Lo, Ho a Rose E'er Blooming”

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

Let us pray for the world in which
the Prince of Peace took flesh and form, saying,
hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We give you thanks, Holy One,
for the light that has come into the darkness of our world,
for the truth illuminated,
for the pathway that has opened,
for the rejoicing of your people.
Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the feet of those
who bring good news, friendship, comfort,
food, shelter and medicine for healing.
Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the church of Christ Jesus
and for all people of faith
who attention to the ways of peace
tears down the walls that keep us apart.
Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We pray for the leaders of this nation and our world.
May they govern with wisdom, working for the well-being of the poor,
so that no one is hungry or homeless,
and every child is valued and nourished.
Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We pray for the knowledge and courage
to be good stewards of all that you have given us:
ourselves, our neighbors, the strangers among us,
the oceans and rivers, the air and soil,
creatures large and small,
that we may continue to be blessed with health and life.

Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We pray for those whose flesh is harmed
by poverty, sickness, and cruelty of any kind,
that the Word-made-flesh may so fill your world with the power to heal
that all people would be made strong and whole.

Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We pray for those concerns yet unnamed this day...
[you may say aloud your individual prayers of petition and concern]

Hear us, O God;
your mercy is great.

We commend all these things to you and offer our thanksgiving,
trusting that what we have left unsaid,
your holy wisdom can unearth;
in the name of the One who came among us,
and you 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

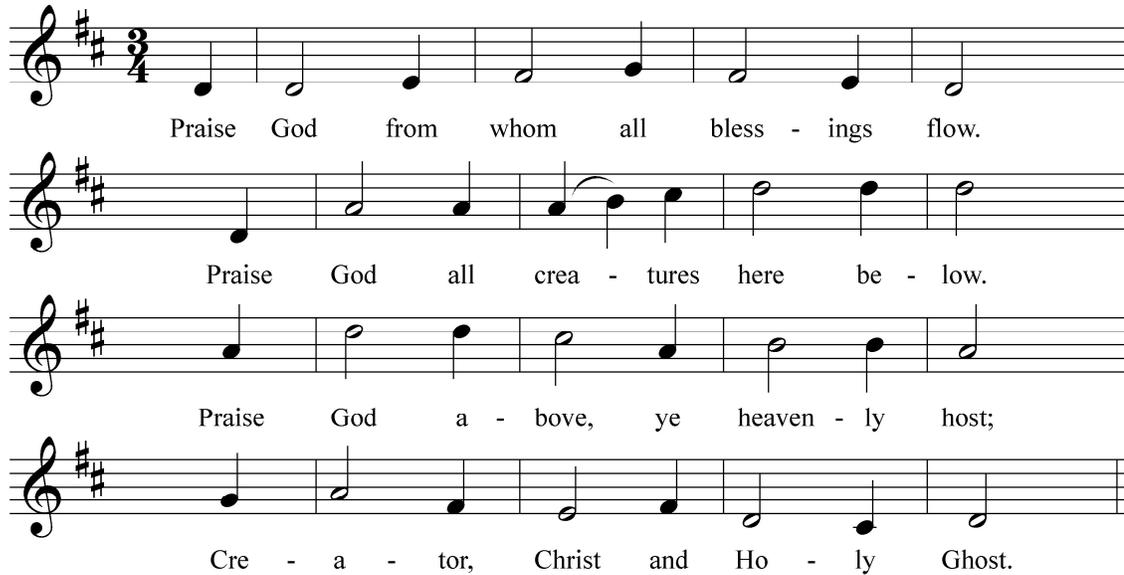
Kings of Orient

John H. Hopkins, Jr.

Tune and text taken from Hymn #66 arr. Robert J. Powell

*DOXOLOGY

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow.

Praise God all crea - tures here be - low.

Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;

Cre - a - tor, Christ and Ho - ly Ghost.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (*unison*)

On this glad new day for all the earth

we are grateful for giving hearts made joyful in the gift of your Son.

For you, O God, are generosity itself.

Bless these gifts we offer to the benefit of those in need.

Bless our lives in service of sharing your love in the world;

through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

L: Now, may Bethlehem's Child bless you!

P: **And also bless you!**

L: Now, may the children of God open their hearts.

P: **We offer them to the One who loves us each and every morning.**

L: Now, may we join in the songs of the angels.

P: **We join our voices with those of every time and place.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Christ is host of this table.

Everyone, without exception, is invited to receive the Sacrament.

We will come forward to receive communion by intinction,

taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup.

You may eat as you are served.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Sheep May Safely Graze

J. S. Bach

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Bear God's Word Into the World

*CAROL #56 "The First Nowell" vs. 1, 6

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: Let all God's people say, P: **Merry Christmas! Amen!**

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

CAROL #29 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Christmas Concerto: Adagio Arcangelo Corelli

Today's bulletin cover is by DPC artist-in-residence Cary Gibson

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

Scot Robinson, Vanderbilt Divinity Intern

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

154 5TH AVE North, NASHVILLE, TN 37219

(615) 254-7584; FAX (615) 254-4741

Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

Check us out at: www.dpchurch.com
or scan this QR code

