

**THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 29, 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**

Words are beautiful, but actions are supreme.

— Josiah Peek, AMEND Together Club Student  
speaking at the YWCA Spring Breakfast, April 24

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

Choral Song

S.S. Wesley

**WELCOME**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Here in this place of worship,  
with the congregation of the faithful,

**P:** **we lay down our fears,**  
**to boldly sing God's praise.**

**L:** Here in the vineyard of the Lord,  
with our sisters and brothers in Christ,

**P:** **adults tell stories of faith**  
**to children eager to grow.**

**L:** Here where God waits to serve us at the Table:

**P:** **we shall be so filled with love**  
**that we will run to serve others.**

**\*HYMN #624** "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Love is the standard by which we are measured. Let us confess the ways we have fallen short and receive assurance that we are always surrounded by God's perfect love.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on John 15:1

### **Mother of Compassion:**

**called to be one body,  
we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces;  
Your children of love,  
we insist on the right to despise our sisters and brothers;  
Though your Perfect Love was broken for us,  
we are afraid to give of ourselves to the world.**

**Abide in us, Vine Grower.**

**Forgive us for the ways we have fallen short  
so we may live boldly,  
love fearlessly,  
and proclaim unceasingly that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.**

(Time for silent confession)

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

**L: Do you feel it - there, deep down in your hearts?  
God's love is alive, beating, breathing - in you!**

**P: Because God abides in us, we can live for others,  
allowing God's love to bear fruit in us.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

**L: Now, let us prove that we are people alive with God's love  
by exchanging signs of reconciliation and friendship.  
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)

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your inspiration we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. 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

Leviticus 19:15-17

(OT p.106)

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

(OT p.163)

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

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-21

(NT p. 241)

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

SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

**We Respond to God's Word**

\*HYMN #286

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

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

based on John 15:1-8

Let us join with all creation in praying for  
the good of the earth and all people, saying,  
God, who makes us one,  
**hear our prayer.**

O God, we give you thanks for your Holy Spirit  
whose work at creation continues in us.  
Through Christ Jesus you have shown your love for this earth you made.  
We pray that all the world may know your power and goodness;  
God, who makes us one,  
**hear our prayer.**

Word of life, reveal the wonder of your world to all people.  
Show us anew what lives around us, over us, beneath us, within us.  
Enliven the church with your Spirit,  
that we may honor your earth with responsible care.  
God, who makes us one,  
**hear our prayer.**

Strong God, uphold our sisters and brothers who endure disasters  
caused by weather, war, famine, sickness,  
greed, cowardice, or expediency.  
Strengthen all who are in peril;  
refugees, the homeless, the abused, the addicted,  
those who are marginalized, dehumanized and cast out.  
You are our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in time of trouble.  
God, who makes us one,  
**hear our prayer.**

Giver of all good things,  
bring trust and sympathy to the nations of the world.  
Let peacemakers reign wherever there is conflict.  
Give wisdom to leaders and hope to the poor.  
God, who makes us one,  
**hear our prayer.**

Good healer, we pray for all who are in need of comfort.  
Comfort those who mourn;  
    uphold those who are sick, or holding vigil,  
    or awaiting words of hope,  
    especially those we name now silently or aloud  
[*Here you may say aloud your individual prayers for healing and comfort*].  
God, who makes us one,  
    **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your mercy,  
    we commend to you all those we have named  
    and those whose needs are known only to you,  
    in the name of your Son, Christ our Lord,  
    who taught us this 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    I Will Not Leave You Comfortless    Everett Titcomb**

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you yet again, alleluia.  
And your heart shall be joyful, alleluia.

**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)

May these offerings be used wisely by us to participate in your healing, redeeming and transforming work, O God. May those touched by the ministry and mission of this church know through our actions that you are God of compassion, acceptance and unconditional love. Amen.

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

\*HYMN #366                      “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Hornpipe from *Water Music*    George Frederic Handel

### **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!

## **Congregational Meeting, May 6**

There will be a short congregational meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, May 6, for the sole purpose of electing three at-large members to the 2018 Nominating Committee. The slate of nominees secured by the current Nominating Committee includes Claire Armbruster, Nina Cardona and Jim Hoobler.

## Children and Worship

**Note to Parents of Small Children:** 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 by loving caregivers. A greeter can direct you to the nursery.

For effective faith development, we value older children (over 5) experiencing the entire worship service. To help, children's bulletins and activities to keep little hands occupied can be found on the table in the narthex.

If you have questions or ideas for children's ministry, please contact Suzie Lane at [suzielane@dpchurch.com](mailto:suzielane@dpchurch.com).

## **New Adult Education Experience**

### *Living the Questions*



Many people have an intuitive sense that there is more to Christianity than the rigid rules and shallow platitudes that so often pass for theology in many churches. *Living the Questions* hopes to expose people to ideas and concepts that have been taught and discussed in seminaries, but sometimes not in our churches. So if you've ever found yourself puzzled by or disillusioned about religion this may be a dialogue you might like to join.

