

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 23, 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

“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”

— Anonymous

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 553

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 19:1-4, 14

L: Heaven is declaring God's glory;

P: the sky is proclaiming God's handiwork.

L: One day gushes the news to the next;

P: and one night informs another what needs to be known.

L: Of course there's no speech, no words -
their voices can't be heard -

**P: but their sound extends throughout the world;
their words reach the ends of the earth.**

L: Let our words be acceptable to you:

P: Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer.

***HYMN #13**

“The Mighty God with Power Speaks”

CALL TO CONFESSION

based on James 3:2

Let us use our voices to declare those things we have said and done that have separated us from God, and from each other, that we may experience God's mercy, forgiveness and grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

based on Proverbs 1:20-25; James 3:1-3

You have called us, O God of good choices,
and we have refused to listen.
You have stretched out your hand
and we have not taken it.
We have taken what you have given us
and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you.
We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom.
Forgive our inability to recognize you
and live out the reality of your gospel.
Give us the insight we need
to understand your place in our lives
so that our words and actions reflect
your glory in the lives of others.
In the name of the Messiah we pray. Amen.

(Time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

based on Psalm 19:7-8

L: The law of the Lord is perfect,
and it revives the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure
and make wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,
and it enlightens the eyes.
Hear the good news!
In Jesus Christ, the living Word,
we are revived and renewed and recreated
to live together in right relationship, grace and peace.
So let us now greet each other as God's new people.
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 Psalm 19:14

Let the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be pleasing to you, O LORD.
Be our Rock and our Redeemer. 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

James 3:1-12

(NT p. 230)

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

SECOND READING

Proverbs 1:20-33

(OT p. 584)

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

SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #174

“Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

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

based on Proverbs 22:1-5,9.23; Mark 7:24-37; James 2:1-17

God of love, Living Christ, Powerful Spirit,
you not only witnessed our suffering,
you experienced it.

We know that you understand
the sufferings of the world
and our own suffering.

Knowing that you have walked in our footsteps
and that you have lived through trials and tribulations,
we offer our prayers to you.

We pray for wisdom,
that we can communicate effectively
with love, shalom, and compassion
and strive to live in connectedness and understanding.

We pray for courage
so that we can live out our faith
giving witness with our words and actions
that you are our Savior.

We pray for the will
to take bear the burdens of discipleship
and go wherever you may lead.

We pray for love,
your love in us
so that we can live with the intentionality
to know each other by name
and have the deep relationships
that you want us to have with you and with each other.

And hear us now as we pray for all people - including ourselves -
who need courage, love, healing and compassion.

[Names may be called forth from the assembly.]

We offer these prayers in the name of the Word made flesh,
the one who showed us was courage and love really look like,
and who invited us to say these words:

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

Ruth Butler

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Heavens Are Telling Ludwig van Beethoven

The heavens are telling the Lord's endless glory,
Through all the earth His praise is found.
The seas re-echo the marvelous story: O man, repeat that glorious sound!
The starry hosts He doth order and number, He fills the morning's golden springs,
He wakes the sun from his night-curtain'd slumber; O man, adore the King of Kings!

The heavens are His and the earth knows His favor,
His power in all things thou dost see;
The Lord of hosts who for ever and ever thy God and Father still shall be.
He is thy Maker whose love shall not waver, A God of wisdom, ever kind;
Praise Him and love Him with all thy endeavor, In Him salvation shalt thou find.
Text taken from Psalm 19

*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)

God of wisdom,
may this offering serve as a powerful witness to this world in need.
Guide us as we administer the gifts that you have given us
to assist in the revelation of your kingdom.
In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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

*HYMN #693

“Though I May Speak”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello



Annual DPC Picnic Today!

Join us following worship (around 12:30 pm) at Shelby Park (East Nashville) at the Mission Shelter (same place as last year)

Everyone is welcome and invited to bring a side dish or dessert.

Fried chicken, biscuits, soft drinks, ice tea, and water will be provided by the Hospitality Committee.

Lawn games, musical instruments and well-behaved pets are encouraged!

Stephanie Coleman and Erin Bell will be coordinating Hospitality committee volunteers willing to help set up and clean up.

Shelby Park, 2009 Sevier St., 37206

To locate Shelby Park and the location of the shelter, go to the Parks and Recreation page at www.nashville.gov.

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 Jo Anne Byl.

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 chapel.

If you have questions about children and worship, please contact Suzie Lane at suzielane@dpchurch.com or 615-406-4915.

