



For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord,
with ourselves as your servants
for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:5

What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

It reminds us that this present fallen world is not all there is; soon we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new city, in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be fully and forever freed from all sin and will inhabit renewed, resurrection bodies in a renewed, restored creation.

The New City Catechism, Question & Answer #52

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Revelation 21:1-4

The Lord's Day — December 29, 2019 A.D.

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus! If you are a guest with us, please be sure to sign our Welcome Pads when they are passed around before the service. Children are welcome in our worship. We have a nursery available for children 3 and under. Children 4 to 6 years of age may be dismissed to Children's Worship prior to the sermon. Thank you for joining us today and may the Lord richly bless you.

Song of Assembly¹

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of light;
Angels lifting praise before You, Sing thro'out this holy night.
In a manger lies a Baby, Child of Mary, Son of God.
Voices joined in joyful chorus, Praise You for Your gift of love.
All Your works declare Your glory; All creation joins to sing.
Praise resounds as earth rejoices, In the birth of Christ, the King.
Shepherds kneel before the Infant. Trumpets sound and anthems raise.
As with joy our hearts are lifted, Joined in wonder, love, and praise.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 77:13-14

Pastor: Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?

People: You are the God who works wonders;

All: You have made known your might among the peoples!

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

based on Psalm 25

Hymn of Praise

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Brooks

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

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O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Reading of the Word: *The Judgment of God for the Sins of His People*

Amos 8:7-10

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who dwells in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?" "And on that day," declares the Lord God, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

O Lord our God, you know the ways this past year in which our lives have not represented truth and knowledge. You know the times in which we struggled to be warm and caring and the times when we did not choose goodness. Forgive us Lord, for those times when our lives did not reflect your love. Give us your help and healing in our lives that we may begin this New Year with hope and joy ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin... Amen!*

The New Has Come

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

A Light Has Dawned

Light

A light has dawned, a King has come,
To redeem every heart and soul,
Born unto us, Emmanuel, the Savior of the world.
Let us adore and praise His name.
Angels rejoice and shepherds bow
At the sight of the holy Child,
Men from afar searching to find the Savior of the world.
Let us adore and praise His name.

*Hosanna in the highest, hosanna, let us sing.
Hosanna in the highest, we give glory to the King,
Glory to the King.*

You are the Christ, the Son of God,
And the nations will rally to You.
Let every heart come recognize the Savior of the world.
Let us adore and praise His name.

Away in a Manger

Anonymous

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay,
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

The Lord Is My Salvation

Getty

The grace of God has reached for me, And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground, The Lord is my salvation
I will not fear when darkness falls, His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun, The Lord is my salvation
*Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won, The Lord is my salvation*
My hope is hidden in the Lord, He flow'rs each promise of His Word
When winter fades I know spring will come, The Lord is my salvation
In times of waiting, times of need, When I know loss, when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days, The Lord is my salvation
And when I reach my final day, He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise, He will call me home, The Lord is my salvation
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son
Glory be to God the Spirit, The Lord is our salvation

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Kent Quinn

His Tithes & Our Offerings

Sermon²

Nathan White

Darkness, a Cry, a Curtain, and a Confession
Mark 15:33-39 (page 853)

² 4, 5, & 6 year-old children may be dismissed before the sermon to Children's Worship in room 132.

We Respond: Prayers of the People

Pastor: Father, we pray for your holy Church around the world;

All: That we all may be one.

Pastor: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

All: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Pastor: We pray for all ministers and leaders of your church;

All: That they may faithfully proclaim your truth in word and in deed.

Pastor: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

All: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Pastor: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

All: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Pastor: We pray for your blessing upon our labor and the right use of the riches of creation:

All: That the world might flourish and be freed from poverty, famine and disaster.

Pastor: We pray for family, friends and others who are seeking you;

All: That they might know the wonder and joy of friendship with the living God.

Pastor: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

All: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Pastor: Let us now take a moment and pray silently for our own needs and those of others....

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to share in this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live in a deeper communion with Jesus. If you are not a Christian, or you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the Church.

(Gluten free communion bread is available upon request; please speak to the pastor before the service or alert your server during communion.)

In the Bleak Midwinter (with Gloria)

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.

In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Gloria, Gloria, Now my eyes have seen;

Soli Deo Gloria!

He, salvation brings

As the Lord has promised, I may go in peace

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.
In the bleak midwinter
I may go in peace, as the Lord has promised, I may go in peace.

Benediction³

from Psalm 27:5

May the Lord hide you in his shelter in the day of trouble; may he conceal you under the cover of his tent; may he lift you high upon a rock!

Song of Faith

Joy to the World

Watts

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

³ Just as God called us into His presence at the beginning, so now He commands His blessing upon us as we depart. We look up and extend our hands in a posture of thanksgiving as we receive this great gift. Our final response to God's assurance of His peace and presence upon those who are in Christ is a chorus of joyful song.

