

**THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 8, 2021**

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**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

Prelude

William H. Harris

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Hallelujah, God is steadfast like the morning!

**P: In our tossing and turning,**

L: God returns to us again and again

**P: with gentle sunlight and birdsong.**

L: When we are too groggy to travel the path of our True Selves,  
Dios nos espera.

**P: God waits for us.**

L: When oppressive forces threaten our waking hours with hopelessness,

**P: Dios nos espera.**

**God hopes for us.**

L: Let us gather in the patient and persistent hope of God.

**\*HYMN #15**

**“All Creatures of Our God and King”**

All - vs.1,4,6; women & children - vs.2,5; men - vs.3

**CALL TO CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Doula God, thank you for co-laboring with us as we tend seeds of collective liberation. At times it can be hard to align our spirits with yours, to let go and step up as we are called. Help us that we might be present to the non-linear evolution of our lives without shaming or being shamed. Supply us with curious minds and peace in our bodies. Amen.

*(Time for silent confession)*

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE

L: Hear these words of assurance and good news, that God so loved the world Christ was sent, not to condemn us, but to free us. Beloved, we are called to be free. Let us serve one another humbly therefore, for the entirety of the law is summed up in one word, in this, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” In this spirit of love, let us greet one another. May the peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.*

*Please return to your seats when the music starts.*

\*GLORIA PATRI                      Glory Be to the Father

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.

## God’s Word Is Proclaimed

CHILDREN’S SERMON

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE VERSE    “These Treasured Children”

*Come, Holy Spirit, help us be  
a nurturing community.*

*Empower us to realize  
God’s kingdom through our children’s eyes.*

FIRST READING                      Psalm 130

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

SECOND READING                      Ephesians 4:25-5:2

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

SERMON

“Stay Curious”

Rev. Larissa Romero

## We Respond to God's Word

\*HYMN #754

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (people read bold)

In the sunlight and under moonlight,  
we go in the care of a God who does not shame,  
inviting us to take seriously our role in building the Beloved Community,  
so we can bring to vividness our truest desires --  
solidarity, compassion, a life of gritty hope.

We offer our own hopes and prayers, knowing you hold them with care.  
We lift them up to you now in the silence, attending to your gentleness:  
(moment of silence)

May we hold one another's hopes with care. In gentleness we pray aloud to you:  
(the people offer their prayers aloud)

We bear witness with your saints in many places and times, praying the prayer  
you taught us...

**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.**

### COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Our lives are meant to be more than endless striving. So in our compassion for each other, we share what we have, that none may feel the need to earn survival. In the spirit of abundance and rest, we bring our offerings to the Beloved.

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

- Place your offering in one of our designated offering locations.
- Use our mobile app by texting “dpchurch” to 73256.
- Visit [www.dpchurch.com](http://www.dpchurch.com) and click "Online and Mobile Giving".

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

## Bring Many Names

Carlton R. Young

Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate, in parable and story,  
holiness in glory, living, loving God. Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day, planning all the wonders of creation,  
setting each equation genius at play: Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child, feeling all the strains of human living,  
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled: Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Old, aching God, gray with endless care, calmly piercing evil's new disguises,  
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair: Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move, saying no to falsehood and unkindness,  
crying out for justice, giving all you have: Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home: Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

Brian Wren

## \*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*)

Steadfast Spirit, forgive us when our understanding of liberation is too narrow. Reveal the forces that cause us to act out of alignment with our deepest convictions. We dedicate these offerings to the expansive radical love of God, that our actions may align with our heart's desire. Amen.

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

\*HYMN #738                      "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

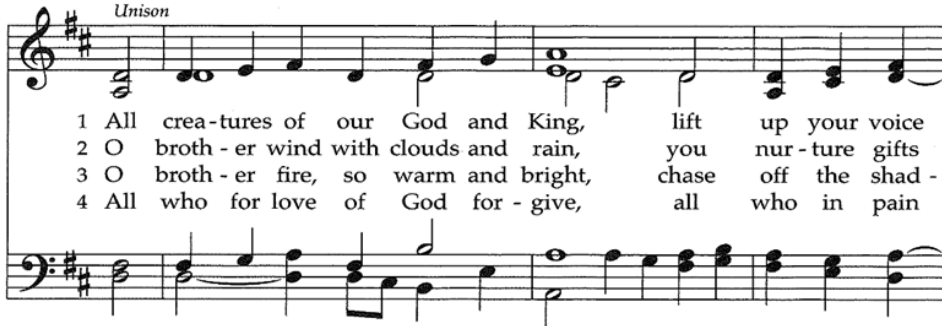
L: And may all God's people say

P: Alleluia Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY      Interlude No. 3 (from *Set II*)                      Eric H. Thiman  
*(please remain seated during the closing voluntary)*

