

# THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 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

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Where the Soul of Man Never Dies"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Bless God who is moved by our suffering.

P: Bless God who hears us when we call out.

L: Bless God who can handle our harshest words,

P: Who knows grief need not be well-mannered and lament need not be civil.

L: Bless God who does not ask us to move on before we are ready;

P: God offers no hollow words nor easy answers.

L: God waits with us in our truth and hope.

P: Bless God who Blesses us.

\*HYMN

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

CALL TO CONFESSION (UNISON)

O Holy Wisdom, fear is a natural reaction to moving closer to the truth. As a result, we can sometimes avoid truth-telling. But when we do this, we also avoid living with greater authenticity and freedom. Help us to break open in this moment of silence, as we allow you to transmute our vulnerability into life-giving power.

(silent confession)

When we witness the truth of the world and the truth of our lives, and are afraid, embolden us with courage to act compassionately in spite of our fear. Amen.

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.”

## PASSING THE PEACE

L: In the 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

### FIRST READING

Psalm 51

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

### SECOND READING

Mark 2:13-17

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

### SACRED REFLECTION: Florilegia

### SERMON

“Ultimate Success Through Failure”

Rev. Larissa Romero

## We Respond to God's Word

\*HYMN

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

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

On days when your anger is hot,

may the Spirit be an autumn breeze against your face.

On days when your mind is stuck in binaries, may there be room to hold it all together -- the sorrow, the beauty, the bewilderment, the hope. In this moment of silence we step into that space you hold for us:

(moment of silence)

On days when resiliency is low,

may the beloved community pull up a chair for us on the porch.

We offer up space in our circle of prayer to:

(the people offer their prayers aloud)

May we feel in our whole selves, that in the holding, in our togetherness, we are blessed, and say together the prayer Christ 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**

Beloveds, the suffering of the world scrolls through our screens, wafts in through our radio waves, lines up outside our hospitals, strains at our borders, spills in tears down our cheeks. Let us collect our offerings for this day, that we might ease the suffering and aid the thriving of all beings.

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**            “Talk About Suffering”

**\*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*)

**Spirit of the Living God, may our offerings connect with the wide network of communities doing what they can with the resources at hand to bring about your kin-dom. That all may have enough and live without fear, bless our offerings and accompany us in our efforts. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: May today there be peace within.

May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received,  
and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom  
to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us.

And may all God's people say.

**P: Alleluia, Amen.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Good News, Chariot's A-Coming”

Call to Worship and Prayers by © 2021 enflashed, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero

Benediction by Saint Teresa de Ávila

Liturgist: Alison Letcher

Musicians: Brandon Bell, Dave Coleman, Emily Williamson, George Williamson

## Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

## Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

## Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

(Refrain) Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.  
Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. O,

(Refrain)

If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home,  
Tell all my friends I'm coming, too, coming for to carry me home. O,

(Refrain)

The brightest day that I ever saw, coming for to carry me home,  
When Jesus washed my sins away, coming for to carry me home. O,

(Refrain)

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down, coming or to carry me home,  
But still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home. O,

(Refrain)

## Membership Classes Coming Soon!

Are you interested in discerning membership with The Downtown Presbyterian Church? If so, we hope you will join us for a short class series on the meaning of being intentionally integrated into the life and ministry of DPC. We will meet on the Sunday mornings of October 31, November 7, and November 14th at 9:45 am in the Sunday School room. Each class will guide you through the questions as outlined below:

**Oct. 31:** What is church membership? What are the church's mission and values? What is Reformed theology and the Presbyterian Church?

**Nov. 7:** What is church leadership? How are decisions made? How do our church theology and church polity/governing intersect?

**Nov. 14:** What is the history of the church? What has our story been, and what do we continue to learn about ourselves? How can you stay connected to the church?