The Nominating Committee Needs Your Help

The 2018 Nominating Committee - Claire Armbruster, Nina Cardona, Jim Hoobler, Jim Dickson, Cary Gibson and Pastor Mike Wilson (ex-officio) - have begun their work identifying potential nominees for ruling elder for the session class of 2021.

DPC members are invited to make suggestions for consideration by the Nominating Committee which is charged with selecting three candidates to replace the outgoing class of 2018, Jim Dickson (Christian Education chair), Cary Gibson (Worship co-chair) and Michael Korak (Building & History chair).

How to make a suggestion for our consideration:

Please submit name(s) by email to Jim Dickson at deserata1@hotmail.com

The deadline for suggestions is Monday, October 1, 2018 and suggestions should include a brief explanation of why you believe that person would be a good ruling elder and member of session. You may also recommend yourself to the committee. All submissions must be in writing.

X

Please note that the work of a PC(USA) Nominating Committee is to be held in strict confidence and committee members cannot discuss your suggestions or our deliberations with the congregation, and lobbying on behalf of potential nominees is discouraged.

The Nominating Committee is tasked with nominating individuals in the context of the session as a whole so that the elders in active service represent the diversity of the congregation; create a strong leadership team with a balance of gifts, skills and experience to serve the congregation's various needs; and support our Pastor and staff.

Criteria for eligibility:

Those who have been a DPC member for one year and have been active in the life of the congregation.

Elders should be persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. (Book of Order G-2.0301)

continued

In addition to committee work and administrative responsibilities, in our Presbyterian tradition, ruling elders are also called to:

- equip and renew the people for their task within the church and for their mission in the world
- visit, comfort, and care for the people
- assist in worship
- cultivate their ability to teach the Bible
- strengthen and nurture the faith of the congregation
- encourage the people in worship and service of God

Since the session is responsible for many duties in the church, elders should have some of those abilities to assist in carrying out that work.

Our deep thanks in advance for participating in the life of the church by offering your suggestions and we welcome your prayers as we deliberate and discern.

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 chapel 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.

Minute for Mission

Chris Lovegood, Executive Director of Nations Ministry Center, will be giving the Minute for Mission next Sunday, September 30.

The mission of Nations Ministry Center is to help refugee families become generationally self-sufficient. They help refugees navigate the obstacles that they must overcome to maintain legal status and search out services. They provide a youth literacy program, Nations Academy and a summer reading program, The Big Read. They also are proactive in helping refugees obtain job training and also help them find jobs.

Gathering in the Sanctuary

In an effort to sustain that extraordinary feeling and renewed and energizing spirit we felt worshipping in the Chapel over the summer, we are inviting everyone use the first ten rows in the center section and the first six rows on the sides. (For those who like hard numbers, that's more than twice the pew-feet available in the Chapel).

We enjoyed a wonderful intimacy in the Chapel that feels very different from the "big room." The smaller space certainly put us in closer physical proximity; we might describe the feeling as "comfortably full." It also put us closer together aurally - we could hear each other better and consequently sing and do liturgy with greater confidence, volume and enthusiasm. And while it may be a less tangible measure, we also experienced a spiritual and emotional intimacy that flows out of simply sitting close to other people.

Our hope is that you'll want to continue to worship close to those folks whose voices and spirits have surrounded you this summer. Like all new efforts, we know this will take some getting used to. So after a few weeks we'll evaluate how things are working and refine our practice.

And we are not simply going to let empty pews sit fallow. The Worship & Arts committee is working on ways we can transform parts of the sanctuary into spaces for prayer and meditation, art projects, kid-friendly zones and more.

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!

Meet Scot Robinson!

DPC is pleased to welcome Scot Robinson as our Vanderbilt Divinity School intern. Scot tells us...

I'm a third year student at Vanderbilt Divinity School set to graduate this May. I'm married to Kelli Robinson, a musician and Appalachian environmentalist with a background in biology. We both hail from Pikeville, Kentucky, a small coal town in central Appalachia. When we're not busy with school and work, we enjoy playing Americana and rock music together. As an inquirer for ministry for PCUSA, I hope to be a part of the welcoming community at Downtown Presbyterian by serving alongside the congregation in a number of capacities while discerning my call to ministry during this internship this year. I look forward to getting to know everyone and being a part of the Christ-like work and service DPC provides to the community.

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 15.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:44, Children:10

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

12:30 DPC Annual Picnic

Monday, September 24

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Tuesday, September 25

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

12:00 Bible Study - Parlor 1

Wednesday, September 26

Thursday, September 27

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, September 28

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, September 29

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

Sunday, September 30

9:00 JuveNiles Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Choir rehearsal

9:45 Adult Education – 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