## 15 All Creatures of Our God and King

*Unison*



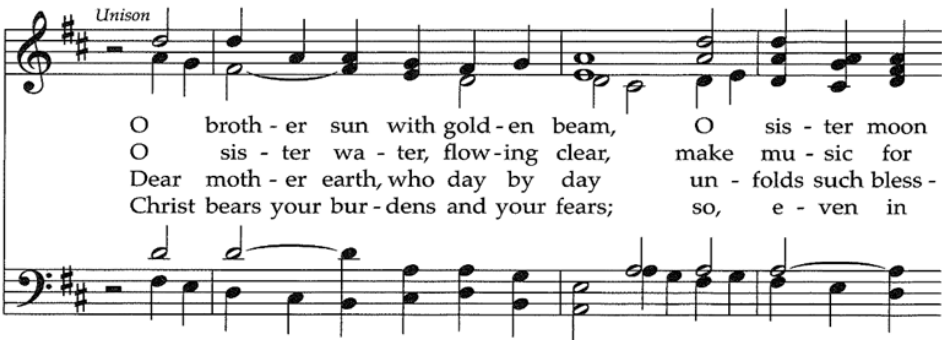
1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice  
 2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts  
 3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-  
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain

*Harmony*



and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 ows of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

*Unison*



O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon  
 O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for  
 Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-  
 Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

*Harmony*

with sil - ver gleam,            sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 your Lord to hear.            Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ings on our way,            sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 the midst of tears,            sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
 fair is the night that leads us home.  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
 and worship God with humble heart.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

# Help Us Accept Each Other 754



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.



## 738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee  
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee  
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;  
 by some clear, win - ning word of love;  
 in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,  
 far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the  
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and  
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in  
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.  
 guide them in the home - ward way.  
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.  
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

## **Nursery Care Available for Sunday Worship**

We are thankful to have two new nursery caregivers for Sunday mornings. Anna and Abby Takahashi will be providing nursery care during the worship service for children through age 5. The new nursery is located on the 2nd floor and is ready to welcome the youngest of DPC attendees.

## **DPC Choir News**

As our choirs become active again, now is a great time for you to join. Our adult choir is now active and rehearsing every Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. prior to the service. Our handbell choir will begin their rehearsals in August and most likely our JuveNiles will start as the new school year begins. Please see any current choir member or William Taylor for any questions and to let us know you will be joining in this important DPC ministry.

## From the Session

As you are likely aware, the CDC recently changed their mask recommendations. The session met this week to discuss this information and discern what changes might be merited. Here are our recommendations for the congregation:

- Maintain social distancing while in worship. To help encourage everyone to make full use of our wonderful sanctuary, we have roped off rows where we ask you not to sit.
- When sitting in a socially distanced pew, you can remove your mask.
- If you are singing or moving about the sanctuary, we request that you wear a mask.
- If you are not yet vaccinated, we request that you wear a mask any time you are inside the church.
- Those working in the nursery will be masked to help protect our youngest church attendees.

We hope these safety measures will reduce the risks associated with COVID19 and/or the Delta variant. We appreciate your help in following these recommendations, so we can continue to offer in-person worship to the Downtown community. The members of session welcome your prayers as we continue to discern best practices for all attending The Downtown Presbyterian Church. Please feel free to email [dpchurchsession@gmail.com](mailto:dpchurchsession@gmail.com) with any questions regarding these recommendations.

## 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

- Belief in God's love and in Christ's ministry
- The desire to welcome and embrace everyone. No exceptions.
- Service to God, service to our neighbors
- God's gift of creativity

## SESSION 2021

### Class of 2021

Jim Hoobler  
Mary Turner  
David Maddox

### Class of 2022

Erin Bell  
Tom Byl  
Jake Byl

### Class of 2023

Tom Wills  
Samera Zavaro  
Leslee Hughes

## THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Larissa Romero, Pastor  
Dena Swoner, Office Manager  
Paulino Jarquin, Maintenance Manager  
Dr. William Taylor, Director of Music

## 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 3:00 p.m. Parking vouchers are necessary to exit the garage without having to pay. To get one, just ask one of our greeters.