We're meeting at 9:45 a.m. in Parlor 2 for the next three weeks. Each session includes a video presentation and a written lesson; all materials will be provided.

Video presenters include some of the leading voices in progressive Christianity including Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Amy-Jill Levine, John Bell, Helen Prejean, Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza and many more.

DPC moderators for our sessions include Rev. Mike Wilson, Jim Dickson, David Maddox and Samera Zavaro.

**Please join us!**

## **Saturday Breakfast Ministry Meeting**

Today we'll have an organizational meeting of the Saturday Breakfast and Clothes Closet team. Ruling Elder Vickie Coffin, chair of the Outreach Committee will chair the meeting and act as liaison between the Saturday team and the session.

This meeting is for anyone - long-time volunteers and newcomers - interested in our Saturday ministry. We're especially looking for some new folks to serve as Saturday morning coordinators.

We'll gather right after worship in Fellowship Hall (leaving a little time for you to get some lunch if you'd like).

## **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.

If you can volunteer, please respond to [dpcbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto:dpcbreakfast@gmail.com).

## **Clothes Closet Help!**

We maintain a clothes closet to help our homeless and urban poor guests on Saturday morning. We are currently in need of the following items.

- 1) JEANS for Men and Women - all sizes
- 2) SOCKS for Men and Women - **New Only**
- 3) UNDERWEAR for Men and Women - **New Only**

**Thank you for your support!**



## The DPC Website

Have you visited our website recently? If you haven't you're missing a chance to go deeper into the life of the church and catch up things you might have missed. Our homepage always has our latest news and events including information about small groups, special worship experiences, art shows and concerts, mission opportunities and more.

There are several menu bar selections that open you to the history of the church, staff and elder bios and pictures, worship information, the event calendar, details on our Artist-in-Residence and Composer-in-Residence programs, mission projects, and wedding rental info...just to name a few things.

Of particular interest is the "media" menu. Here you can find audio of Sunday sermons, the latest church bulletin, session minutes and reports, a blog written by various DPC members and friends, and an expanding selection of other video and audio recordings.

The DPC website is dynamic and always changing. And everyone - longtime members *and* people who have never visited - will find something interesting, informative or fun.

And the site is easy to remember: [www.dpchurch.com](http://www.dpchurch.com)

Or you can use the QR code on the back of the bulletin to get you there. We hope you'll visit soon and often!

## **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!**

## First Sunday Lunch Meet-up

Join us next Sunday, May 6, right after worship, at the Nashville Farmers' Market for our First Sunday Lunch Meet-up! Get some food from one of the fantastic vendors, then look for friendly faces in the dining area.



Nashville Farmers' Market is at 900 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.

## Leadership Training

*Generations, Relationships, Christ: Getting Along, Discovering Gifts, Equipping Leaders*

GenOn Ministries' training to empower leaders

Saturday, June 9 8:30 am - 12:15 p.m.

Second Presbyterian Church

What can every church learn from GenOn Ministries' 50+ years of ministry?

- That treating each other as a child of God helps us all to get along and that spreads way beyond the church
- That God gives gifts to everyone to use in building up the church
- That equipping and empowering leaders is Kingdom living
- That setting goals is paramount to moving forward in ministry

*GenOn Ministries wants to teach your church what we know.* Join Suzie Lane for this Saturday morning training where participants will understand Christ-centered relationships, learn ways to help others discern their gifts, discover effective ways to equip and empower leaders, and leave with plans to put new learnings into practice immediately. *Generations, Relationships, Christ* is perfect for elders, deacons, committee moderators and members, Sunday school teachers and leaders, other church leaders, and anyone who has been recognized as a potential leader.

Registration is covered by the church. To attend, contact Mike Wilson.

First Saturday Art Crawl is coming up this Saturday, May 5. The crawl is from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and DPC is a popular stop. Volunteers are needed to be hosts. Hosts need to be at the church by 6:00 p.m. Email Michael Arwood (dagmal@aol.com) if you'd like to help out this Saturday.



## 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

164 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on April 21.

#### 11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:81, Children:14

#### Visitors and Tourists

37 visitors came to view the sanctuary during the week.

### Schedule of Weekly Events

#### Today

**12:00** Saturday Breakfast Ministry Meeting  
- Fellowship Hall

#### Monday, April 30

**11:30** AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### Tuesday, May 1

**11:30** AA Meeting - Parlor 2

**12:00** Bible Study - Parlor 1

#### Wednesday, May 2

#### Thursday, May 3

**11:30** AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### Friday, May 4

**10:00** HEAL - Fellowship Hall

**11:30** AA Meeting - Parlor 2

#### Saturday, May 5

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

#### Sunday, May 6

**9:00** JuveNiles Rehearsal

**9:45** Adult Choir rehearsal

**9:45** Christian Education

**11:00** Worship - the Sanctuary

**12:00** Congregational Meeting  
- Fellowship Hall

## 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, Facilities Manager

Dr. William Taylor, Director of Music

### THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

154 5<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://www.dpchurch.com)  
or scan this QR code