***This class is open to everyone! Whether you just joined us for worship last week, have been visiting for a while, or are a long-time member wanting a refresher, we hope you will attend this time of reviewing what unifies us as a congregation. On Sunday the 21st, we will have a celebration of new members during worship!***

## Socktober

The Fish & Loaves ministry will be collecting men socks throughout the month of October! These socks will be distributed on Saturday mornings as part of our clothing closet ministry. We request white athletic socks for men, sized 6-12 or 10-13. Crew or ankle length socks are preferred. **Please note: the clothing closet is currently closed to additional clothing donations at this time.** We will share with the congregation when we are ready to begin accepting additional clothing items.



## Save the Dates for Fall Fun!

### **Pumpkin Parade & Cauldron Cook-off**

We're excited to bring back 2 of our favorite fall events! Please note that this year they will be on separate dates.



On **October 24th**, we invite you to bring a carved pumpkin to display. This year we'll have a few prizes awarded by judges instead of voting. To participate, simply have your pre-carved pumpkin in place by 10:55a.m. We look forward to seeing your creativity on display!

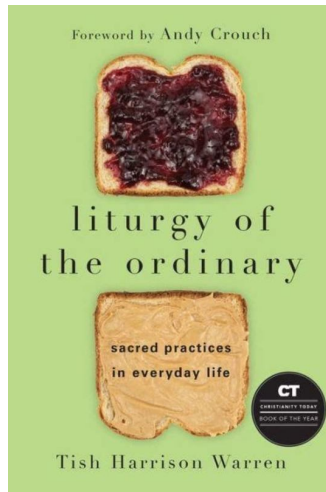


On **November 7th**, we'll have the annual cauldron cook-off. We plan to gather in the fellowship hall for a fall feast among friends! This year, we'll have prizes in 4 categories: traditional chili, non-traditional chili, soup or stew, and dessert. As in the past, we'll have ballots for voting and small prizes for the winners.

If you have questions or would like to help with either of these events, please email [events@dpchurch.com](mailto:events@dpchurch.com).

### Planning for Waffle Shop 2021

We are excited to begin planning for Waffle Shop 2021. This looks to be our 97th Waffle Shop! Please contact this year's chair, Denny Harris, if you'd like to get involved with this annual holiday event. We look forward to sharing details about this year's Waffle Shop soon.



## **Adult Education Series: “Liturgy of the Ordinary”**

Denny Harris and Dave Coleman are leading an in-person Adult Sunday School class discussing the book, "*Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life*". The 6 week series of classes started **Sunday, Sept 12th** and runs **through October 17th**. They will meet in the parlor adjoining the fellowship hall. Plan to arrive at 9:45 to prepare a cup of coffee and settle in before the discussion begins at 10am.

**We hope to see you for an enlightening time of discussion!**

## **DPC Book Club**

The DPC book group has selected *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain for our next read. We will gather on **November 4th at 6:30pm** to discuss this text together. A book kit is on loan from the library; please email [events@dpchurch.com](mailto:events@dpchurch.com) if you would like to borrow one of the available copies of the book. To learn more about our book club or join our next meeting, contact Joel Dark ([joelhdark@gmail.com](mailto:joelhdark@gmail.com)). All are welcome.

## **Meals for Henderson Family**

Please sign up for a slot to bring a meal (or have one delivered) to the Henderson family as they transition back into working life with their newborn. The sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

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

We are thankful to have nursery care available for Sunday mornings. Nursery care will be provided during the worship service for children through age 5. The nursery is located on the 2nd floor and is ready to welcome the youngest of DPC attendees.

## **Current Worship Procedures**

We recognize the recent COVID/Delta outbreak has changed the CDC's guidance, *even for those who are vaccinated*. As such, we have made the following changes to our worship procedures.

- To help encourage everyone to make full use of our wonderful sanctuary, we have roped off rows where we ask you not to sit. We hope this will help encourage more social distancing.
- 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.
- Nursery workers will wear masks to help protect our youngest church attendees.

## 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.