



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

Newly planted, the Thessalonian church grew in strength as it spread the gospel in the surrounding area.

But some theological and moral problems also grew.

To build up and correct these believers Paul addressed many issues which concern Christians today—how the church spreads the gospel, how pastors serve both the gospel and the church, how Christians must live according to the gospel, and how the gospel gives us hope in the midst of the troubles all around us.

John Stott

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,
and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

The Lord's Day — November 15, 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

Here I am to Worship

Hughes

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness, Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You, Hope of a life spent with You.

*Here I am to worship; here I am to bow down, Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me.*

King of all days, oh so highly exalted. Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly you came to the earth You created. All for love's sake became poor.

I'll never know how much it cost, To see my sin upon that cross.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-5

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Pastor; Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

People: Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Pastor: For the Lord is a great God,

People: And a great King above all gods.

Pastor: In his hand are the depths of the earth;

People: The heights of the mountains are his also.

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it,

People: And his hands formed the dry land.

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

based on Psalm 71

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Come, Christians join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice, Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend; to us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end, Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

Reading of the Word: *confession is part of worship*

Psalm 95:6-11

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways." Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet without sin, we confess before You our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy, we have compromised with evil; we have doubted Your power to protect us. Forgive us for our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore us in such trust and love that we may walk in Your ways and delight in doing Your will ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Hear the Good News!

Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Praise God

Ken/Watts/Kauflin

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, In Heaven above and earth below.

Praise God the Father and the Son, Praise God the Spirit, three-in-one.

From all that dwell beneath the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise.

Let our Redeemer's name be sung, Through every land, by every tongue.

Eternal are Your mercies Lord, Eternal truth attends Your Word.

Your praise will sound from shore to shore, Till suns shall rise and set no more.

In every land, by every tongue, Let our Redeemer's name be sung.

I Am Not Alone

Jobe

When I walk through deep waters, I know that You will be with me

When I'm standing in the fire, I will not be overcome, through the valley of the shadow, I will not fear

I am not alone, I am not alone, You will go before me

You will never leave me (2x)

In the midst of deep sorrow, I see Your light is breaking through

The dark of night will not overtake me, I am pressing into You

Lord, You fight my every battle, and I will not fear

You amaze me, Redeem me, You call me as Your own

He Knows My Name

Walker

I have a Maker, He formed my heart

Before even time began, My life was in His hands

He knows my name, He knows my every thought

He sees each tear that falls, And hears me when I call

I have a Father, He calls me His own

He'll never leave me, No matter where I go

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Chip Walraven

Sermon

Series: WHO ARE WE?... Thoughts From Thessalonians

Pastor Tommy Lee

I. God's Church

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (page 986)

We Respond By Confessing Our Faith:

This is the good news we have received, by which we are saved, and in which we stand:

God the Father loves us and has sent his only Son to save us.

Christ the Son is God incarnate and has died for our sins, according to the Scriptures; he was buried and on the third day rose from the dead, ascending to the Father where he ever lives to intercede for us, and from where he pours on us his Holy Spirit of grace. He is the first and the last, our Lord and Redeemer, who will come again in glory.

God the Holy Spirit has brought me new life in the Gospel, fills me for service, seals me for assurance, and guides me to glory. Amen.

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.)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Clephane

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see,
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess,
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place,
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Benediction²
Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

from Ephesians 3:20-21

Song of Faith

Now Thank We All Our God
All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest Heaven.
The one eternal God, whom earth and Heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Rinkart

This Week

Tuesday 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Java Jaay (2 Timothy)	Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm DPC Youth! (6 th -8 th Grade) DPC Youth! (9 th -12 th Grade)
Tuesday 9:30-11:00am Ladies Bible Study via Zoom (Philippians)	Wednesday 7:30pm Praise Worship Band Practice
Tuesday @ Noon Men's Bible Study @ Kent's Office (Revelation)	Friday 6:30am Men's Bible Study @ Temple, Inc. (Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians)

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.

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Church Family Reminders

Congratulations! At this week's meeting of the Providence Presbytery, Nathan White passed all of his ordination trials, so that he might be ordained and installed as an Assistant Pastor here at DPC in January! And at the same meeting Gage Crowder came under care of the presbytery, as a candidate for the gospel ministry. Give thanks!

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 1 Peter, Haggai, Ephesians, and Daniel. Sign up today by emailing Tonya at tonya@decaturpca.org

WOG Favorite Things Party: All ladies of DPC are invited to a time of fellowship, dessert and hot drinks today, November 15, 2:30 pm in the Gathering Room. Please bring THREE (\$10 or less each) all the same items to the party. Everyone will leave with 3 items. See Elizabeth Lee with questions.

Neighborhood Christian Center (NCC) Christmas Toy Store: This year, several changes had to be made to our Christmas Program. We are collecting wish lists from the children who would have been signed up for the Toy Store. If you would like to sponsor the child(ren) of a family, go to <https://www.decaturncc.org/Holiday-outreach.html>.

Next Gen Christmas Party: Ages 4 through 6th grade, join us Wednesday, December 16, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.! We will hear the story of Jesus' birth, make Christmas cards, have snacks, and more! Parents, take this opportunity as a Parents' Night Out or to do some Christmas shopping! Nursery for infants to age 3 will be provided.

Online Giving: Our website has been updated to support giving on our mobile site. Simply tap the menu in the top right corner of the homepage and the Give button should appear next to the Events and Contact options.

Sunday Nursery & Childcare: 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)

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

FALL 2020

(Temporarily Suspended)

American Gospel: The gospel message of "Christ crucified" has always been offensive. We are exploring how the paths of post-modernism and progressive Christianity lead to a different gospel, a god created in our own image.

The Parlor Class: This class, led by Stuart Smith, meets in the parlor. We are studying the Nicene Creed, one of the earliest & most important expressions of our faith. We'd love for you to join us!

Sedona Class: Led by George Godwin, we are currently studying through the Book of Mark. 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 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 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
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
Youth Director
Worship Director
Office Administrator
NextGen Coordinator
Nursery Coordinator
Kitchen Coordinator
Church Librarian

Tommy Lee
Rick Stark
Nathan White
Stu Schieler
Tonya Roth
Lainee Oliver
Erika Ladner
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Service Times

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

10:45am Worship Service #2 (Mask-Optional Service)

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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