

**The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship for January 30, 2022
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

Opening Voluntary Chanson from *Nine Pieces for Organ*

Gordon Young

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: People of God, Divine Mystery comes to dwell among us.
With hospitality, let us turn our attention to the Spirit.

P: We welcome unfamiliar ideas.

We open to surprising revelations.

We celebrate a multiplicity of truths.

L: People of God, there is freedom in letting go of the need to be certain.
Let us participate in collective humility:

P: That fresh wisdom may emerge,

Love may deepen, and paths of collective liberation may manifest.

L: Come, Spirit, come.

Opening Hymn #691 “Lord, When I Came into This Life”

Call to Confession

L: Holy One, when the world is full of so much uncertainty, we can cling tightly to what we know. We acknowledge that our need to feel secure can become a barrier to transformation. Help us attend to both our real needs and next brave steps in this moment of silence...

(collective moment of silence)

P: May your Spirit guide and support us as we seek to let go of the need to control through knowledge or ideas. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God does not faint or grow weary and God’s understanding is unsearchable. God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

God’s forgiveness, God’s grace, God’s faith in you and in all of us frees us. God renews us and strengthens us.

Hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

With this grace and with this gratitude, I also wish you peace.

The peace of Christ be with you. Please share that peace with the people around you, or wish your neighbors peace in the comment section.

Passing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Affirmation of God in the Gathering

“We Shall Be Known”

We shall be known by the company we keep

By the ones who circle round to tend these fires

We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap

The seeds of change alive from deep within the Earth

It is time now

It is time now that we thrive

It is time we lead ourselves into the well

It is time now

And what a time to be alive

In this “Great Turning” we shall learn to lead in love

In this “Great Turning” we shall learn to lead in love

Encountering the Living Word of God

First Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

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

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

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

Third Reading

Luke 4:21-30

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

Centering Practice

Sermon

“A Very Human Epiphany”

Rev. Larissa Romero

Responding to God’s Word and Call

Hymn #693

“Though I May Speak”

Prayer of the People & Prayers of Intercession (people read bold)

The Incarnate One reveals their truths
through ordinary bodies and everyday flesh,
creaturely and human alike.

Seeking the enfleshed divine,

let us pay attention to the messages of our own beating hearts, to the hungers and
desires of our neighbors, and to the earth’s groaning, surviving, and teaching. We pay
attention as we pray for:

(the people lift their prayers aloud)

All we need, God has already provided.

May we be open to every encounter with truth. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name.

Thy kingdom come, they 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 Tithes and Offerings

God has filled our lives with sources of wisdom and surrounded us with an abundance of divine messengers. The land is a teacher. The prophets, a lighthouse. Our bodies, carriers of stories, ancient and intimate. For God dwells here among us, incarnate in flesh. For these gifts of divine presence, let us bring our offerings in thanks.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Guiding One, we know there are times we have turned against your messengers. When our certainties are troubled or our comfort is threatened, we can push truth away. Still, we pray our community becomes a faithful and trustworthy friend to all your prophets and wisdom. Bless this offering to furthering the good news in all its liberative forms. Amen.

Invitations & Announcements

Closing Hymn #722 “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

Charge and Benediction

When the Real Good begins to feel out of reach,
when collective change seems impossible,
or hope is hard to find,
Christ whispers “peace, peace” among us.
Not to dull our need to feel sorrow, or to quell necessary conflict,
but to remind us again of what’s so easily forgotten:
Love is still alive.
The Good News always makes us new,
Always reveals marvels,
Always invigorates and invites.
With the Spirit of this Good News that sustains and guides,
go with confidence.
And may all God’s people say.
Alleluia, Amen.

Closing Voluntary

Paeon from Seven Tone Poems

Gordon Young

"We Shall Be Known" by MaMuse

Singing led by Cantor, Ryan Norris

Prayers by enfleshed, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero

Benediction inspired from words by Simone Weil, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero

Lord, When I Came into This Life 691

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
 2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Written for the confirmation of the author's son, this text of self-dedication also voices our recurring individual need to recommit ourselves in less formal ways. The familiar shape note tune enhances a sense of finding our place among God's people from all times and places.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1976

MUSIC: American folk melody; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

LAND OF REST

CM

(alternate harmonization, 545)

We Shall Be Known

Ma Muse

G C G

We shall be known by the com pan - ny we keep by the

3 G D G

ones who cir - cle round to tend these fires

5 G D G

We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap the seeds of

We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap the seeds of

7 C D G

change a - live from deep with - in the earth

change a - live from deep with - in - the earth

Alto

C G C G C D7

It is timenow it is time now that we thrive it is time we lead our-selves in-to the

It is timenow it is time now that we thrive it is time we lead our selves in to the

12 G C G C G

well It is time now and what a time to be a - live

well It is time now...and what a time to be a - live

repeat second time only

C D Em

in this great turn - ing we shall learn to lead in love

in this great turn - ing we shall learn to lead in love

C D D7 G

in this great turn-ing we shall learn to lead in love

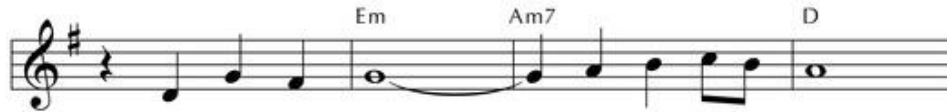
In this great Turn-ing we shall learn to lead in love

Though I May Speak 693

The Gift of Love



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be given by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

As paraphrases of 1 Corinthians 13:1, 3 the first two stanzas here are in the first person singular, yet they lead into a plural prayer for the gift of such love, for it thrives in community. These words are especially poignant with this adaptation of an English folk melody.

722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you

ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed

let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 I may feed your hun - gering ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872, alt.
 MUSIC: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt.

CANONBURY
 LM

Co-op Bible Study w/ George Schmidt & special guests

A part of building up our adaptive skills in this transformative transition includes learning new and creative ways of engaging with our community. Co-ops share a lot in common with churches, and there are actually more than a few theological imperatives to engage in these kinds of partnerships.

Nashville scholars and organizers from Vanderbilt Divinity School, the Wendland-Cook Program in Religion and Justice, and the Southeast Center for Cooperative Development have come together to create this Bible Study series. Join us Sunday mornings on the dates below for this 5-week long Bible study series led by George Schmidt with guests from the partner organizations above.

Co-op Bible Study Schedule:

- ◆ Jan 30th: 9:45-10:45 on Zoom
- ◆ Feb 6th: 9:45-10:45, Zoom and in-person
- ◆ Feb 20th: 9:45-10:45, Zoom and in-person
- ◆ Feb 27th: 9:45-10:45, Zoom and in-person
- ◆ Mar 6th: 9:45-10:45, Zoom and in-person

DPC Committee Corner

As noted above, we are in the process of restructuring our committees at DPC. In the coming months we plan to transition from the current ten committees to the following 5 core committees: Faith Formation, Community Engagement, Administration, Missions, and Business Management. The following committee meetings have been scheduled for February. If you'd like to learn about joining a committee at DPC, please email info@dpchurch.com.

- **Communications** - Monday, February 7th at 5:00pm via Zoom
- **Fish & Loaves** - Thursday, February 10th at 6:30pm via Zoom
- **Building/History and Finance** - Wednesday, February 16th at 7:00pm via Zoom
- **Outreach** - Wednesday, February 23rd at 6:00pm via Zoom