



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

When those men intended to give to Christ the title and honor of king..., what sort of kingdom do they contrive for him? An earthly one, which is utterly inconsistent with his person.... By pretence of zeal, they offered greater insult to God than if a person were expressly and deliberately to make an attack on his glory.

John Calvin

If my life is broken when given to Jesus, it is because the pieces will feed a multitude,
while a loaf will satisfy only a little lad.

Unknown

The Lord's Day — January 8, 2023

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

Song of Assembly¹

We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

McCracken/Moore

*We will feast in the house of Zion, we will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together, we will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire, He is the Lord, our God
We are not consumed by the flood, upheld, protected, gathered up

*We will feast in the house of Zion, we will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together, we will feast and weep no more*

In the dark of night, before the dawn, my soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh, how long? Oh, God of Jacob, be my strength

*We will feast in the house of Zion, we will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together. we will feast and weep no more*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom

*We will feast in the house of Zion, we will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together, we will feast and weep no more*

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Isaiah 35:3-6

Pastor: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart,

People: "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Pastor: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

People: then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

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Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, As thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Throughout the sacred page I seek thee, Lord, My spirit pants for thee, O living Word.

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me, As thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall; And I shall find my peace, my All in all.

Thou art the Bread of Life, O Lord, to me, Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;
Give me to eat and live with thee above; Teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.

O send thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me, That he may touch mine eyes, and make me see:
Show me the truth concealed within thy Word, And in thy Book revealed I see the Lord.

Reading of the Word: *The Wisdom of God***1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Great and merciful God: we confess to You that we often pursue forms of godliness yet deny Your power; our faith being dwarfed and overcome by what makes sense to us and the world's opinions rather than what You have revealed in your Word. You alone are wisdom and righteousness, but we stand before You as foolish and unrighteous in thought, word and deed. Have mercy on us; please cleanse and renew us and lead us in Your holy direction ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness**1 Peter 1:3-5**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Come Ye Sinners

Smith

Come ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore.
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, full of pity joined with power.
He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.
Come ye needy, come and welcome; God's free bounty glorify:
True belief and true repentance, Every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money, Come to Jesus Christ and buy.
Come ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.
Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.

All I Have Is Christ

Kauflin

I once was lost in darkest night, Yet thought I knew the way
The sin that promised joy and life, Had led me to the grave
I had no hope that You would own, A rebel to Your will
And if You had not loved me first, I would refuse You still
But as I ran my hell-bound race, Indifferent to the cost
You looked upon my helpless state, And led me to the cross
And I beheld God's love displayed, You suffered in my place
You bore the wrath reserved for me, Now all I know is grace
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ, Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!
Now, Lord, I would be Yours alone, And live so all might see
The strength to follow Your commands, Could never come from me
O Father, use my ransomed life, In any way You choose
And let my song forever be, My only boast is You

Behold Our God

Baird/Altrogge

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice.

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.

Behold our King, nothing can compare, come, let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave, Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

You will reign forever. Let Your glory fill the earth.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder George Godwin

...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

The Gospel of Weakness
John 6:1-15 (page 891)

Pastor Scott Phillips

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.)

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.

Benediction²

Jude 24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Song of Faith

To the Only God

Tomlin

To the only God, who is able to keep us,
Able to keep us from falling.
To the only God, be all glory and honor,
Majesty and power, for all ages now and forevermore.

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

'Thank You' from the Staff: Once again, your Christmas gifts have left the staff absolutely astonished by your incredible generosity. Among the countless reasons it is a blessing to be among the saints of Decatur Presbyterian is the remarkable love that you show us. You have beautifully taken to heart Paul's command in Romans 12:10, *"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."* Thank you! We look forward to another year of caring for and serving with you. With love and gratitude, The DPC Staff.

Wednesday Mid-Week Ministry: We resume this Wednesday, January 11th. A church family meal is served from 5:30pm – 6:15pm. Children's choir and Youth begin at 6:00pm; NextGen, Open Door Study and Life Groups are at 6:30pm – 7:30pm.

World Missions Breakfast & Worship Service: Next Sunday, January 15, at 8:45am everyone is invited (no charge). At 9:30am, there will be a Joint Sunday School class where missionary Daniel Cohee (Taiwan) will share his experiences as well as the vision for the world to which the church is called. Later, we will enjoy Rev. Cohee's preaching in our 10:40am worship service.

Women's Bible Study: Make plans to be part of Women's Bible study in the New year! Our books for the Winter/Spring study of Luke are available for purchase in the book nook for \$8. Our Women's Bible studies will resume Tuesday, January 17th and Monday evening, January 23rd. Please read the first two chapters of the study guide for our first meeting. For more information, contact Teresa Quinn at teresaquinn703@gmail.com.

Congregational Meeting: The elders have called a congregational meeting on January 29, immediately following the worship service, for the sole purpose of electing men to the office of Ruler Elder and Deacon (BCO 24.1). All communing members in good standing (BCO 24.3) are encouraged to stay for the meeting and vote. The recommended slate of candidates coming from the Session is as follows: Ruling Elder: George Godwin, Jeff Keith, Brian Rodgers, Stuart Smith, Blake Temple; Deacons: Wade Littrell, Bill Nelson, Kris Olin.

Ladies! Mark your calendars for the evening of February 10th and the morning of the 11th! We will have the opportunity to hear from Christina Fox, author of the book *Closer Than a Sister*. She will be speaking to us about friendships in the church; both cultivating them within the body and reflecting them to the world around us. More details coming soon!

Our Pictorial Church Directory is Online! We need *every family* to create a Login and upload a picture. Please go to <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> and follow the prompts under "First time signing in? Create Login". Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in and edit your family profile. You won't be able to see your changes until an administrator approves the change. Contact chip.walraven@gmail.com or tonya@decaturpca.org if you need help.

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 going through *1 Kings*. For more information, contact Nathan at nathan@decaturpca.org or (256) 280-7912.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

WINTER 2023

9:30 am

1 & 2 Thessalonians: Come join us as we study 1 & 2 Thessalonians, in the classroom across the hall from the church offices. 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 - Ezra and Nehemiah: Come join the new adult class in room #158 where in the context of study and fellowship, we will discuss the vital story of a community revived and restored by God's grace, through the gifted individuals of Ezra and Nehemiah, preparing the way for the Messiah to come.

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	

Church Staff

Senior Pastor	Scott Phillips	scott@decaturpca.org
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Media Coordinator	Leah Scott	leahccarpenter@gmail.com

Service Times

9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Worship

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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