



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

Man's maker was made man that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that Truth might be accused of false witnesses, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die.

Augustine

Come and stand amazed, you people  
See how God is reconciled!  
See his plans of love accomplished  
See his gift, this newborn child.  
See the Mighty, weak and tender.  
See the Word who now is mute.  
See the Sovereign without splendor.  
See the Fullness destitute.

Dustin Kensrue

# The Lord's Day — December 5, 2021

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

## Song of Assembly<sup>1</sup>

## Glory In The Highest

Tomlin

The heav'nly host proclaim Your birth, "Glory to God, and praise be on the earth!"  
Your name is near, Emmanuel, "God with us here, God pleased with us to dwell."

*Glory in the highest, glory in the highest, glory in the highest*

Apart from You there is no God, light of the world, the bright and morning star  
Your name will shine for all to see, You are the one, You are my glory

And no one else could ever compare to You, Lord, All the earth together declares.....

*Glory in the highest, glory in the highest Glory in the highest to You, Lord, to You, Lord*

All the earth will sing Your praise, the moon and stars, the sun and rain

Every nation will proclaim You are God and You will reign

Glory, glory Hallelujah, glory, glory to You, Lord. Glory, glory Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

## Welcome and Announcements

## Report of the Living Church

Skip Thompson, Pastor Search Committee

## Responsive Call to Worship

from Psalm 24:7-10

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**People: Who is this King of glory?**

Pastor: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

**People: Who is this King of glory?**

**All: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

## Prayer of Adoration & Praise

based on Psalm 125

## 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.

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.

<sup>1</sup> All songs used by permission or covered under CCLI license # 391165.

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.

**The Reading for the Second Sunday of Advent: Matthew 2:1-12**

The John Elder Family

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Confession of Sin**

*Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer*

**Almighty and most merciful father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against your holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us according to your promises in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant, for his sake, that we may live a godly life to the glory of your name ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!**

**The Gospel Pardon**

**Ephesians 2:13**

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

## Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

### Sing We Now of Christmas

Traditional

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here! Listen to our praises to the Babe so dear.

*Sing we Noel, the King is born Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!*

Shepherds on a hillside heard the angels sing: glory, honor, praises to the infant King.

Wise Men sought and found Him, treasures did they bring;

Bowing down they worshiped Christ, the King of kings.

### O Come All Ye Faithful

Chapman

Come let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him (2x)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels; O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, O Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

For He alone is worthy, For He alone is worthy, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him.

Yea, Lord we bless Thee, born for our salvation: Oh, Jesus forever be Thy name adored.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. (2x)

Let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him. (4x)

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

McDonald

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come Thou Rod of Jesse, free, Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Singing to the Lord

*Christmastime*

All Choirs  
*Soloist: Grayson Keith*

Sermon

**Advent Series: II. Through A Door Called Faith**  
**Micah 5:1-5 (page 778)**

**Pastor Rick Stark**

### **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 let the pastor know at the table. The silver trays at the back of the table contain wine. The gold trays at the front of the table contain juice. Please hold the elements until all have been served so that we may partake together.)*

### **In the Bleak Midwinter (with Gloria)**

**Rossetti**

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.*

## Benediction<sup>2</sup>

**Revelation 3:20; John 1:14, 16**

May during this Advent season you hear His knocking; and know the eternal Word become flesh; and perceive his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father; and receive from His fullness, grace upon grace. Amen.

## Song of Faith

### Behold Him

Jesus, Son of God, Messiah  
The Lamb, the roaring Lion  
Oh, be still and behold Him.

## This Week

### Monday 6:30pm

Women's Bible Study @ Nelson home (*Will resume in January*)

### Tuesday 6:30am

Men's Bible Study @ Java Jaay (Hebrews)

### Tuesday 10:00-11:30am

Women's Bible Study @ DPC (*Will resume in January*)

### Tuesday @ Noon

Men's Bible Study @ Kent's Office (1 Samuel)

### Wednesday 1:00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday)

Singled Out for Christ

### Wednesday 5:00pm

Youth Choir / Soli Deo Gloria

### Wednesday 5:30pm

Church Family Meal

### Wednesday 6:00-6:30pm

Kids Choirs:

4 Year Old - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade / Kids of the King

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade / Dare 2 Declare

### Wednesday 6:00-7:30pm

DPC Youth! (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Wednesday 6:15-7:30pm

Worship Choir Practice

### Wednesday 6:15-7:15pm

Open Door Study (Galatians)

### Wednesday 6:15-7:30pm

Life Groups

### Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm

4 Year Olds - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade / Kid's Quest

### Wednesday 7:30pm

Praise Worship Band Practice

### Thursday 6:00pm

College Student Study @ White's home (Truths We Confess)

### Friday 6:30am

Men's Bible Study @ Temple, Inc. (1 Peter)

<sup>2</sup> 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.

