



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

If the Lord's people will humble themselves by admitting that deception is quite possible to them,
they will be the less deceived.

Watchman Nee

“Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God’s word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

The Lord's Day — March 19, 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

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Peace/Matheson

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;

I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow, May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;

My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day, May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;

I climb the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee;

I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red, Life that shall endless be.

Welcome and Announcements

Report of the Living Church

Wes Baker, Peru Mission

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

¹ All songs used by permission or covered under CCLI license # 391165.

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.

Reading of the Word: *Behold the Servant of God Who Heals Us*

Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: "I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

From the Book of Common Worship

Eternal and Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires; that with lowliness and meekness we may draw near to you; confessing our sins, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and our strength, through Jesus Christ your Son ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness

James 4:6,8,10

But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble...." Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.... Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me Robinson, Farren, Thompson

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer, There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom, My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me
The night is dark but I am not forsaken, For by my side, the Savior He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me, Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome, Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me! Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Just As I Am (I Come Broken)

Cottrell

Just as I am without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee, O Lamb of God I come, I come.
Just as I am and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot.
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God I come, I come.
I come broken to be mended, I come wounded to be healed.
I come desperate to be rescued, I come empty to be filled.
I come guilty to be pardoned by the blood of Christ the Lamb.
And I'm welcomed with open arms, praise God, just as I am.
Just as I am I would be lost, but mercy and grace my freedom bought.
And now, to glory in Your cross, oh Lamb of God I come, I come.

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Newton/Tomlin

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed!
My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood His mercy reigns; unending love, amazing grace.
The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

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.)

His Tithes & Our Offerings

Sermon

Pastor Scott Phillips

Living in the Light
John 9:1-41 (Page 895)

We Respond By Receiving New Members

The Lord Adds to His Church

*Doug, Lisa, Bronwyn, & (Evan) Craddock,
Riley Murray*

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

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner 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 become followers of Christ?

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

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

Prayer for the New Members

Elder Allen Schmidt

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.)

Psalm 84

Londonderry Air

O Lord of hosts, how lovely is your dwelling place! I cry aloud, I long for your abode;
The joys of earth have left my soul unsatisfied: My heart and flesh desire the living God.
Within your walls the sparrow finds a nesting place, That near your altars she may have her young:
How happy those who dwell within your house, O Lord, By whom your holy praises are forever sung!
How happy those who have in you the strength they need, And in whose heart are Zion's pathways found!
The desert sands they make a place of water-springs, Till autumn rains refresh the barren ground.
From strength to strength they journey on their pilgrimage, Until in God's own presence they appear:
O Lord of hosts, do good to your anointed one; Receive my earnest prayer: O God of Jacob, hear!
How better, far, a single day within your courts, Than thousands spent in any other way;
I'd rather wait upon the steps beside your door, Than pitch my tent where wickedness holds sway.
For like a shield the Lord defends and covers us; He gives us grace and crowns with glory too,
And nothing good withholds from those that walk aright: O Lord of hosts, how happy all who trust in you!

Benediction²

Isaiah 60:1

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

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

Our NextGen children will be selling their "missions cookies" this coming Wednesday evening. All proceeds go to supporting our missionaries!

Internships and Summer Missions: Please consider praying and giving generously to the following:

Grace Nelson, RUF-NC State (<https://givetoruf.org/donate/Grace.Nelson>);

Jack Lyons, MTW-Japan (<https://mtw.org/missionaries/lyons-jack>);

Benji Martin, MTW-Bulgaria (<https://mtw.org/missionaries/martin-benji>).

Called Congregational Meeting: Next Sunday evening, March 26, at 6:00pm, there will be congregational meeting to hear Pastor Scott present the "State of the Church" (actually, more like the way forward for the love of Jesus and the Kingdom of God). Please join us!

Good Friday Service: On Friday evening, April 07, (time tba) the church will gather to spend time singing and giving thanks to the Lord, while reflecting on truths of the Cross of Calvary. Please join us!

Next Gen Easter Egg Hunt: Mark your calendars for our annual Easter egg hunt Saturday, April 8 at 10 a.m. at DPC. We are excited to have everyone come to the church for a morning of fun and fellowship. Be sure to bring your basket to collect eggs. See you then!

Table Bridal Shower: Sunday, April 16 for Evelyn Phillips and Zach Boyles. There will be a table in the gathering room for you to leave your gifts as they prepare for marriage. They are registered at <https://www.zola.com/wedding/evelyn-zach/registry>

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@decatupca.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.

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@decatupca.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
Allison Seale
Elena Suggs
Leah Scott

scott@decaturpca.org
rick@decaturpca.org
nathan@decaturpca.org
stu@decaturpca.org
office@decaturpca.org
jlkeith78@gmail.com
alliseale@gmail.com
jayandelena@msn.com
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