

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 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

Morning Light
The DPC Handbell Choir

Barry Braman

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: When we co-create abundance,

P: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.

L: When we pull back the curtain on the lie of scarcity,

P: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.

L: When we make the shared table of nourishment accessible,

P: the Spirit of the Living Christ is among us.

L: Let us Gather in the Spirit of the Living Christ.

***HYMN #174**

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

CALL TO CONFESSION (UNISON)

Wholly Present God, we yearn for a day when the needs of our planet and all creatures are met. We long for nourishing food, clean water, bodily safety, rejuvenating rest, and ordinary delight for all beings everywhere. Sometimes in our longing we fall into the trap of believing in our own strength and resources alone, rather than shared abundance. Until we make it so, hold us in our grief and guide us in our transformation. 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 111

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

SECOND READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

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

THIRD READING

John 6:51-58

L: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. **P:** Glory to you, O Lord.

We Respond to God’s Word

***HYMN #652**

“A Grateful Heart”

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

When Jesus stood before the gathered crowd,
he offered his presence and his energy to the path of mutual nourishment.
The path is before us.

We, too, have our bodies and our intentions to share.

We lift them up to you now in the silence, attending to your gentleness:
(moment of silence)

We, too, have each other.

Together 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

Giving and receiving is the ebb and flow of interdependence. We feel buoyed into life when we envision systems where communal nourishment is the standard. In our sharing of resources, we incarnate the Divine. Let us bring forth our offerings, that together we might become the body of God

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 and click "Online and Mobile Giving".

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth, the Lord hath delivered his
people, Alleluia!

O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of His
name, make His praise to be glorious.

words adapted from Isaiah 48:20

*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*)

Holy Spirit, bless what we have brought forth to meet the spiritual and
physical needs of our community. May we have fortitude when we feel
weary. May we be surprised by moments of connection and delight. When
we feel resentment toward others or when we feel judgment towards
ourselves, may compassion usher us more deeply toward each other,
where our freedom intertwines. Amen.

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

*HYMN #504

“We Come as Guests Invited”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: And may all God’s people say

P: Alleluia Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Chorale

Raymond Haan

(please remain seated during the closing voluntary)

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174

1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who

earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,

for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -

path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

A Grateful Heart

652

(Psalm 111)

1 A grate - ful heart is what I bring, a song of
 2 Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the
 3 With sav - ing love you set us free, and still you

praise, my of - fer - ing. A - mong the saints I
 poor with gen - tle hands. Your word is true, your
 dwell in mys - ter - y with wis - dom none can

lift my voice: in you, O God, I will re - joice.
 works are just; in you, O God, the faith - ful trust.
 com - pre - hend. Your praise, O God, will nev - er end.

This paraphrase of Psalm 111 preserves the psalm's quality of providing a general list of God's praiseworthy characteristics rather than giving thanks for a particular act of deliverance. In the original text these attributes are organized as an acrostic on the Hebrew alphabet.

504 We Come as Guests Invited

1 We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine,
 2 We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need,
 3 One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine,

his friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine;
 and in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed;
 our fel - low-ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine:

the bread of life is bro - ken; the wine is free - ly poured
 with won - der and thanks - giv - ing for love that knows no end,
 re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en by to - ken, sign, and word,

for us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
 we find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
 the pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.

Without attempting to unravel the mystery of Christ's presence in the bread and wine, the central stanza of this text affirms that we are nourished by faith rather than by understanding. This hopeful text is reinforced by a gentle 16th-century tune created for a secular text.

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.