

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 11, 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

PROCESSION OF BELLS

QUESTION FOR MEDITATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude on "We Come to You for Healing, Lord" George Shearing

(Please meditate quietly during the Opening Voluntary.)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Glorious God—

The wonder of your creation is evident everywhere:

P: In the moon pulling the tide,

The tide turning the sand,

The sand housing the starfish,

The starfish echoing the constellations.

L: Your Murmurations move us into partnership with you.

Your Ancient Flow makes all things new.

Your Cosmic Womb holds life, death, and becoming.

P: We gather in the Current of your Wonder.

We Worship your Mysterious Love.

To God be the Glory!

*HYMN #634

"To God Be the Glory"

CALL TO CONFESSION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

Holy Way Maker, we celebrate the ways we have turned from patterns of harm.

We overflow with gratitude for the expansive ways of living we are learning. And, yet, a grateful heart is not enough; we must make amends for the harm we have caused out of ignorance. Help us imagine new pathways for healing in this moment of silence...

(collective moment of silence)

Bless us with fortitude and softness as, out of an overflow of mercy, we work to repair. 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 “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray

Up on the mountains my Lord spoke
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke
Looked all around me, it looked so fine
I asked the Lord could it be mine

Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit
Movin' in my heart I will pray.

Encountering the Living Word of God

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-10

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

WORDS OF WONDER

SERMON

“Partnering with God”

Responding to God’s Word & Call

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

O God you offer healing from every way we have been harmed,
Including making amends for all the ways we needed
to learn and know better and grow.

Help us to partner with you in mutual healing as we pray for:
(the people lift their prayers aloud)

Your Compassion, Partner God, offers restoration in ways we only
dreamed possible,

In ways set forth in 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

German mystic, Rainer Maria Rilke, wrote: “We must not portray you in king’s robes, you drifting mist who brought forth the morning.” We gather our offerings today not to support ways of empire but to nourish the kin-dom of soulful healing and holy mystery—the drifting mist who brings forth the morning.

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

Steal Away

African American Spiritual
arr. Nicholas White

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thunder;
The trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a-trembling;
The trumpet sounds within my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

***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*)**

God of the morning and of midnight, God of storm clouds and of gentle breeze—we bring our shared resources to you that reparations might be made and that healing might be supported. In every season, bless our offerings to the good of the collective. Amen.

Announcements & Invitations

***Hymn #37**

“Let All Things Now Living”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

L: Go then to be alive.

Go seek help and seed hope

Through the ways Spirit moves in you,

Through the Christ who calls you to freedom,

Through the Creator who guides the sound of the genuine in you.

And may all God's people say.

P: Hallelujah! Amen!

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "They'll Know We Are Christians"

Wilbur Held

(Please remain silently seated during the Closing Voluntary.)

Prayers by enfleshed, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero

Benediction adapted from writings by Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

Chorale Prelude on "We Come to You for Healing, Lord."

Music: George Shearing, ©1977. Lorenz Publishing Corporation.

Every Time I Feel the Spirit. Music: Melva Wilsen Costen, ©1990.

Westminster John Knox/Geneva Press.

Steal Away. Music: Nicholas White, ©1999. Augsburg Fortress.

Let All Things Now Living. Text: Katherine K. Davis, ©1939, 1966.

E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

Music: Gerald H. Knight, Royal School of Church Music.

Chorale Prelude on "They'll Know We Are Christians."

Music: Wilbur Held, ©1972, Augsburg Forstress.

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PNC Congregational Meeting: TODAY!

Today immediately after worship in the Fellowship Hall, The Downtown Presbyterian Church will hold a congregational meeting to elect the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee. The meeting will be moderated by Debra VanDerveer. Debra is DPC's liaison to the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

We look forward to gathering on September 11th to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee. We are excited to move forward in the process of selecting DPC's next full-time pastor.



emergent faith

"Building Community"

Worship with us next Sunday, September 18th at 11am to notice the ways "building community is to the collective as spiritual practice is to the individual".

Scripture Focus: John 3:13-17



DPC Picnic - Sunday, September 18th

The DPC community is invited to gather for a church picnic on Sunday, September 18th following worship. The community engagement committee will provide fried chicken; we ask that the congregation bring sides or desserts. We'll gather at the Shelby Bottom Mission Shelter to enjoy food and fellowship with one another.






We have some exciting new programming for the upcoming year. Shannon and Pastor Larissa have been preparing all summer to create and coordinate a new energy and program for our Sunday School time. There is something for everyone.

- The **Brew Room #100** is going to be more than the social coffee spot. There will be a guest speaker each week sharing their expertise, experience, and education with us.
- Around the corner is the **Art Room #102**, is our Artists-in-Residence giving you a creative art form for expression and worship.
- For the academics, we will have George Schmidt as our Theologian-in-Residence providing us with historical, theological, and biblical insights for your scholastic feels in the **Education Parlor next to Fellowship Hall**.
- Children's Sunday School will continue upstairs using the Sparkhouse curriculum.

We are excited for this time to thrive and get a boost to our education. You can't go wrong with any of these great programs. See you Sunday mornings at 9:45am!

A photograph of coffee beans scattered in the top left corner and a white cup of coffee in the bottom left corner. The background is white with decorative yellow wavy lines.

Brew Room

Community Chat with:
Tom Wills,
The Contributor
Coffee & Q&A
September 18th
9:30 am
Room 100

A photograph of various colorful balls of yarn (red, orange, pink, yellow, light blue, green, purple, teal, brown) arranged on a dark wooden surface.

DPC Fiber Group
September 24th
11am-1pm
events@dpchurch.com

Now Seeking: Session Class of 2025

The 2022 nominating committee has begun the work of identifying nominees for ruling elder. The incoming class of elders will replace the outgoing class of 2022: Jake Byl, Tom Byl, and Erin Bell. **DPC members are invited to recommend nominees for ruling elder for the session for consideration by the Nominating Committee.**

Submit recommendations to Erin Bell and Denny Harris. Suggestions should include a brief explanation of why you believe that person would be a good ruling elder and member of session. You may also recommend yourself to the committee.



In the Art Room...

**RUBY
KENDRICK**

Create alongside one of our
Nashville artists
Sundays in September
starting at 9:30 AM
Room 102



THEOLOGY STUDY GROUP

GOD-TALK

SEPTEMBER 18TH: THE ANCIENTS

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 am

Education Parlor,

next to Fellowship Hall, walk-ins welcome

Led by Theologian-in-Residence:

Rev. George Schmidt

Current COVID Procedures

- Masks are 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 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 Liv Taylor, Community Minister
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.