

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude – Let Us Break Bread Together, Piano Duet – Brooks Parker, Betty Polk

• **Call to Worship (from Psalm 146)**

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals, in whom there is no help . . .

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD their God.

Invocation

• **Sounds of Faith** – #610 - O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing

• **Prayer of Confession**

Let us bring our heavy burdens to the Lord, confessing our sins and opening our hearts to God's grace.

You love us with open arms, O God.

Forgive us when we do not put your love into practice:

when we do not challenge the injustice around us;

when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share;

when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment;

when we contribute to the brokenness of the world instead of helping to make it whole.

Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.

Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.

Sing out the message clear and plain: Christ receives sinful people! Let us have hope, for in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

• **Congregational Response** - #568 - Amen

Children's Message – Martha Gessler

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Isaiah 35:4-7a – Liturgist, Susan Wright

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

*Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.*

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

*The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.***

Choir Anthem

O living bread of Heaven, how well you feed your guest

The gift that you have given has filled my heart with rest

O wondrous food of blessing, O cup that heals our woes

My heart, your gift possessing, with praises overflows

O Lord, by faith You've led me to this most holy place

Your love and mercy fill me with treasures of your grace

For You have freely given what Earth could never buy

The gift of life from Heaven, that I shall never die

I receive You, Bread of Heaven, this food death can't destroy

Your sacrifice has given the cup of endless joy

My Lord, I do not merit the favor You have shown

But humbly in my spirit, I bow before Your throne

Lord, grant me by your mercy, the strength that I shall need

To follow in your footsteps the path that you shall lead

And when you call my spirit to leave this world below

I will enter by your merit where joys unending flow Amen

Scripture: Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and

put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak." The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation

- **Sounds of Hope** – #302 - When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

- **Affirmation of Faith** (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Giving and Offertory

The Lord's Supper

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

- **Sounds of Love** – #547 - Go, My Children with My Blessing

- **Benediction**

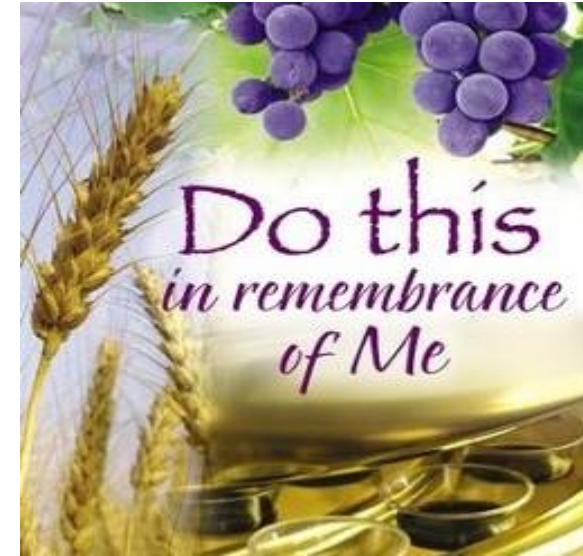
Postlude

The (●) dot in the order of worship invites you to stand as you are able. Text in **bold** indicates unison reading.

Please visit our website for DPC event information www.donelsonpres.org/church-life/calendar/

Donelson Presbyterian Church

Sharing the Love of Christ



We warmly welcome all who have come to worship with us today. If you are a guest at Donelson Presbyterian Church, we encourage you to fill out a yellow visitor card which you will find in the pew.

September 5, 2021
15th Sunday After Pentecost

2305 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37214
Phone 615-883-3248

www.donelsonpres.org
donelsonchurch@bellsouth.net

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