



DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Good Shepherd Sunday (Broadcast for FB Livestream)

April 30th, 2023

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

(*) Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.

Gathering in God's Name

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Arioso from *Five Voluntaries for Organ*

Robert J. Powell

(Please meditate quietly during the Opening Voluntary.)

***CALL TO WORSHIP (PEOPLE READ BOLD)**

L: Holy One,

You have many names and today

we call forth the names we need:

Imaginative Spirit

P: Good Shepherd

L: Opening Gate

P: Playful Wisdom

L: Compassionate Creator God—

surprise us with signs and wonders in a growing world.

P: Swell with us, as we make waves towards collective joy and wellbeing.

HYMN 187

“Savior like a Shepherd Lead Us”

CALL TO CONFESSION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

P: God of Becoming, we are grateful for your people, your followers of the Way. Sometimes, we forget to be thankful for each other, as well as the fierce solidarity we offer one another and the world. At other times, we forget to live into this radical call to care and share of ourselves. Open our spirits to the swelling wisdom of your flock - teachers, leaders, prophets, and visionaries. Unstick places within us that want to cling to ways that are comfortable, but that no longer serve us. For you are a God who unfolds and you love those who shake off the dust of familiar oppression. 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, for the entirety of the law is summed up 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

HYMN 399

“God Welcomes All”

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God’s love is strong and it never ends. (3x)

(Please return to your seats when the music begins.)

Encountering the Living Word of God

SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:1-10

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

Acts 2:42-47

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

SERMON

Rev. Larissa Romero

Responding to God's Word & Call

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

Anointed One Still With Us,
You help us learn to expect signs and wonders for
Connecting and uplifting your created beloveds.
You teach us new words and ways for
undermining and relinquishing hurt and domination.
With open hearts, we Followers of the way pray for:

(the people lift their prayers aloud)

We love the Ways of New Life.
We shall inspire each other to deeper relationship and care.
With you in our continued midst we pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

**P: 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

When we are clawing through this world for our physical needs to be met, it is difficult for our spirits to flourish. And when our spirits are weary or overwhelmed, it is difficult for our bodies to find ease. Spiritual and physical needs overlap, intertwine, are often one in the same. We gather our offerings today, that the needs of our Whole Selves may be met, for all beings are worthy of thriving.

> To offer your financial support to the ministry and mission of DPC:

- Use our mobile app by texting “dpchurch” to 73256
- Visit www.dpchurch.com and click "Online and Mobile Giving"

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “O How Glorious is the Kingdom” Robert J. Powell

O how glorious is the Kingdom wherein all the saints rejoice with Christ,
clothed in white robes they follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.

Revelations 7:9-10

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)

P: Way Making One, may all people have access to resources for their full wellbeing. Through our collective efforts, may barriers to access crumble. Bless our offerings, that they may flow freely to places of need. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

PRAYER FOR TRANSITION BLESSINGS

HYMN 542 “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (PEOPLE READ BOLD)

L: Go forth with renewed hope,
Trusting in the transforming love of God.
God does not leave things as they are;
With God, all things are made new.
All creation responds to God’s presence;
The world is alive with possibility.
We open ourselves to this truth;
With Christ, we trust our whole lives to this power.
Death will never conquer love.
Christ is risen!
And may all God’s people say,

P: Alleluia! Amen!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Sortie in D”

Benton Price

(Please remain quietly seated during the Closing Voluntary.)



John Hendrickson
PHOTO CREDIT: Matthew Bernucca

A Conversation with John Hendrickson

This afternoon

Today, 4/30 at 3pm, Jack Henderson will be hosting a conversation with author and senior editor at The Atlantic about his new book “Life on Delay: Making Peace with a Stutter”. It promises to be an engaging and illuminating conversation on the multilayers and complicated experience of being a person who stutters. As many of you might know, DPC has had a long connection to the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center through various families, most notably, the McConnells.

Refreshments will be provided along with several copies of the book for purchase.

This event is free of charge, but please let us know if you will be attending so we can send you parking information.

Location: Vanderbilt Medical Center East - South Tower - Room 8380 - 1215 21st Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee

RSVP to kate.carney@vumc.org or jack.k.henderson@vumc.org



More Light Presbyterians

JOIN US FOR AN
IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL
MINI-SERIES ON LGBTQIA+
AWARENESS IN CHURCH

9:30 am



Education Parlor

Next 3 Sundays

May 7th | May 14th | May 21st

Join us for an important educational mini-series on LGBTQIA+ awareness in church with More Light Presbyterians, focusing on expanding our extravagant welcome and nurturing belonging for all of God's children, no exceptions!

May 7 - Led by Rev. Adrian White

Part 1: Gender and Sexuality and the Church: 101

Explore terminology, discuss how a church can make a welcome space for LGBTQIA+ folks.

May 14 - Led by Rev. Jessica Vazquez Torres

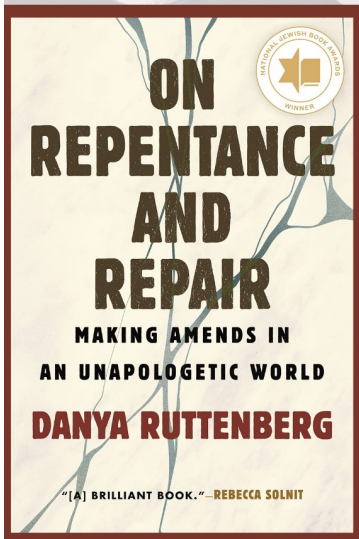
Part 2: Exploring Intersectionality

When multiple identities intersect: LGBTQIA+ status, race, age, politics, etc.

