

# THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2019

Amy Harkness, 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

God is the comic shepherd who gets more of a kick out of that one lost sheep once he finds it again than out of the ninety and nine who had the good sense not to get lost in the first place.

— Frederick Buechner,  
*Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairy Tale*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Choral Song

S.S. Wesley

#### WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 43

L: When we pass through the waters or through the fire,

**P: God is there with us.**

L: When we suffer and feel hopeless,

**P: God is there with us.**

L: When we are joyful and celebratory,

**P: God is there with us.**

L: Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,

**P: God is there with us, always.**

L: Come, let us worship alongside each other  
and with Emmanuel, God with us.

\*HYMN #187

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on Psalm 23

Holy God,

we confess that we have strayed  
from your paths of right relationship and peace.

We have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation.

We repent of these hurtful ways.

Forgive us, we pray,

as we learn to forgive others,  
and guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen

(Time for silent confession)

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND PASSING THE PEACE based on Psalm 23

L: Hear the good news: God will lead us into places of hope;

God will give us the waters of life to strengthen us;

God will be with us in every moment, in every place of our lives.

P: Anointed with grace, fed with joy and wonder, we offer blessing  
and thanksgiving to the One who forgives us now and forever.

Thanks be to God!

L: And as people overflowing with joy and wonder,

let us bless one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

\*GLORIA PATRI #581 Glory Be to the Father

*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 Psalm 23

Shepherd of Souls,

you call us to an abundant feast at the table of your word;  
open our hearts to feed on your goodness,  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we might dwell evermore deeply in you. 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.

*(Children under age 6 may go with the nursery staff. Children ages 6 and up are encouraged to remain in the sanctuary.)*

FIRST READING

Acts 9:36-43

(NT p.)

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

SECOND READING

John 10:22-30

(NT p.104)

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

THIRD READING

Isaiah 43:1-5a

(OT p.672)

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

SERMON

Driving Through Fire

Amy Harkness

## We Respond to God's Word

\*HYMN #7

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*During the prayer, the leader will open a space for you to say aloud your individual prayers.*

*You may also come forward during the prayer to light a candle at the prayer table.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

The Secret of Christ

Richard Shepard

For a long time I have held my peace, but now will I speak.  
I will lead the blind in a way they know not,  
in paths that they have not known I will guide them.  
I will turn their darkness into light, and I will not forsake them.  
And he showed me a pure river of the water of life,  
clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God;  
and on either side of the river was there a tree of life,  
and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of the nations.  
Help us, Lord, to persevere in prayer with minds awake and thankful hearts,  
that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet  
on our earthly pilgrimage, our Master and our Friend. Amen.

— Text from Isaiah 42:14-16, Revelation 22:1-3,  
and *The Pilgrim Prayer* (based on Colossians 4:2-4)  
by the Rev'd Canon Derrick Walters

Amy Finka, soprano

\*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 23

Holy God, Divine Shepherd,  
you anoint us with the oil of gladness;  
your love overflows our hearts.  
Accept our offering for the good of the world  
as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you.  
In Jesus’s name we pray. Amen.

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

\*HYMN #463 “How Firm a Foundation”  
vs.1 all; vs.2 women & children; vs.3 men; vs.4&5 all

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Processional G.F. Handel

Today’s Guest Preacher  
Amy Harkness

Amy is a commissioned ruling elder and for the last six years has served Glenclyff Presbyterian Church as their regular pulpit supply preacher and worship leader. She’s been a registered nurse since 1985, the last 14 years at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital, mostly in pediatric oncology and as a hospice nurse. She’s also in private practice as a spiritual director and has been accepted into the Master of Divinity degree program at Columbia Theological Seminary where is contemplating starting this August.

Amy is the daughter of Betty and David Harkness and a former - and future - member of DPC; she is transferring her membership back with us!

## **Scot Robinson Wins an Award!**

At his graduation ceremony on Friday our VDS intern, Scot Robinson, was awarded the prize for Outstanding Work in Field Education for his work at his two placements at The Tennessee Justice Center and The Downtown Presbyterian Church. And the prize comes with \$2500!

Pastor Mike knew about this last Sunday but was sworn to secrecy. But now we can officially congratulate Scot on this amazing achievement!

## **JuveNiles**

The JuveNiles complete their 2018-19 year on May 19 by singing 2 anthems in worship. Please remember to congratulate them on their beautiful singing and for completing the year.

Final rehearsals:

May 12 (9:00 in the choir room)

May 19 (9:00 in the sanctuary, 11:00 worship)

JuveNiles will begin their 9th year in August. First rehearsal date will be sent over the summer.

## **Nursery Childcare**

After the Word For Our Youngest Disciples, parents may take younger children (5 and under) to our nursery, staffed today by Catherine DeSimone and Samantha Barclay.

## **Outreach Meeting**

The next Outreach meeting will be **Tuesday, May 14** at 5:00 p.m. at the Corner Pub across 5th from DPC. We will discuss benevolences and minute for missions. Other projects may be discussed if time permits. Please come join the conversation!

## **New Member Classes**

Are you interested in exploring membership at DPC? Want to learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian? Pastor Mike will be forming a new member cohort soon. The group usually meets for three Sundays before worship.

Whether you've just started worshipping at DPC or if you've been attending for months (or even years), there will be plenty to talk about. And there's no pressure to join; this is foremost an opportunity for conversation, information and inquiry.

If you're interested in attending or just have some questions – email Mike at [mikewilson@dpchurch.com](mailto:mikewilson@dpchurch.com).

Once he knows how many people will be participating, he'll set the dates and place.

## **FREE BOOKS! Good Summer Reads!**

Stop by the teeny table just inside the door from the alley and peruse the paperbacks. They are there for the taking/borrowing. You don't need to return the book, but pass it forward if you can. Want to drop off a good read (and realize you may never see the book again), then add yours. Just stick a little label on (provided) so a borrower might know where to return it if so desired.

## **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!**

## 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 2019

Chuck Cardona  
Jack Henderson  
Justin Near

Class of 2020

Dave Coleman  
Debra Gentry  
Vickie Coffin

Class of 2021

Mary Turner  
Jim Hoobler  
David Maddox

### 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

