



CALL TO CONFESSION

We are only a few days removed from the Christmas celebration
and already we are returning to “normal.”

We may find ourselves falling back into habits and patterns
that serve neither Christ nor us well.

So let us together remind ourselves of our frailty
and add fuel to the light of Christ, which still shines.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God,

Forgive us when we don't seem to see the light
shining forth from the divinity we witness each day.

Forgive us when we assign warmth and joy only to Christmas,
and then seem to dwell on the mundane the rest of the time.

Help us also be present and loving
for those who grieve during this time of the year.

Let us not be blinded by our own busyness
that we do not see our neighbor's lament.

Give us courage to live as people of the Light,
those who find your comforting, encouraging presence
in our lives at all times.

Let us shine the light of Christ on others.

(Time for silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE based on Psalm 146

L: People of God, In the name of Jesus Christ, you are beloved and forgiven.

May we hear together the song of joy,
and find our homes in the garden of justice and hope,
that we may experience the fullness of life,
which is God's will for all, in the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #47

“Still, Still, Still”

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

Almighty God,
Who taught us to pray not only for ourselves
But for people everywhere,
 hear us as we pray for others,
 in the name of Jesus Christ as we say
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Loving God,
 as we get ready to welcome a new year,
 we pray for both the world at large along
 with the intimate world of our family, friends,
 church, neighbors, and coworkers.
May we see the divine enoughness in the strangers we will encounter
 and may we reflect the love of Christ to those who feel the world has
 forgotten them.
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.
May we stand close and comfort those who
 lost friends, family, neighbors, and pets this past year.
Let us leave them space to grieve in our communities as we grieve with them.
May all who mourn feel your light upon them this day and always.
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who are suffering; for the homeless, the ill, those struggling from
 addiction, and the unemployed:
 that God will sustain their spirits, relieve their suffering,
 and give them hope.

We are all called to follow you as you love the poor and the broken.
So lead us to partner with you in whatever you call us to - to love, serve, give
and pray wholeheartedly and willingly.
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer

We pray also for creation.
For the waters of the world, that they may be restored to health and filled
with bountiful life.
For Earth's soil, that its richness be protected to assure abundant harvests
for all.
And for all creatures who share Earth with us, that their beauty and diversity
will be preserved.
O God of Creation, help us to respect and renew the Earth
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer

Gracious God,
You have called us to be the church of Jesus Christ.
Keep us one in faith and service,
breaking bread together, and loving one another
as sisters, brothers, and siblings who seek to exhibit the Kingdom
to the world.
May we live in the light of your truth through Jesus Christ
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Throughout all time you have blessed your people, O God,
and dwelt among them.
On the eve of this new year,
inspire and guide us,
that all we do may find in you its beginning and fulfillment.
God of mercy,
Hear our prayer
Amen!

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 A Child is Born in Bethlehem Medieval carol
 arranged by Jodie O'Regan

A Child is born in Bethlehem. Alelujah.
 Exult for joy Jerusalem. Alelujah, Alelujah.
 He comes a maiden mother's son. Alelujah.
 Ye earthly father hath He none. Alelujah, Alelujah.
 Come then and on this natal day. Alelujah.
 Rejoice before the Lord and pray. Alelujah, Alelujah.

*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) based on Mark 12:38-44

God of generosity,

We come to worship you this morning at the close of one year
and threshold of a new one.

We know the road ahead of us holds many new challenges, and opportunities
to be the followers you desire.

May the giving of our gifts this morning strengthen our resolve
to be the disciples of Christ that you desire for the world,
full of compassion, mercy and lovingkindness.

May we, like your son Jesus, be found dwelling
in your presence and love when others come looking for us.

In Christ steadfast love we pray. Amen

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

*HYMN #49

“Once in Royal David's City”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Go Tell It On the Mountain arranged by Fred Offutt

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

Hans Schmitt-Matzen

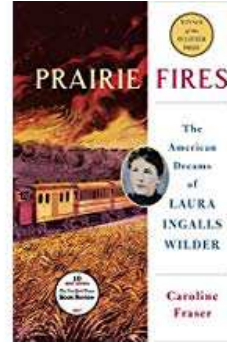
Nursery Childcare

After the Word For Our Youngest Disciples, parents may take younger children (5 and under) to our nursery.

DPC Book Group

"The DPC book group will have its next meeting on Thursday, January 10, at 6:30 p.m. (location to be determined). We will be discussing Caroline Fraser's *Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder*, which won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Biography.

Contact Joel Dark (joelhdark@gmail.com; be sure to include the "h") for more information."



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!

DPC Clothes Closet

We at DPC maintain a clothing closet to help meet the needs of our homeless and urban poor guests on Saturday morning. As we head into the winter season, the clothing closet needs a few extra items to help our guests stay warm and dry.

Items of greatest need are:

- sweatshirts (hoods preferred)
- coats
- hats
- gloves (larger sizes for men are most needed)
- scarves.
- thermal under-layers in all sizes

We also need sample-sized toiletries:

- bars of soap
- sample-sized shampoo & conditioner
- trial sized deodorant
- toothbrushes and trial or sample sized toothpaste
- chapstick (not lip gloss/lipstick)

Lastly, we always need the following items for men and women:

- Jeans (sizes 30-36 for men are in highest demand)
- Socks - MUST be new
- Underwear - MUST be new

Due to space and time constraints, we ask that you please limit donations to these items of greatest need for the winter season. Thank you for supporting the clothing ministry of Downtown Presbyterian Church!

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

130 people were served a nutritious, hot breakfast on December 22.

11:00 Worship Service Attendance

Adults:97, Children:10

Schedule of Weekly Events

Today

Monday, December 31

Tuesday, January 1

New Years day - Church Closed

Wednesday, January 2

Thursday, January 3

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Friday, January 4

11:30 AA Meeting - Parlor 2

Saturday, January 5

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

Sunday, January 6

9:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:45 Adult Education – Parlor 2

9:45 Children's Education - Rm #211

11:00 Worship - The Chapel

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

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Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

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