May 21 - Led by DPC elders

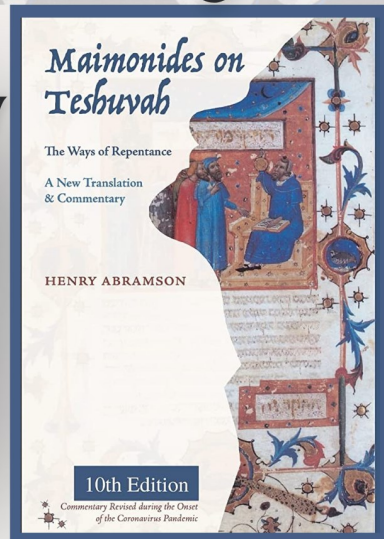
Part 3: Review, Reflection, and Next Steps"

Summer Book Study



Each Wednesday
on Zoom
@ 6:30pm

May 3 - June 28



Summer Book Study from First Lutheran's Reconciliation Team:

Too often, we as Christians tend to view our selves as an advancement over Judaism instead seeing what we can all learn from each other in our shared Abrahamic Faith. Here is an opportunity to do just that: learn how other faiths can strengthen our own faith in Christ.

Each Wednesday on Zoom at 6:30pm, the Reconciliation Team will be hosting a book study using the book “On Repentance and Repair” by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg. (Optional companion text: “The Ways of Repentance” by Maimonides) **Sessions will begin Wednesday, May 3rd** and will continue weekly until the week of June 28th. If you need assistance ordering a book, let us know!

Book Description: “A crucial new lens on repentance, atonement, forgiveness, and repair from harm—from personal transgressions to our culture’s most painful and unresolved issues.

We look forward to seeing you! -Christopher Flor and the Reconciliation Team

If interested please email Info@dpchurch.com



May 7th 11am

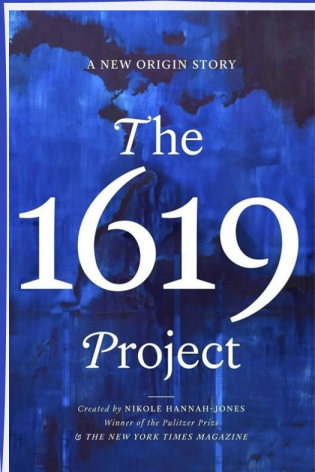
**Next Sunday Worship
5th Sunday
of Easter**

**Children's Lesson:
God's House**



**Next Sunday
May 7th
9:30am**

DPC BOOK GROUP



The 1619 Project
by Nikole Hannah-Jones

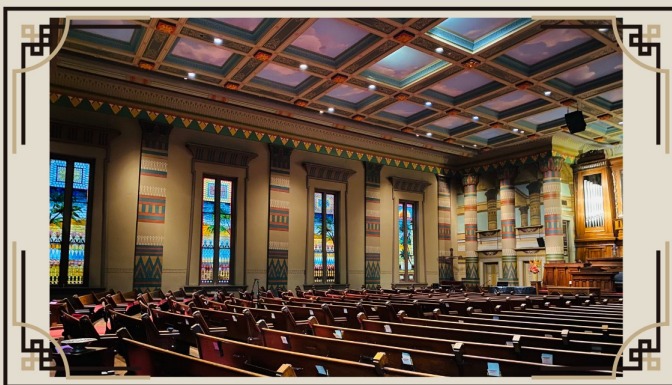
THURSDAY, MAY 4TH

email events@dpchurch.com for
location & more information

The book group will meet on Thursday, May 4th. Please note that book group meetings are not held at DPC. Please email events@dpchurch.com for more information.



Free Sanctuary Tours



Friday, May 26th
12pm-2pm

Join us at 9:30

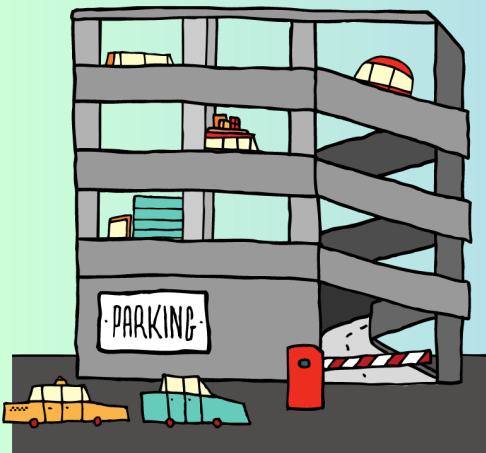
TO ENTER FROM CHURCH ST.



- COME IN THE FRONT GATE
- TAKE A LEFT
- FOLLOW THE PATH TO THE BACK ENTRANCE

 *you've arrived!*

Parking for DPC Attendees



- ★ Parking for Sunday worship is in the SP+ garage at 147 4th Ave. N. The entrance is on 4th Avenue.
- ★ Parking in this garage is complimentary for Sunday education & worship.
- ★ If you parked in the SP+ garage today, please ask a greeter for a voucher sticker.

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 LEADERSHIP

Class of 2023

Tom Wills
Samera Zavaro

Class of 2024

Betty McConnell
Denny Harris

Class of 2025

John Booth
Tara Herbert

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Larissa Romero, Interim Pastor
Paulino Jarquin, Building Manager
Rainwater Morehead, A/V Tech

Dr. William Taylor, Dir. of Music
Liv Thomas, Community Minister
Michelle Noles, Temp. Office Manager

PARKING FOR DPC ATTENDEES

Parking for Sunday worship is in the SP+ garage at **147 4th Ave. N.** The entrance is on 4th Avenue. Parking in this garage is complimentary on Sundays from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

If you parked in the SP+ garage today, please ask a greeter for a voucher sticker.