DPC Announcements

DPC Church Family, Once again, with your Christmas gifts, you have left us absolutely astonished by your incredible generosity. One of the countless reasons it is a blessing to be among the saints of Decatur Presbyterian is the remarkable love that you show us. You have beautifully taken to heart Paul's command in Romans 12:10, *"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."* Thank you for making it such a pleasure to serve this congregation. We look forward to finding out what God has in store for this church family in the upcoming year. With love and gratitude, Tommy, Rick, Stu, Nathan, and Tonya

Get More Connected: Sign up for the weekly email by emailing Tonya at tonya@decaturpca.org.

Next Up! The next four books of Scripture that we'll be reading together via the Cultivate daily readings will be 2 Thessalonians, Habakkuk, 2 John, and 3 John. Sign up today by emailing Tonya at tonya@decaturpca.org

Midweek Ministries: will resume Wednesday, January 8th.

New Ladies Study! A new study/fellowship group for adult women without spouses beginning Jan. 8th, meeting the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 1 pm. The 2nd Wednesday we discuss Pilgrims Progress; and the 4th Wednesday will be activities that "we want to do, but will not do by ourselves." For more info: Alice Green at 256-975-9709 or Mary (M J) Brinkman at 256-686-2000.

Please join a combined Christian Education class to hear from your missionaries to Japan! At 9:30AM on Sunday, January 12th please come hear of the work and vision of Wayne and Amy Newsome. Wayne is a PCA minister and he and Amy have been missionaries in Nagoya, Japan for almost 30 years! Wayne and Amy are in the U.S. for a few months and will soon return to Japan.

Roots Information Meeting: We'll have a brief information meeting about Roots in the youth room after the service on Sunday, January 12th. It shouldn't take long, but it will be a great time to ask questions and pick up forms that you need. If you have a student going to Roots, please plan to join us. Let Nathan know if you have any questions.

Man Night! Chuck will fire things up at Man Night! Monday night January 13th, 6:00pm @ Dale Cook's Iron Man Lodge. Men are invited to eat, fellowship and briefly discuss a relevant topic together... and then stay to watch the CFP National Championship (kickoff 7pm). Dale & gang will prepare the meat; you bring your favorite sides, snacks and/or desserts.

Congregational Meeting: A congregational meeting will be held immediately after the worship service on Sunday morning, January 26, to vote on the Session's recommended slate of your officer nominees: For re-appointment to the Session after the expiration of a 3-yr. term - **Elders George Godwin, Jeff Keith, Kent Quinn, and Blake Temple;** For election to the office of ruling elder - **Brian Rodgers** (Brian has successfully completed the officer training, examined and approved by the Session); For re-appointment to the Diaconate after the expiration of a 3 yr. term - **Bill Nelson.** See Rick Stark or Tommy Lee with any questions.

RYM Fundraiser at Sam's Sports Grill: On Thursday, January 30th, from 3:00-close, Sam's Sports Grill in Decatur will give 10% of their sales of all non-discounted food to our youth group's RYM fundraising efforts. Come enjoy some good food and help our students pay for RYM! See Nathan with any questions.

Sermon Outline Notes: for adults and children are available on the back table.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

FALL 2019

SUNDAYS @ 9:30 AM

The Fun Adult Class! James has 59 commands in 108 verses, directing us to the royal law of King Jesus (2:8). The hasty reader may not see much of the gospel in James, but the double mention of God's grace at the rhetorical climax of the book shows that the gospel of James is still the message of God's grace for sinners. Please join us.

New Sunday School Class! The Foundations Class and Young Adult Class have merged! This class, led by Stuart Smith and Nathan White meets in the parlor. Our first series is on 1 Corinthians. We'd love for you to join us!

Sedona Class: Led by George Godwin, we are currently studying through the Book of Acts. The class meets in the classroom down the back hallway from the sanctuary, across from the choir room. Guests are always welcome!

Ladies Sunday School Class: We are studying Daniel, in the library at 9:30 am. This is a discussion based Bible study, open to all ladies, please join us!

The WtDPC Class! Led by Pastor Rick Stark, this is a warm fellowship and opportunity for all our guests and any interested in understanding the life, theology, and direction of DPC. Room 142 at the end of the Children's wing.

Session

George Godwin
Jeff Keith
Mike McMahan
Kent Quinn

Jason Seale
Jay Suggs
Blake Temple
Chip Walraven

Diaconate

James Fudge
Wade Littrell
John Lyons
Scott Missildine

Steve Sasser
Michael Vinson
David Whitcomb
David Zajic

Church Staff

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Church Planter, Athens, Alabama
Pastoral Intern
Worship Director
Office Coordinator
NextGen Coordinator
Nursery Coordinator
Kitchen Coordinator
Church Librarian

Tommy Lee
Rick Stark
Jeff Hooker
Nathan White
Stu Schieler
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Service Times

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship

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