

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020

Rev. Stacy Rector, guest preacher

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

Morning Light

Barry Braham

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 43:3-4

L: The Psalmist sings:

Send your light and truth — those will guide us!

**P: Let them lead us to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling place**

L: Let us come to God's altar —

**P: Let us come to God, our joy, our delight —
then we will give you thanks with the lyre,
God, our God!**

*HYMN

"Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF RENEWAL (unison)

“Keep awake,” you tell us, urging us to watch with expectant hope
as we wait for you to reveal yourself in our midst.
But, Lord, we grow tired of looking for signs of your presence among us.
We grow weary from a steady diet of distressing news
and convince ourselves that you are still far off.
We are careless with the tasks you expect of us
and, so, are not prepared to encounter you.
Forgive us for losing heart and losing hope.
Sustain us in faith, we pray, and keep us ever watchful
so that we might be ready to greet you with joy.

(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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:1-13

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

SERMON

Rev. Stacy Rector

We Respond to God's Word

HYMN

“What Is the World Like”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayer Reverend Stacy Rector 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

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples of the Lord”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Postludium from *Sonata in Classic Style*

Gordon Young

Please remain seated and quiet for the closing voluntary.

Today's liturgist is David Maddox

Today's cantor is Ryan Norris

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 – the link to the giving form is on the homepage under "Online and Mobile Giving"

Matthew 25:1-13

(Common English Bible translation)

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten young bridesmaids who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. Now five of them were wise, and the other five were foolish. The foolish ones took their lamps but didn't bring oil for them. But the wise ones took their lamps and also brought containers of oil.

"When the groom was late in coming, they all became drowsy and went to sleep. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Look, the groom! Come out to meet him.'

"Then all those bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. But the foolish bridesmaids said to the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps have gone out.'

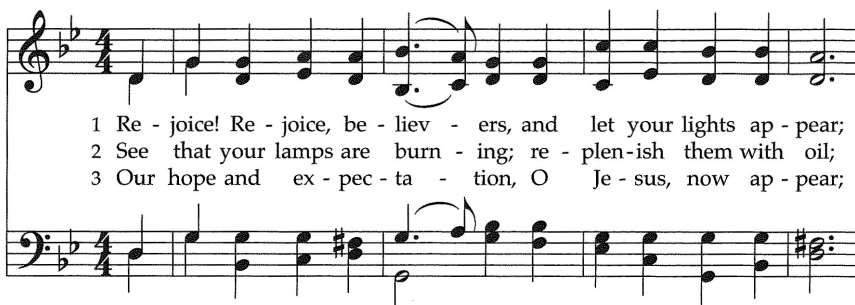
"But the wise bridesmaids replied, 'No, because if we share with you, there won't be enough for our lamps and yours. We have a better idea. You go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' But while they were gone to buy oil, the groom came. Those who were ready went with him into the wedding. Then the door was shut.

"Later the other bridesmaids came and said, 'Lord, lord, open the door for us.'

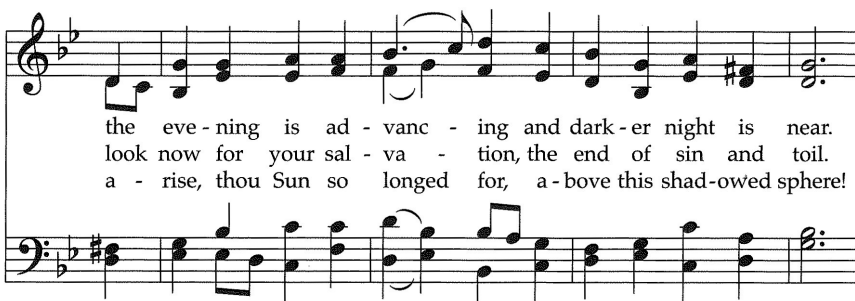
"But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'

"Therefore, keep alert, because you don't know the day or the hour.

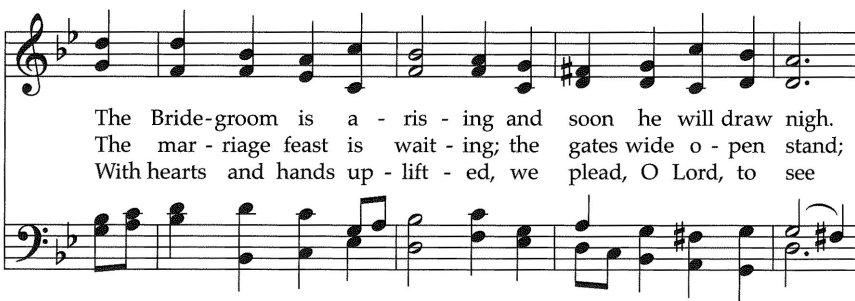
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers



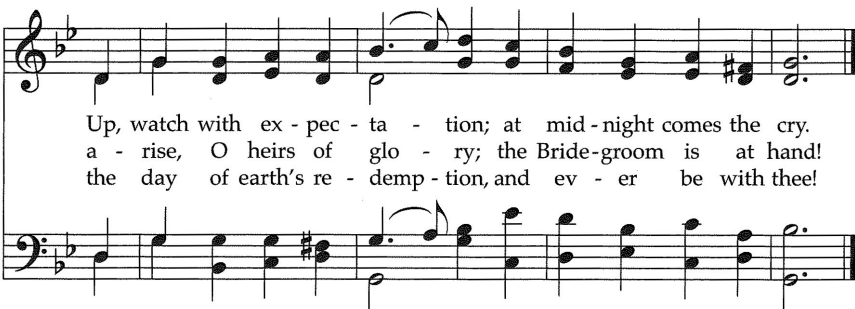
1 Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing; re - plen-ish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this shad - owed sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon he will draw nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion; at mid - night comes the cry.
a - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

The Latin original of this text based on the parable of the wise and foolish maidens (Matthew 25:1-13) consisted of ten stanzas, but this briefer version is more appropriate for its message of urgency. It is set to a spirited minor Welsh tune named for a Pembrokeshire village.

What Is the World Like



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive;
Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.



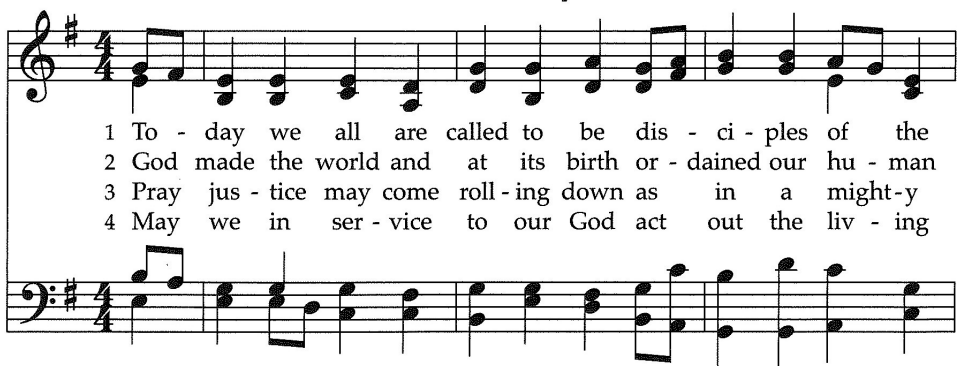
roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,



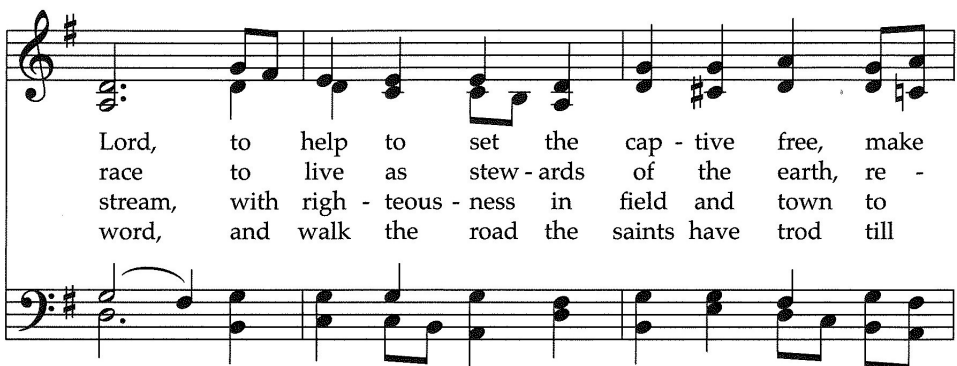
This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.
This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
This is how God read - ies us for the light.
this is a new world where God's will is done.

This text and tune were written to conclude a hymn festival at the 2009 Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Four parables framed both the festival and the hymn: the Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Ten Bridesmaids.

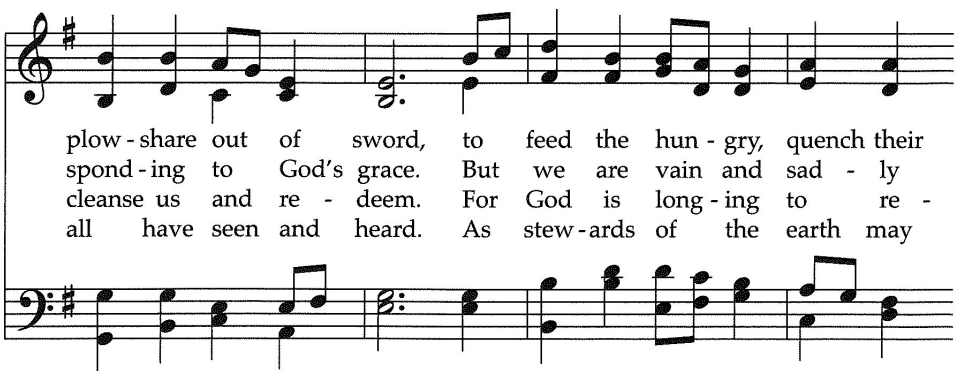
Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples



1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing



Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till



plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

TEXT: H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985
 MUSIC: *English County Songs*, 1893; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Text © 1989 H. Kenn Carmichael

KINGSFOLD
 CMD

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thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

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.