



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

Post Tenebras Lux
(After Darkness, Light)

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

The Lord's Day — April 24, 2022

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

Song of Assembly¹

Purify My Heart (Refiner's Fire)

Doerksen

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy set apart for You Lord.
I choose to be holy, set apart for You my master, ready to do Your will.*

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 145:1-3,21

Pastor: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

People: Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Pastor: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

People: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

based on Psalm 145

Hymn of Praise

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Wesley

O for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.

Jesus! The Name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread thro' all the earth abroad, the honors of Thy name.

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Reading of the Word: *light of the world...* Isaiah 9:1-2; Jeremiah 31:1-12a; Matthew 4:13-16; John 8:12

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

At that time, declares the Lord, I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they shall be my people.” Thus says the Lord: “The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines and shall go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when watchmen will call in the hill country of Ephraim: ‘Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.’” For thus says the Lord: “Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, ‘O Lord, save your people, the remnant of Israel.’ Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. “Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.’ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord.

And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.”

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Holy God, who dwells in unapproachable light, you have sent your light into the world in Jesus Christ, your Son. We believe in him but too often we flee from the light. Too often we have attempted to hide our sins rather than confess them to you. We ask your forgiveness for our resistant attitudes and unfounded fears. We ask your forgiveness for the time and energy wasted in seeking to justify ourselves by blaming others. We ask your forgiveness for the sins we silently confess to you now ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

The Gospel Pardon

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Great God Who Saves

Story

Oh, the promises of God, the rock on which I stand, the truths to which I cling.
His love that knows no bounds; He showers us with grace, withholding no good thing.

*When I stumble and my faith is small,
I will call Your name, great God who saves.*

*And I would have despaired if I had not believed that You would come to me, great God who saves.
And in my darkest hour, Your mercy and Your power are reaching out to me, great God who saves.*

Oh, the mystery of God, who holds all space and time, yet knows my every need.
The vastness of Your power, the strength You give the weak; I soar on eagle's wings.

And in my pain and in my need, You heard me calling out Your name.
When I was blind and could not see, You stepped in and saved a wretch like me,
And saved a wretch like me. Great God who saves.

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.*

The Blessing

Brown/Carnes/Furtick

The Lord bless you, and keep you. Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations and your family
and your children and their children and their children.

May His presence go before you and behind you and beside you.
All around you and within you, He is with you, He is with you.

In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going.
In your weeping and rejoicing. He is for you, He is for you, He is for you, He is for you.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Kent Quinn

Singing to the Lord

We Believe “The Apostles Creed”

Soli Deo Gloria

His Tithes & Our Offerings

What Do We Do In A Dark World?, Part II
1 Peter 1:17-25 (page 1014)

We Respond By Receiving New Members

The Lord Adds to His Church

*Michael, Karly, Isabella, Amelia,
Mason, & Colin Bailey*

The Membership Vows (PCA Book of Church Order §57-5)

Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except through His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as a become follower of Christ?

Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

*Brenden Nicholas Bailey
Covenant Child of Michael & Karly Bailey*

Solemn Vows - Parents

Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?

Do you now present this child to be baptized into the Christian Faith, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with him and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy faith, and that you will strive, by all means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Solemn Vows - Congregation

Do you, members of this congregation and also members of the Body of Christ outside of this local church, undertake this responsibility - assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Solemn Words to the Child

Little child, Jesus Christ has come, he has fought, he has suffered. He has entered into the shadows of Gethsemane and the terrors of Calvary; he has uttered the cry "It is finished!" He has risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, and there he intercedes for his church. Today we have pledged to teach you all of these things, and our prayer for you is that you will always mature and grow in the grace and in the knowledge of our great Lord and Savior - Jesus Christ.

Prayer for the Bailey Family

Elder Chip Walraven

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 signal the pastor to let him know. In each tray of drink, the clear communion cups contain juice and the purple contain wine. Please hold the elements until all have been served so that we may partake together.)

