



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

Optimism hopes for the best without any guarantee of its arriving and is often no more than whistling in the dark. Christian hope, by contrast, is faith looking ahead to the fulfillment of the promises of God, as when the [Christian] burial service inters the corpse "in sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Optimism is a wish without warrant;
Christian hope is a certainty, guaranteed by God himself.

Optimism reflects ignorance as to whether good things will ever actually come.
Christian hope expresses knowledge that every day of his life, and every moment beyond it, the believer can say with truth, on the basis of God's own commitment, that the best is yet to come.

J.I. Packer

The Lord's Day — August 30, 2020 A.D.

Welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus! Thank you for joining us today and may the Lord richly bless you.

Song of Assembly¹

And Can It Be

Wesley

And can it be that I should gain an in'trest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above so free, so infinite His grace!
Humbled Himself so great His love! And bled for all His chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine!
Bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Welcome and Announcements

(10:45 service)

Report of the Living Church

Joy Soas

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 22:23-24

Pastor: You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

Pastor: For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,

All: He has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

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Hymn of Praise

All You That Fear Jehovah's Name

All you that fear Jehovah's name, his glory tell, his praise proclaim;
You children of his chosen race, stand... in awe before his face,
stand in awe before his face.

O Lord, your goodness makes me raise amid your people songs of praise;
Before all them that fear you, now I worship you and pay my vow,
I worship you and pay my vow.

For all the meek you will provide; they shall be fed and satisfied;
all they that seek the Lord shall live and never-ending praises give,
and never-ending praises give.

The Lord's unfailing righteousness all generations shall confess;
From age to age shall men be taught what wondrous works the Lord has wrought,
what wondrous works the Lord has wrought.

Reading of the Word: *truth in the midst of deception*

2 John 1:1-3

The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, your son teaches us that the greatest commandment is to love you with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that the second is like it: to love our neighbor as ourselves. Father, we are absorbed with ourselves. We love our accomplishments, our pleasures, and our plans more than you. We show it in our neglect of secret prayer and of feeding on your holy Word. We compare ourselves to our neighbors, leading us both to pride and to resentment and envy. We need you to cleanse us and change us. Have mercy on us and grant us new repentance ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Hear the Good News!

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Jesus Messiah

Tomlin

He became sin who knew no sin that we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross, love so amazing love so amazing

*Jesus Messiah Name above all names, Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from heaven, Jesus Messiah Lord of all*

His body the bread His blood the wine, broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn, love so amazing love so amazing

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You, All the glory to You God, the Light of the world

Thy Mercy My God

Stoker

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song, The joy of my heart. and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last, Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart, Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground, And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own, And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine, Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Your Love, Oh Lord (Psalm 36)

Powell

Your love, Oh Lord, reaches to the heavens,

Your faithfulness stretches to the skies.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;

Your justice flows like the ocean's tide.

*And I will lift my voice to worship You my King,
And I will find my strength in the shadow of Your wings.
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Nathan White

Sermon

Series: Be Strong In The Lord (Ephesians 6:10)
XIV. If You're In The Fight, You'll Need This Belt
Ephesians 6:10-20 (page 979)

Pastor Tommy Lee

Prayers of the People

Pastor: For the Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, and for those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who live and work in this community that they might thrive and flourish, and for a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

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.)

Surrender

Cottrell

No more running, no more hiding.
No pretending I'm OK.
No more struggling, no more fighting.
Come and have Your way.

*I surrender, I bow down.
I surrender, here and now.
I am captured, Yours forever.
I surrender, I bow down.*

You pursue me, You have found me.
I fall helpless at Your feet.
Your possession, I am conquered.
Love has set me free.

(9:00 service)

Report of the Living Church

Joy Soas

Benediction²

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Song of Faith

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Newton/Tomlin

My chains are gone, I've been set free.
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood His mercy reigns;
Unending love, amazing grace.

² 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

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

Sunday Nursery & Childcare: As of August 9th, we have re-launched our ministry of nursery & childcare for both Sunday morning worship services. Our ministry team will ensure all the wisest protocols for health and safety are practiced. If you have any questions, please contact Erika Ladner (256.394.8508, enodell@gmail.com)

Worship by Live Stream Information: Both services are now Live Streamed. It is the 10:45am service that will be permanently posted to the youtube channel and remain available anytime for those who need to worship with us in that manner. The link is: www.decaturpca.org - click the "Watch Livestream".

Secret Sister: September-May. All ladies are invited to participate. It's a great way to encourage one another in the Lord. More info & sign up sheets are on the desk in the gathering room. Forms due by Sept. 6. New this year is porch drop offs & mailing if interested. Return forms to Elizabeth Lee (elizabethleemomof5@att.net) or leave on the desk.

Youth Girls 6th - 12th Grade: are invited to participate in Youth Secret Sister. This is a great way to encourage one another. More information about what is required and sign up sheets can be found on the desk in the gathering room. Forms are due by September 6. Turn in forms to Elizabeth Lee

Wednesday Night Youth Ministry: The youth ministry will begin meeting on Wednesday night, September 9th, at 6:30! We'll begin the semester with high school in the gathering area and middle school in the main youth room. We're looking forward to in-person meetings again and hope to see you there! Contact Nathan with any questions..

Our Daughter Church: Our daughter church, Grace Covenant Presbyterian, in Athens, planted by DPC in 2013, has grown up! There will be a particularization / commissioning service for her, as she becomes fully independent of us, on Sunday evening, September 13, at 5:30pm. More details will come soon, but please plan to join us for this important event in our church's family life.

"Welcome to DPC" Event! Interested in what it means to be a member of DPC? Come participate Saturday, September 19th, for an abbreviated "Welcome to DPC" class. Adhering to all our safe Covid-19 protocols, we'll meet in the Cafe area from 9a.m.-12:00p.m., concluding with light refreshments. For RSVP or questions, contact Rick Stark (256.351.6010, 334.728.1409 or rick@decaturpca.org).

Fall Life Groups: This past year there were 5 LG's (including the Open Door Study) meeting on Wednesday nights. In view of COVID-19 conditions, we're looking for creative ways for these groups to meet safely in homes beginning early September. Please contact Rick Stark (334.728.1409, rick@decaturpca.org) if you are interested in participating.

The Church is intolerant in principle because she believes;
she is tolerant in practice because she loves.

The enemies of the Church are tolerant in principle because they do not believe;
they are intolerant in practice because they do not love.

Reginald Garrigou-Langrange

Session

George Godwin
Jeff Keith
Kent Quinn
Brian Rodgers

Jason Seale
Jay Suggs
Blake Temple
Chip Walraven

Diaconate

James Fudge
Wade Littrell
John Lyons
Bill Nelson

Sam Thompson
Michael Vinson
David Whitcomb

Church Staff

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

Tommy Lee
Rick Stark
Jeff Hooker
Nathan White
Stu Schieler
Tonya Roth
Debbie Smith
Erika Ladner
Elena Suggs
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Service Times

9:00am Worship Service #1 (Mask-Only Service)

10:45am Worship Service #2

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