

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 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

Gordon Young

(Please meditate quietly during the Opening Voluntary.)

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Come, let us ground ourselves in the sacred wonder of this ordinary day.

P: For the Holy moves through all of our lives.

L: Let us gather together expectantly,

P: For the Living God has made plans for our new life together.

L: Let us rejoice,

P: For Love is freely given.

L: Our birthright is Belonging,

P: Let us welcome one another in.

***HYMN #320**

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

CALL TO CONFESSION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

God of Wonder, we often try to forecast your mystery- to plot it on a chart or to confine it to a set of bylaws. We long to know your plans for us, God.

continued...

Far too often, our focus is drawn away from Your present voice and into the future that we are so desperately trying to predict. We lose track of the moment. We miss the butterfly floating by and the leaves slowly drifting from the trees. We may even fail to notice who is right in front of us.

Call our attention into this present moment with you, Loving God. Bless us with patience and curiosity as we seek to embrace your Spirit. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear this good news: Even when we stumble, even when we become too bound to our rules and our order to notice how God is moving among us, we are being held by a forgiving and imaginative God. This God has already dreamt dreams and cast visions of new life for each and every one of us. With each new day comes an invitation to move into this new life with our God.

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 16:19-31

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

WORDS OF WONDER

SERMON

“New Life is Non-Linear”

Responding to God’s Word & Call

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

God, we come before you today in search of rest, guidance, and assurance that you are still present and at work in our lives. Collectively, we come before you holding our griefs, joys, brokenness, and unease. Help us to feel your enduring comfort as we pray for:

(the people lift their prayers aloud)

Your vision, God of New Life, grants us healing in ways we could never have anticipated.

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

Ever-evolving God, to be part of a community, of your Church, is to be invited into cultivating new life alongside you. How wondrous it is to listen for the ways you are drawing us out and leading us into the future. We gather our offerings today in eager anticipation of the “new thing” we will do together, with you, and with these gifts.

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

Psalm 146: Praise the Lord, O My Soul

Michael Sitton

Praise the Lord, O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord yea, as long
as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.

O put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man for there is no
help in them.

For when the breath of man goeth forth he shall turn again to his earth
and then all his thoughts perish.

Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help and whose hope is
in the Lord his God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is who
keepeth his promise for ever.

Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong who feedeth the hungry.

The Lord looseth men out of prison the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

The Lord helpeth them that are fallen the Lord careth for the righteous.

The Lord careth for the strangers; he defendeth the fatherless and
widow as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore and throughout
all generations.

Psalter of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1662)

*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 steadfast love and shocking wonder, we give thanks for the ability to unite our gifts. Guide us as we seek to magnify the opportunity for new life contained in these gifts. Bless these offerings that all may flourish. Amen.

Announcements & Invitations

***Hymn #542** “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

L: The One who raises the sun each morning
and lifts high the moon at night,
ushers us too,
through cycles of rising, falling, and rising again.
Though we stumble, God lifts us.
Though we doubt, God remains.
Though we get weary, God revives.
And may all God’s people say.

P: Hallelujah! Amen!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fanfare

Gordon Young

(Please remain silently seated during the Closing Voluntary.)

Nine years ago, Downtown Presbyterian Church celebrated the Centennial installation of our current pipe organ, September 29-30, 2013. Today’s offertory anthem was commissioned as part of the weekend celebration. The anthem text was one of the appointed Psalms for the Sunday and one hundred years later, seemed an appropriate text given the church’s ministry to the less fortunate and general mission to the downtown community.



emergent faith

"Facing Reality with Resilience"

Worship with us October 2nd for
World Communion Sunday
at 11 am to celebrate resilience and meeting one
another in our continually healing fullness.

Scripture Focus: Lamentations 3:19-26



September

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



Brew Room

Come make ugali,
a Kenyan Bread,
for World Communion
Sunday, October 2nd
with the Mburu family.

Meet at
9:30 am in Room 100
before heading to the
kitchen.



Pastoral Nominating Committee Update

The Pastoral Nominating Committee is excited and humbled to begin our work of searching for and calling our future pastor. The members are Debra Gentry, Jim Hoobler, Stephanie Coleman, Jack Henderson, Dixie Williamson, and Matthew Abfalter. One task for us soon will be, in various ways, reaching out to the congregation for specific input on what we as a church value and are seeking. As we determine those methods we will communicate them to the congregation.

It is important to note that the discussions of the PNC are confidential. Please understand this important fact when posing any questions you might have throughout this process. While we will never aim to be inordinately secretive, we will be taking our responsibilities of confidentiality very seriously. If you ever have any input, questions, concerns, or prayers, please email the PNC at dpchurch.pnc@gmail.com.



In the Art Room...

**RUBY
KENDRICK**

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

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.



THEOLOGY STUDY GROUP

GOD-TALK

OCTOBER 2: THE ANCIENTS, CONT.

Sun 9:30 am
Education Parlor,
next to Fellowship Hall, walk-ins welcome

Led by Theologian-in-Residence:
Rev. George Schmidt



Browsing Room Featuring Mel Beall

October First Saturday Art Crawl 5:00pm - 8:00pm

In *Life In Widening Circles*, Mel Beall explores the journey of expansion we undergo over the course of a lifetime. By building fabric through crochet, weaving, natural dyeing, and embroidery, Beall contemplates on her familial psychic inheritance, the boundaries of being in a body, and the often familiar patterns we see reflected in the process of discovering our own life.

Piece untitled: 14"x9" Linen, cotton, silk, and natural dyes

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.

Call to Worship by Rev. Molly Bolton, adapted by Liv Thomas.

Confession, Pardon, Offertory prayers by Liv Thomas.

Benediction by enfleshed.

Chorale. Music: Gordon Young, ©1962. Shawnee Press.

The Church of Christ in Every Age. Text: Fred Pratt Green, ©1971.

Hope Publishing Company.

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

Westminster John Knox/Geneva Press.

Fanfare. Music: Gordon Young, ©1962. Shawnee Press.

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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.