My Worth Is Not In What I Own

Getty

My worth is not in what I own; Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love, At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name, In win or lose, in pride or shame,
But in the blood of Christ that flowed, At the cross

*I rejoice in my Redeemer, Greatest Treasure, Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other. My soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

As summer flowers we fade and die, Fame, youth and beauty hurry by,
But life eternal calls to us, At the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might, Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ, At the cross

Two wonders here that I confess, My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed - my ransom paid, At the cross.

Benediction²

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Song of Faith

I Will Glory In My Redeemer

Cook

I will glory in my Redeemer
Who crushed the power of sin and death,
My only Savior before the holy Judge,
The Lamb who is my righteousness,
The Lamb who is my righteousness.
I will glory in my Redeemer!

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.

Church Family Reminders

Upcoming Guest Preachers: Nathan White (5/1); Rick Stark (5/8).

Officer Nominations: We will be accepting elder & deacon nominations the entire month of April. Officer qualification study guides, reflection papers, and nomination forms are available in the foyer, along with the box in which to place your nomination. Please pray over any nomination you'd like to make and read the nomination form carefully.

RYM Summer Conferences! Middle school conference is June 27-July 1, cost is \$415. High school conference is July 11-16, cost is \$440. Non-refundable \$100 deposits for all students, to save your spots, are due **next Sunday, May 1**. Balances will be due on June 5. More fundraising information will be published soon. Scholarships are available. Please see Nathan with any questions. Registration flyers have been mailed out.

2022 Senior Recognition Sunday: There will be a reception honoring our 2022 high school graduates immediately following worship service next Sunday, May 1. Our graduating seniors this year are: Emily Grace Lyons, Amelia McMahan, Emma Montgomery, Mary Pistorius, Xiran (Alice) Shu, Brooke Smith, Erica Widell. There will be gift tables for each graduate located in the Café area, as well as cake and punch.

DPC Short-Term Mission Trip: You are invited to our mission in the Dominican Republic, May 31-June 7, 2022!! Check the DPC website - "short-term mission trips" - under the Ministry tab for full information. First come, first serve, limit ~25. Questions? Contact Carol Godwin, carolg@pclnet.net or 256.227.5614.

Table Bridal Shower: Sunday, June 12 for Tel Schieler and Jordan (Jo) Moore. There will be a table in the gathering room for you to leave your gifts as they prepare for marriage. They are registered at zola.com/wedding/jordanandtel/.

VBS: Registration for Vacation Bible School is now open! Join us June 13th-16th from 5:15-8pm as we travel through the Solar System to learn about how God saves. Please fill out the link below to register your 4 years-5th grade children. There will be a \$15 registration fee due by the beginning of VBS. <https://forms.gle/hkU6vsbL4kbEyCv9A> Please contact Kristin Ladner if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering. kristinladner@gmail.com or (256) 345-9331

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

SPRING 2022

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!

Youth Sunday School: One of the key things we want our students to know before they graduate is how to study Scripture for themselves well. This semester, our high school and middle students will be learning how to study the Bible for themselves beginning with the assumptions they have about why and how we study the Bible and going all the way through to how to faithfully examine texts from Scripture's different genres and authors, all with the goal of understanding the divine author who reveals himself to us in it.

Session

Jeff Keith
Mike McMahan
Kent Quinn
Brian Rodgers
Connor Ross

Allen Schmidt
Greg Smith
Blake Temple
Chip Walraven

Diaconate

John Elder
James Fudge
Bill Nelson
Scott Missildine
Steve Sasser
Andy Thompson
Sam Thompson
David Whitcomb
David Zajic

Church Staff

Associate Pastor
Assistant Pastor
Worship Director
Office Administrator
NextGen Coordinator
Nursery Coordinator
Kitchen Coordinator
Media Coordinator

Rick Stark
Nathan White
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Service Times

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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