

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 17, 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

"Fanfare and Alleluia"
The DPC Handbell Choir

Douglas E. Wagner

WELCOME

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God is praised when we make peace.

P: They love hard-won and honest peacemaking.

L: They love the bringing together of many
fleshy bodies, neurodivergent minds, and curious spirits.

God invites us not to a ladder to climb nor a 10-step improvement plan;

**P: They invite us to the table of simple abundance,
imperfect and real community,
beloved belonging just as we are.**

L: They invite us to a ministry of reconciliation, making all things new!

***HYMN #53**

"O God Who Gives Us Life"

Amy Finka, cantor

CALL TO CONFESSION

Down To Earth God, thank you for the example of our teacher, Jesus, who joined people in the ordinary dust of their days, who got up close to the life lived on their feet, and who blessed them with water and compassionate presence. We attend to this presence in our lives right now, in a moment of silence...

(silent confession)

Infuse our lives with sacred-ordinary connection, and when our feet are weary, still us to receive a blessing from another.

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."

*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 34:11-14

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

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-15

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

SACRED REFLECTION: Florilegia

SERMON

"Everyday People Peacemaking"

Rev. Larissa Romero

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #695

“Change My Heart, O God”

Amy Finka sings 1st time; then congregation sings 3 times
Amy Finka, cantor

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

When our sacred self-worth goes uncelebrated, may we dance our beloved bodies to liberation. We listen to the Spirit who sees each prayer written on our hearts in this silent moment:

(moment of silence)

When our friend is sick, may we find a way to lower them through the ceiling so they might be in the presence of a healer. We pray, too, for all those in need this morning:

(the people offer their prayers aloud)

May the Advocate bless our continued becoming, as we 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

Young person and water protector, Alexander Howland, said while at Standing Rock, “I’m going to stay as long as it takes to ensure the safety of our future generations.” In the spirit of intergenerational solidarity, let us pool our resources so young, old, future generations, and the body of the Earth might flourish. Let us bring our offerings to God and each other.

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

Simple Gifts

Shaker Tune

Jan Van Valey & Susan Berry, arrangers
The DPC Handbell Choir

*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 Way-Maker, when despair and overwhelm knock at the door of our souls, awaken our hearts to tenderness, enliven our minds with creativity, and meet our bodies with rest, that we might be fortified to co-labor with you to bring about your kin-dom. We dedicate these offerings to the invigorating of our spirits and to the work of your kin-dom. Amen.

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

*HYMN #835

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”
Amy Finka, cantor

*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

“Psalm XX”

Benedetto Marcello

53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de-spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

Change My Heart, O God 695

Cámbiame, Señor 항상진실케

Refrain / Estribillo / 후렴

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.
 Cám - bia - me, Se - ñor, con tu gran po - der.
 항 상 진 실 케 내 맘 바 꾸 사

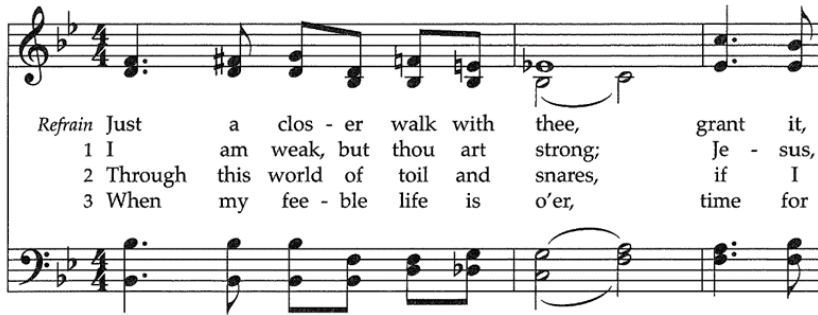
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
 Haz - me co - mo tú, tu yo quie - ro ser.
 주 님 의 모 습 닦 게 하 소 서

You are the Pot - ter; I am the clay.
 Tú el al - fa - re - ro, yo el ba - rro soy.
 주 는 토 기 장 이 나 는 진 흙


Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
 Só - lo a tu j - ma - gen, quie - ro siem - pre ser.
 날 빛 으 소 서 기 도 하 오 니

The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1-6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee 835



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it,
 1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus,
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for



Je - sus, is my plea, dai - ly walk - ing close to
 keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 me will be no more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly



thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
 shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
 o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. *Ref.*

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 government 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.

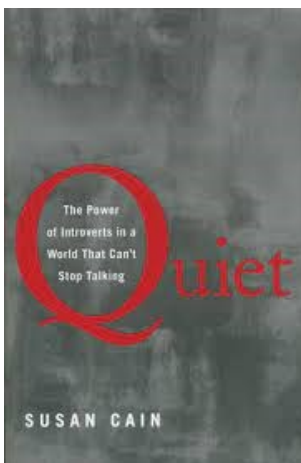
Planning for Waffle Shop 2021

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.

Small Church Youth Rally - October 24th!

Join small churches on October 24th from 4-6pm at Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church for a youth rally that includes a main street photo scavenger hunt and dinner! The rally is for middle and high school students and everyone is welcome.

**Historic Franklin Presbyterian Church
435 Main Street
Franklin, TN 37064**



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 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). All are welcome.

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.

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.