



For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord,
with ourselves as your servants
for Jesus' sake.
2 Corinthians 4:5

Some want to live within the sound of chapel bells, I want to run a rescue shop one yard from hell.

C. T. Studd, (Professional athlete and missionary to Africa, 1861 – 1930)

The absolute certainty of our death gives the gospel its urgency.

Randy Alcorn

So he told them this parable: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”

Luke 15:3-7

The Lord's Day — March 5, 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

You Are the Lord

Smith

Worthy we stand saved by His hand.
Great is Your name in all the earth.
Worthy alone Christ on the throne,
Your kingdom will reign forever.
You are the Lord Most High!

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 33:8-11

Pastor: Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

People: For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm!

Pastor: The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

All: The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations!

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

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Hymn of Praise

To God Be the Glory

Crosby

To God be the glory, great things He has done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the lifegate that we may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O Come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory, great things He has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood! To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Reading of the Word: *Lifted up that we may live*

Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-15

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live... And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Our Father, we confess that we believe and act like we are greater and wiser than you. We lift up ourselves for show and look to ourselves to provide the things we need. We take shortcuts, and form alliances with darkness to protect our sinful appetites, failing to look to and trust the light of life because secretly it hurts otherwise. Our arrogance is seen in our grumbling, as if entitled, offering little of daily thanks to you. O Lord, forgive our evil ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Whom Shall I Fear (Angel Armies)

Cash, Cash & Tomlin

You hear me when I call, You are my morning song
Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the Light, Whom shall I fear
You crush the enemy underneath my feet
You are my Sword and Shield though troubles linger still, Whom shall I fear

Chorus

*I know who goes before me, I know who stands behind, The God of angel armies is always by my side
The one who reigns forever, He is a Friend of mine, The God of angel armies is always by my side*

Bridge

*And nothing formed against me shall stand, You hold the whole world in Your hand,
I'm holding on to Your promises, You are faithful, You are Faithful, You are Faithful*

The God of angel armies is always by my side

The Lord Is My Salvation

Getty

The grace of God has reached for me, And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground, The Lord is my salvation
I will not fear when darkness falls, His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun, The Lord is my salvation
*Who is like the Lord our God? Strong to save, faithful in love
My debt is paid and the vict'ry won, The Lord is my salvation*
And when I reach my final day, He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise, He will call me home, The Lord is my salvation
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son
Glory be to God the Spirit, The Lord is our salvation

Jesus, Only Jesus

Tomlin

Who has the power to raise the dead, Who can save us from our sin?
He is our hope, our righteousness. Jesus, only Jesus.
Who can make the blind to see, Who holds the keys that set us free?
He paid it all to bring us peace. Jesus, only Jesus.
Holy, King Almighty, Lord. Saints and angels all adore. I join with them and bow before, Jesus, only Jesus.
Who can command the highest praise, Who has the name above all names?
You stand alone, I stand amazed. Jesus, only Jesus.
*You will command the highest praise, Yours is the name above all names.
You stand alone, I stand amazed. Jesus, only Jesus. Jesus, only Jesus.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Greg Smith

(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.)

Singing to the Lord

Psalms 24

Worship Choir

His Tithes & Our Offerings

Sermon

Pastor Rick Stark

Ultimate Separation, Ultimate Union
John 8:21–30 (Page 894)

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.)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Watts

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Benediction²

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Song of Faith

By Faith

Getty\Townend

We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

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

J.O.Y. Resumes! The J.O.Y. (just.older.youth) is calling out to all our empty-nesters to gather for a Potluck lunch in the Cafe on Sunday, March 12. Please bring a favorite dish to share. Drinks will be provided. Let's bloom this Spring in this vital ministry! For more information, contact Mary Chism (336.675.5900, maeabelle12@att.net).

Dominican Republic Mission Trip! DPC is going back, June 7-13, 2023, for a fantastic ministry opportunity! Please let Carol Godwin know if you are going or are considering going, for she is needing a head count (256.227.5614, carolg@pclnet.net).

Youth Fundraising: Several of the youth have signed up wanting to do babysitting, yard work, and housework to raise money towards their RYM conference fee. If you are interested in having any of this type of work done for you, by DPC youth, please send a description of the task and the number of students needed to Nathan at nathan@decaturpca.org. The donation amount will be whatever is agreed upon with the student and their parents. Payment should be made to DPC with the students' names in the memo line. Please contact Nathan if you have any questions.

Women's Bible Study: Our Bible study on Luke meets each Tuesday, 10 to 11:30, in the church gathering room. Study guides are available for purchase in the book nook for \$8.00. Childcare is provided. For more information, contact Teresa Quinn at teresaquinn703@gmail.com

Wednesday Mid-Week Ministry: Join us for a church family meal served from 5:30pm – 6:15pm. Choirs and Youth begin at 6:00pm; NextGen, Open Door Study and Life Groups are 6:30pm – 7:30pm.

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

George Godwin
Jeff Keith
Mike McMahan
Brian Rodgers
Connor Ross

Allen Schmidt
Greg Smith
Blake Temple
Chip Walraven

Diaconate

John Elder
James Fudge
Wade Littrell
Bill Nelson
Scott Missildine
Kris Olin

Steve Sasser
Andy Thompson
Sam Thompson
David Whitcomb
David Zajic

Church Staff

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

Scott Phillips
Rick Stark
Nathan White
Stu Schieler
Tonya Roth
Jessica Keith
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Service Times

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

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