## Church Family Reminders

**Upcoming Guest Preachers:** Rick Stark (12/12, 19); Nathan White (12/24, 12/26).

**Advent Sermon Series: “Through A Door Called...”** The traditional Advent Wreath unfolds the story of the “coming” of the Son of God into our world and to us. During the 4 Sundays of Advent, we’ll hear the message of each candle and consider the “door” (Rev.3:20) by which Jesus comes to us: the Prophets' Door Called Hope, Bethlehem’s Door Called Faith, the Shepherds' Door Called Joy, and the Angels’ Door Called Peace.

**Worship Aids for Children & Families:** We have a few different resources available in the back of the sanctuary to help you "parent in the pew." We are overjoyed to have children in the sanctuary with us for worship and desire to serve those of you with young children in any way we can. If you have any questions, please ask Lainee Oliver (rosslaine@gmail.com).

**Bridal Shower:** Join us for a bridal shower for Erin Silvestri (fiancé is Glenn Foote) today, Sunday, December 5 at 2 pm at Temple, Inc. (320 Bank Street). Erin is registered at theknot.com.

**Annual Christmas Cantata & Reception:** Mark your calendars in advance for a spectacular event, "The Carols of Christmas," which Stu Schieler has planned for us. Next Sunday evening, December 12 from 5:00 - 6:00pm. Immediately following there will be a delicious reception to honor the Cantata and to celebrate the Christmas season.

**Cupcakes for Camp:** Boxes of six homemade vanilla cupcakes with buttercream icing may be ordered now and during the month of December. Each box costs \$12, with 100% going to Hope Heals Camp, a Christian ministry for disabled children, adults and families. Cupcake boxes make perfect gifts for neighbors and friends! Pick up is at DPC on Sundays or delivered to your home. Contact Kim Ingram: (256)654-0162, kimbo.ingram@charter.net

**Baby Shower:** Join us for a baby shower for Kayla McGough on Sunday, December 19 at 2:00 pm at the Stark's home (3773 S. Woodtrail Rd. SW). Help us encourage them as they begin this new stage of life. Kayla is registered at Target. Contact Hope Schmidt or Debbie Smith for more information.

**Smith/Schmidt/Littrell Shepherding Group:** You are invited to a dinner on Sunday, December 19 at 6:00pm, at the Littrell home (25588 N Street, Mooresville) Please join us and bring a side dish or dessert to share. Questions? Contact Debbie Smith, Hope Schmidt, or Leigh Littrell.

**DPC Women’s Ministry:** Save the date for our FREEDOM IN CHRIST WOMENS RETREAT at Smith Lake with Guest Speaker Julie Sparkman. February 4th & 5th, 2022. All women ages 21 & up are invited. Cost is \$35 per person which includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, guest speaker, and an overnight stay. Please RSVP by January 23, 2022 to reserve your spot. Forms are located on the foyer table. More details coming soon!

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

# ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

FALL 2021

9:30 am

**Zechariah:** Come join us as we study the book of Zechariah, in the classroom across the hall from the church offices. The book of Zechariah addresses God's people who are discouraged and in need of renewal. In doing so, it provides a captivating vision of God and his work in the world, leading us into a deeper longing for God and the coming of his kingdom, which finds its realization in Christ. Please join us in this study.

**Sedona Class:** A study of 1 Peter: A Living Hope Amidst Life's Great Challenges. Using material written by Dr. Frank Barker, we will unwrap practical ways Peter's message can guide us through our dilemmas and day-to-day living. The class meets in the classroom down the back hallway from the sanctuary, across from the choir room. Guests are always welcome!

## Session

Jeff Keith	Jason Seale
Mike McMahan	Greg Smith
Kent Quinn	Jay Suggs
Brian Rodgers	Blake Temple
Connor Ross	Chip Walraven
Allen Schmidt	

## Diaconate

Wade Littrell	Andy Thompson
Bill Nelson	Sam Thompson
Scott Missildine	David Whitcomb

## Church Staff

Associate Pastor	Rick Stark	rick@decaturpca.org
Assistant Pastor	Nathan White	nathan@decaturpca.org
Worship Director	Stu Schieler	stu@decaturpca.org
Office Administrator	Tonya Roth	office@decaturpca.org
NextGen Coordinator	Lainee Oliver	rosslaine@gmail.com
Nursery Coordinator	Allison Seale	alliseale@gmail.com
Kitchen Coordinator	Elena Suggs	jayandelena@gmail.com
Media Coordinator	Leah Carpenter	leahccarpenter@gmail.com

## Service Times

9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Worship

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.  
2306 MODAUS ROAD, SOUTHWEST / DECATUR, ALABAMA 35603