

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Ascension of the Lord

May 29, 2022

Hearing assistance devices are available. Please ask a greeter for a receiver.

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

Gathering in God's Name

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* Richard Wienhorst

(Please meditate quietly during the Opening Voluntary.)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Today we celebrate Christ's return to God!

P: **We watch in wonder as he leaves with a promise!**

L: Still, this is not a time to gaze upward.
He also left us with the work of witness.

P: **Jesus the Christ has left us the work of God's love.
He has left us the witness of ministry.**

L: Let us get to working and witnessing!

P: **Let us make our hearts ready with worship!**

*HYMN #260

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Glorious God, you call us
to live faithfully in obedience to your wondrous love.
Sometimes, we become too comfortable gazing at your glory.
Remind us that you have fresh surprises of joy in store for us, in this
moment of silence:
(collective moment of silence)

**P: As we fulfill our promise to you,
We await the promise of your return to us. 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 save us. Beloved, you are called to be free. Serve one another humbly therefore. As Paul reminds us, the entirety of the Law is summed in one word, in this, “*Love your neighbor as yourself...*”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: 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

Acts 1:1-11

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

SECOND READING

John 17:20-26

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

WORSHIP WIZ KID

WORDS OF WONDER

QUESTIONING PRACTICE

SERMON

“The Work of Witness”

Rev. Larissa Romero

Responding to God’s Word & Call

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

We have assurance, as God’s own beloveds:

In our grief, God is with us and God is within us.

In our joy, God is with us and God is within us.

Help us to move through our living with compassion and tenderness as we pray for:

(the people lift their prayers aloud)

Both mourning and celebration are the work of the people of God, and we uplift that work remembering the words you taught us long ago...

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

Poet Jericho Brown wrote the line, “All my anxiety is separation anxiety.” May our shared resources ease the anxiety of feeling isolated in our struggles. May they be a reminder that no being is detached from the Cosmic Whole. Let us bring forth our offerings in the spirit of solidarity.

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

Give Laud Unto the Lord

Ernest Bullock

Give laud unto the Lord, from heav'n that is so high,
praise him in deed and word above the starry sky
and also ye His angels all, armies royal, praise joyfully.

Ye boundless realms of joy, exalt your Maker's fame,
His praise your song employ, above the starry frame,
your voices raise, ye Cherubim and Seraphim, to sing His praise.

*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*)

Living Christ, our heartstrings are tugged in all directions. We wrestle with how to live when we have inherited patterns of harm. Remind us that we, too, are inheritors of Creativity, Love, and Imagination. May our collected resources offer a legacy of Love. Amen.

Announcements & Invitations

*Hymn #268

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

L: The last thing the Resurrected Christ did
before departing from his Beloveds was to offer them a blessing.
And so, may our interactions with each other be a blessing.
May our words and our actions flow
like water, like honey, like fragrant oil into the lives of our communities.
Go forth in Blessing in the name of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy
Spirit. And may all God's people say.

P: Hallelujah! Amen!

Closing Voluntary

Postlude on *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Gordon Young

(Please remain silently seated during the Closing Voluntary.)

"We Shall Be Known" by Used with permission from MaMuse
Prayers by enfleshed, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero
Music led by DPC Adult Choir
Chorale Prelude on *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*
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Postlude on *Crown Him with Many Crowns*. Music: Gordon Young.
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260 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, here on earth our food, our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o - tent we

throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to -
 now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be - lies nor
 stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to you from
 own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool,

ry a - lone! Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on
 ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him,
 day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
 heaven your throne. As with - in the veil you en - tered,

The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN

thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -
earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the songs of
robed in flesh, our great high priest; here on earth both

ev - ery na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

We Shall Be Known

Ma Muse

G C G

We shall be known by the compan - 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

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.



First Saturday ART CRAWL (that's June 4th!)

Come from 5pm - 8pm to:

- View Gabe McCurdy's photography in the Browsing Room
- Tour the Sanctuary and learn DPC's history

Changes to COVID Procedures

After great consideration, the session has approved or implemented the following changes to our COVID procedures.

- Social distancing yarn/signs have been removed from the sanctuary.
- Masks are now optional for staff, guests, volunteers, etc., and those attending Sunday worship services.
- We continue to recommend that anyone who is not vaccinated wear a mask within the building.
- Masks will continue to be required for nursery workers.
- We will return to pre-COVID communion procedures, and will have self-serve communion containers available for those who prefer them.

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 2022

Erin Bell
Tom Byl
Jake Byl

Class of 2023

Tom Wills
Samera Zavaro

Class of 2024

Betty McConnell
Denny Harris

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Larissa Romero, Interim Pastor Shannon White, Dir. of Education
Dena Swoner, Office Manager Dr. William Taylor, Dir. of Music
Paulino Jarquin, Building Manager Rainwater Morehead, A/V Tech

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.