

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 18, 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

Prelude

Henry Coleman

(Please meditate quietly during the Opening Voluntary.)

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Savvy God,
Audacious God,
Determined God.

**P: God who guards Her Beloveds like a Mama Bear—
You do not ask propriety of your people.
You ask us to refuse our cages oppression.**

L: Come, let us worship God,
our Fierce Protector and our Steadfast Love.

***HYMN #708**

“We Give The but Thine Own”

CALL TO CONFESSION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

Divine One, you teach us how to prioritize your precious creations of people
and this planet over being seen as socially acceptable.

continued...

We confess that at times we fall into the old patterns we have learned, ones that made us feel safe or helped our early survival, but we now know support systems that hurt your creations. We may prioritize that old sense of safety and social acceptance. Help us recommit to building community through Your new life - with all the discomforts, justice, joy, and flourishing therein - in this moment of silence...

(collective moment of silence)

Infuse us with your Holy Courage and Wisdom, Oh God, that we may shed shallow politeness and, instead, deepen our relationships towards soulful liberation and authentic solidarity. 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 16:1-13

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

WORDS OF WONDER

Liv Thomas

SERMON

“Building Community”

Responding to God’s Word & Call

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

Holy Spirit who fills us with courage, and

Fans the flames of our compassion,

Help us to build community as we pray for:

(the people lift their prayers aloud)

Lead us on paths of liberation as we say and listen with care to 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

As we prepare to gather our offerings, we consider what we owe each other—our compassion, our showing up, our doing better when we know better, and our shared resources when we have abundance. Let us collect what we have that we might be accountable to one another in relationship and care.

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

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Charles. H. H. Parry

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word,
Rise up and follow Thee.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind,
and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

John G. Whittier

*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, we desire all people to be free—free from fear, free from punitive forms of punishment, free from soul-crushing debt, free from gender-based violence, free to make decisions about their own bodies, free to experience connection and belonging. We dedicate our offerings to collective freedom, spiritual and material. Amen.

Announcements & Invitations

*Hymn #697

“Take My Life”

*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!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Sortie in D

Benton Price

(Please remain silently seated during the Closing Voluntary.)

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.

Prayers by enfleshed, adapted by Rev. Larissa Romero

Benediction adapted from writings by Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

Prelude. Music: Henry Coleman, ©1956. Oxford University Press.

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

Westminster John Knox/Geneva Press.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind. Music: Charles. H. H. Parry, ©1941.

Novello & Company.

Sortie in D. Music: Benton Price, ©1969, Lorenz Publishing Corporation.

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emergent faith

"New Life is Non-Linear"

Worship with us September 25th at 11 am to contemplate the breaking of God's newness when least expected.

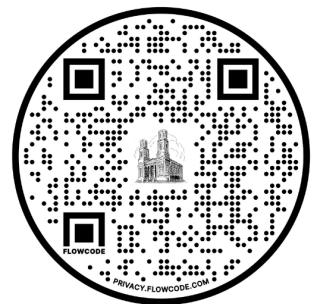
Scripture Focus: Luke 16:1-13



September



Scan here to view DPC's calendar & learn more about what we've got planned!





DPC Picnic - Today After Worship!

The DPC community is invited to gather for a church picnic today immediately 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. See you there!



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 Thomas, 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.