



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

"[A]nyone who is successful is really simply a recipient of God's unmerited favor. Even the people who are 'at the top' in the world's hierarchy of power and wealth and influence are really 'lowliest' — they are no better than anyone else. This is a rudimentary form of the gospel — that what we have is the result of grace, not of our 'works' or efforts. Any success is an unmerited gift."

Tim Keller

"God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Philippians 2:9-11

The Lord's Day — October 9, 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

God Of This City

Tomlin

You're the God of this city, You're the King of these people, You're the Lord of this nation, You are!
You're the Light in this darkness, You're the Hope to the hopeless, You're the Peace to the restless, You are!

There is no one like our God, There is no one like our God.

For greater things have yet to come, And greater things are still to be done in this city.

Greater things have yet to come, And greater things are still to be done in this city.

You're the Lord of creation, the creator of all things. You're the King above all Kings, You are!
You're the strength in our weakness, You're the love to the broken, You're the joy in the sadness, You are!

Greater things have yet to come, and greater things are still to be done here. There is no one like You, God.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 105:1-4

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

People: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Pastor: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

People: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

Hymn of Praise

God is our Strength and Refuge (Psalm 46)

Tyrpak/Wesley

God is our Strength and Refuge, a Helper ever near,
While resting in His shelter, no evil will we fear,
not if the mountains crumble into the angry sea,
nor if the surging ocean exceeds its boundary.

Behold God's glorious power; He makes all warfare cease.
Each weapon He will shatter; the world will be at peace.
"Be still!" cries heaven's Sovereign, "Be still, for I am God!"
All kingdoms, all creation will bow beneath My rod."

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The violent sea turned placid when Jesus cried, "Be still!"
Fears gone, twelve men stood gasping when waves obeyed His will.
And soon the same voice speaking will calm earth's rebel storm.
This Lord of hosts is with us both now and evermore!

Reading of the Word: *All You Have Is a Gift from God*

Deuteronomy 6:4-15

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. "And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. It is the Lord your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you—for the Lord your God in your midst is a jealous God—lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

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!

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalms 103:8-13

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Wesley

Arise, my soul arise, shake off your guilty fears,
The bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears.
Before the throne, my Surety stands, Before the throne, my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

Arise, arise, arise, arise my soul, arise! Arise, arise, arise, arise my soul, arise, Shake off your guilty fear and rise!

He ever lives above, for me to intercede,
His all redeeming love, His precious blood to plead,
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary,
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me,
"Forgive him, o forgive," they cry, "Forgive him, o forgive," they cry,
"Don't let that ransomed sinner die."

My God is reconciled, His pardoning voice I hear,
He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear,
With confidence I now draw nigh, With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father" cry.

Mighty to Save

Fielding/Morgan

Everyone needs compassion, a love that's never failing, let mercy fall on me.
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the Hope of nations.

*Savior, He can move the mountains; my God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save
Forever, Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave; Jesus conquered the grave*

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures; fill my life again
I give my life to follow everything I believe in, now I surrender.

Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing for the glory of the risen King. Jesus!
Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing for the glory of the risen King.

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.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Allen Schmidt

...Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(Immediately following this prayer, 4-5 year olds are invited, but not required, to attend Teach me to Worship. They will meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary and from there, will follow them to the classroom. They will return to sit on the back row to see Communion and hear the Benediction. Parents can pick them up there at the conclusion of the service.)

His Tithes & Our Offerings

Sermon

Pastor Scott Phillips

The Comparison Trap
John 3:22-36 (page 888)

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.)

Compassion Hymn

Getty

There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us
When the Radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost;
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress
For Your streams of forgiveness and the shade of Your rest.
And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again;
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears,
Heard the sign of the weary, let the children draw near.

*What boundless love, what fathomless grace, You have shown us, O God of compassion!
Each day we live, an offering of praise, As we show to the world Your compassion.*

We stood beneath the cross of Calvary and gazed on Your face,
At the thorns of oppression and the wounds of disgrace;
For surely You have borne our suffering and carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief.

How beautiful the feet that carry this gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless with the mercy of Christ.

Benediction²

Ephesians 3:20-21

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.

Song of Faith

Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

Women's Ministry "Mid-Season Gathering": All the women of DPC are invited to the Temple Inc. (320 Bank Street) on Thursday, October 20, 6:00-8:00pm. Bring snacks and drinks to share. Come for a relaxing evening of fellowship. For more information, contact Betsy Stark (334.728.1409, bstark8905@gmail.com) or Faye Temple (256.227.6525, faye.temple@temple-inc.com).

Fall Festival: Join us for the Fall Festival Wednesday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m.! We will have a bonfire, live music, bounce houses, games, a hayride, and our annual chili cookoff. **If you would like to make chili for the cookoff, please contact Margaret Fudge at jtfudge@att.net.**

Bridal Shower: Join us for a bridal shower for Leah Carpenter (fiancé is Rylan Scott) Sunday, October 30, 2:00-3:30pm at Temple, Inc. (320 Bank Street). You can go to the website <https://rylan-leah.wedsites.com/> to see the couple's registries.

Women in the Church (WIC): Stay current and connected to updates and ministry events among the Women's Ministry! Check out the Thursday Email, Sunday Worship Guide, and the WIC email list. If you're not on the WIC email list, please contact Tonya Roth, church administrator (tonya@decaturpca.org).

NextGen Missions Fundraiser: Do you love to support foreign missions? Do you also love cookies? Well, do we have a great opportunity for you! On the 3rd Wednesday of each month, the NextGen kids will be providing dessert for the churchwide dinner. For a donation of 50 cents per pre-packaged treat, you can help our kids support DPC missionaries, and satisfy your sweet tooth all at the same time!

Operation Christmas Child: Your participation in the shoebox ministry of Samaritan's Purse is a chance to send love and the gospel to children all around the world. Stop by the OCC table in the Gathering Room and pick up your box(es). Prayerfully fill them with items (note exceptions) and return to DPC, unsealed. The World Missions Committee is funding the shipping fee on our first 50 boxes, so send no money! Contact Mary Chism at maebelle12@att.net with questions.

Midweek College Study: College-aged young adults are invited to a midweek study every Thursday night at 6:00 at Chris and Laine Oliver's house (2309 Greenwood Dr. SE). We are studying Revelation using Dennis E. Johnson's *Triumph of the Lamb*. For more information, contact Nathan at nathan@decaturpca.org or (256) 280-7912.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

FALL 2022

9:30 am

Presbyterianism: Who We Are and How We Got Here: Come join us as we study Presbyterianism, in the classroom across the hall from the church offices. Topics include Revelation and Scripture, Overview of Reformed Theology, Covenant Theology, God (Theology) and Man (Anthropology), Christ (Christology), Salvation (Soteriology), Church (Ecclesiology), Practical Theology, Church Policy and the PCA, and Elders and Deacons. Please join us in this study.

Sedona Class: A study of Mark - Sports Center of the Bible. The class meets in the classroom down the back hallway from the sanctuary, across from the choir room. Walk-ons are welcome!

Study #158 - Ephesians: In a world where Christianity seems increasingly sidelined and even irrelevant, we need to grasp the truths of this life-changing letter - Ephesians. Come join this new adult class (Room #158), where in the context of study and fellowship, we will discover how being "in Christ" changes everything—our view of ourselves, our world, our future, our church, homes and workplaces.

Session

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

Diaconate

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

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Media Coordinator	Leah Carpenter	leahccarpenter@gmail.com

Service Times

9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Worship

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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