



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

The Lord's Day — September 24, 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

Through the Precious Blood

Altrogge

You have ordained every breath we take, in pleasure or pain, there is no mistake
Gladness and grief, both are in Your hands, and sufferings brief carry out Your plan
And our fleeting sorrows, will yield an endless prize, When some bright tomorrow, we'll see You with our eyes, and

*Grace upon grace flows down, flows down, And Grace upon grace flows down, flows down,
Through the precious blood of Christ*

Father of lights, Giver of all grace, Your mercies crown our lives all our days
River of Life, quench our thirsty souls, for no true delight does Your love withhold
And in every season, we are satisfied, For just one reason, Christ was crucified, and

All good gifts, every good thing, comes to us freely, so freely,
All good gifts, every good thing, comes to us freely, so freely,
Through the precious blood, Through the precious blood.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Isaiah 55:1-3

Pastor: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come buy wine and milk without money and without price.

People: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Pastor: Listen diligently to me,, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

People: Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may life; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant..."

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

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Hymn of Praise

For All the Saints

How

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day; The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of Glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reading of the Word: *Looking to Jesus*

Hebrews 12:1-14

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful in our relationship with you and with one another. We have worshiped other gods: money, power, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our relationship with you and one another. Through Christ, our Lord ...*Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin...* Amen!

Assurance of Forgiveness

Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Build My Life

Barrett

Worthy of every song we could ever sing, Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, We live for You, oh, we live for You

Jesus, the name above every other name, Jesus, the only One who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, We live for You, we live for You

*Holy, there is no one like You, there is none beside You, Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are and fill me with Your heart, And lead me in Your love to those around me*

And I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation
And I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Lyte

Jesus I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow thee;
Naked, poor, despised, forsaken, thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition, God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior too;
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like them untrue;
Oh while Thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me; show Thy face, and all is bright.

Soul, then know thy full salvation, rise o'er sin and fear and care;
Joy to find in ev'ry station something still to do or bear;
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee; child of heav'n, canst thou repine?

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.
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.

*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.*

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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Mike McMahan

(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

The God I Serve

Worship Choir

His Tithes & Our Offerings

Sermon

Pastor Scott Phillips

The Disciples' Cross
Mark 8:27-38 (Page 844)

(10:45 service)

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Jacques Terral Marthaler
Covenant Child of Ryan & Jacqueline Marthaler

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 unreservedly dedicate your child to God, 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 Jack

Elder Brian Rodgers

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.)

Speak, O Lord

Getty, Townend

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.
Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail let their truth prevail over unbelief.
Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Benediction²

Revelation 1:5-6

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Song of Faith

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Getty

Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.
O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.

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

Welcome to our Visitors! We are so grateful to God that you've come! If you are willing, please use the QR to give us as much contact information as you are comfortable with. In this way, we reconnect with you and find ways that we may be able to serve you or pray for you.



Two Worship Services! DPC now has two worship services, 8:15 and 10:45am., and a vibrant Sunday School hour between the two. Whichever service fits your and your family's preference please come join us! In this way, we are making room for you AND your neighbor AND your friends! "The harvest is plentiful..." (Luke 10:2)

Life Groups/Small Groups: Looking to grow spiritually? 'Discipleship' is a key component of the DPC mission! Please use the "interest card" to indicate your desire to participate in a Life Group or other small group. For more information, contact pastor Rick Stark, rick@decaturpca.org.

Wednesday Night Ministries: Our mid-week ministries have resumed. Come join us every Wednesday! Soli de Gloria Choir begins at 5:00pm. A church family meal is served from 5:30pm – 6:15pm. Kid's Choir and Youth begin at 6:00pm; Adult Choir begins at 6:15. NextGen, Open Door Study and Life Groups are at 6:30pm – 7:30pm.

Women's Bible Study: Ladies! Our Monday evening Bible Study begins September 25th, 6:15 to 7:45 pm, meeting for 9 weeks at the home of Amy Nelson, 2522 Sherwood Drive SE, Decatur. Please join us in studying the book of Proverbs, guided by "*A Woman's Wisdom: How the Book of Proverbs Speaks to Everything*," by Lydia Brownback (located in the Book Nook at church, \$10). We will cover Chapter 1 at our first meeting. Questions? Contact Teresa Quinn, 256-565-0897

Grandparenting Matters! Sunday School: Starting today, September 24, we invite all grandparents to join a new Sunday School. We will be studying and discussing from the Scriptures why grandparenting matters and how do we practically love and pass along our faith to our children and grandchildren. For more information, contact pastor Rick, 334.728.1409 or rick@decaturpca.org.

J.O.Y. Luncheon: Join the J.O.Y. Group Sunday, October 1st after the 10:45 am worship service for a potluck lunch and fellowship time. Make new friends with other "empty nesters" who, like you, no longer must rush home to feed hungry families. Following the meal, we will tease our brains with a fun game or two. For more information, contact Mary Chism, 336.675.5900 or maebelle12@att.net.

Women's Social: All ladies are invited to the Women's Fall Fellowship Social, Thursday October 5th, 6 pm, at the home of Betsy Stark, 3773 South Woodtrail Rd SW, Decatur. Please bring a dish to share! Join us in building connections with other women, spending an evening together with warm fellowship and good food. For more information, contact Jessica Keith, 256.466.4651 or jlkeith78@gmail.com

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

FALL 2023

9:30 am

“Grandparenting Matters”: We invite all grandparents to join us. We will be studying and discussing from the Scriptures why grandparenting matters and how do we practically love and pass along our faith to our children and grandchildren, in the classroom across the hall from the church offices.

Sedona Class: “What the PCA Believes”. The class taught by Jeff Keith and Connor Ross, meets in the classroom down the back hallway from the sanctuary, across from the choir room. Walk-ins are welcome!

Study #158 - Galatians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon: In the context of study and fellowship, we will discuss and make applications from the stories of the New Testament church - its community, doctrine, and mission - through the Letters of Paul.

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

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Service Times

8:15am Worship
9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Worship

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