

# THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

Thank you for being here today!

Following best practices and to insure everyone's health and safety, ***we ask that you refrain from singing.*** Instead we invite you to follow along with the hymn texts provided while our cantor sings.

We also ask that you refrain from handshakes and hugs and moving around the sanctuary.

Feel free to join in the spoken liturgies.

And because our worship is being recorded for later broadcast, we ask that you **remain seated and quiet for the opening and closing voluntaries.**

(\*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

### We Gather in God's Name

OPENING VOLUNTARY Chorale Prelude on *Simple Gifts* Jon Spang  
Melody for hymn "'Tis the Gift to be Simple"

### WELCOME

\*GATHERING PRAYER by Laura Kidwell and Julianne Wagon

*Shekinah is a Hebrew word that means "dwelling" or "settling" and denotes the dwelling or settling of the divine presence. In Judaism, in the presence of the Shekinah the divine connection to God is more readily perceivable. In some sources and parts of the Jewish tradition, the Shekinah represents the feminine attributes of the presence of God.*

**L: O Shekinah, yours is the feminine face of the Holy,  
the luminous moon who lights up the night  
as we travel from captivity to liberation;**

**P: the pillar of fire who guides our way home,  
the cloud hovering over the mountain peaks,  
living sign that the drought is over.**

**L: You are the indwelling presence of the Divine.  
Whenever we gather to praise the One, you are here in our midst.**

**P: When we cry out for justice, you make our hearts tender.**

*continued*

L: When we stand with those on the margins, you make our legs strong.

P: When we create works of art, and parent our children,  
and harvest our gardens, you guide and sustain us.

L: You restore balance in our relationships  
and wholeness to our fragmented souls.

You are the song of our homecoming.

P: Be with us now as we navigate this landscape of mystery.  
Help us. May we remember you and lift you up.

May we recognize your face in everything and everyone.

\*HYMN

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

### PRAYER OF RENEWAL (unison)

Holy One, our lives are in turmoil.

Our hearts are heavy.

Help us to cope with this modern plague.

We worry for our families, our communities and a country on the brink.

We sometimes feel we lack the courage

to stay strong for those in our care,

to act in loving ways,

and to stay strong for ourselves.

We remember that your people in other ages have faced  
plagues, slavery, war, extermination and exile.

We have walked in narrow places and wandered in deserts.

Sustain us now. Quell our anxiety. Give us strength.

Let us find new unity in this time of trial.

May our spirits be filled with the light of you.

May our hearts be softened by your Love.

(Silent prayer)

### \*ASSURANCE OF OF GOD’S GRACE AND PASSING THE PEACE

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

*Please share signs of welcome and peace  
but refrain from moving around the sanctuary.*

PARISH LIFE & CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**God's Word Is Proclaimed**

WORD FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

PRAY FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 33:12-23

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

SERMON

Rev. Mike Wilson

**We Respond to God's Word**

\*HYMN

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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.

**We Seal God's Word Upon our Hearts  
and Bear It Into the World**

\*HYMN

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Processional

Raymond H. Haan

*Please remain seated and quiet for the closing voluntary.*

Today's liturgist : Stephanie Coleman

Today's cantor: Amy Finka

Our organist and music director is William Taylor

### **Supporting our Ministry and Mission**

To offer your financial support to the ministry and mission of DPC you may

- Place your offering in one of our designated offering locations
- Use our mobile app by texting "dpchurch" to 73256
- Use our web-based giving form by going to our website, [dpchurch.com](http://dpchurch.com) – the link to the giving form is on the homepage under "Online and Mobile Giving"

### **Exodus 33:12-23**

Moses said to the LORD, "Look, you've been telling me, 'Lead these people forward.' But you haven't told me whom you will send with me. Yet you've assured me, 'I know you by name and think highly of you.' Now if you do think highly of me, show me your ways so that I may know you and so that you may really approve of me. Remember too that this nation is your people."

The LORD replied, "I'll go myself, and I'll help you."

Moses replied, "If you won't go yourself, don't make us leave here. Because how will anyone know that we have your special approval, both I and your people, unless you go with us? Only that distinguishes us, me and your people, from every other people on the earth."

The LORD said to Moses, "I'll do exactly what you've asked because you have my special approval, and I know you by name."

Moses said, "Please show me your glorious presence."

The LORD said, "I'll make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I'll proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD.' I will be kind to whomever I wish to be kind, and I will have compassion to whomever I wish to be compassionate. But," the LORD said, "you can't see my face because no one can see me and live." The LORD said, "Here is a place near me where you will stand beside the rock. As my glorious presence passes by, I'll set you in a cleft in the rock, and I'll cover you with my hand until I've passed by. Then I'll take away my hand, and you will see my back, but my face won't be visible."

# Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright  
2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing  
3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - turing one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - ery  
me your food of light, grain of life, and grape of  
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.  
love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.  
grow un - til I flower, un - til I know.

As the tune hints, this text is derived from images in the writings of the English medieval mystic, Julian of Norwich. In 1393 she wrote down an account of her sixteen remarkable visions experienced twenty years earlier; they formed the basis of her theology of God's love.

TEXT: Jean Janzen, 1991  
MUSIC: Carolyn Jennings, 1995  
Text: © 1991 Jean Janzen  
Music: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

NORWICH  
LM

# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me'. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands.  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling;  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my eye - lids close in death,

Let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side which flowed  
Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

Though scholars discredit the story that this hymn was written when the author found shelter under a large rock during a thunderstorm, the popular appeal of that conjecture perhaps lies in the energy of this plea and the vividness of its imagery drawn from many biblical sources.

# God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing  
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen  
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's  
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -  
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -  
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -  
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:  
 vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
 round you:  
 fore you:

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

## 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 2020

Rev. Mike Wilson, Moderator

Vickie Coffin, Clerk

Rachel Hayes, Treasurer

#### Class of 2020

Dave Coleman  
Debra Gentry  
Vickie Coffin

#### Class of 2021

Mary Turner  
Jim Hoobler  
David Maddox

#### Class of 2022

Erin Bell  
Jake Byl

### 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

Michael Korak, Facilities Manager

### 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

