



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.  
And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

There is an essential connection between experiencing God, loving God, and trusting God.  
You will trust God only as much as you love him. And you will love him to the extent  
you have touched him, rather than he has touched you.

Brennan Manning

# The Lord's Day — October 15, 2023

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

## Song of Assembly<sup>1</sup>

### 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

## Welcome and Announcements

### Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 116:1-2, 5-7

Pastor: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**People: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**People: The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

**All: Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.**

## Prayer of Adoration & Praise

<sup>1</sup> All songs used by permission or covered under CCLI license # 391165.

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
 All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
 This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
 Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
 The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
 This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;  
 In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;  
 He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget  
 That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
 This is my Father's world: the battle is not done:  
 Jesus Who died shall be satisfied, And earth and Heav'n be one.

### Reading of the Word: *Love the Lord...*

### Deuteronomy 6:10-15

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

**All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way. You made us to glorify and enjoy you, but we live for ourselves. You made us to love and serve our neighbors, but we want our neighbors to serve us. Yet you have laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He was pierced for our transgressions; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace. By his wounds we are healed. For Jesus sake, forgive our sins and heal us ...Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin... Amen!**

### Assurance of Forgiveness

### Hebrews 10:15-17

And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

## Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

### Praise the Lord (Psalm 150)

Boswell/Papa

You made the starry hosts, You traced the mountain peaks  
You paint the evening sky with wonders  
The earth, it is Your throne, from desert to the sea, all nature testifies Your splendor

*Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Sing His greatness All creation, Praise the Lord, Raise your voice,  
You heights and all you depths, From furthest east to west, Let everything that has breath, Praise the Lord*

You reached into the dust, In love, Your Spirit breathed, You formed us in Your very likeness  
To know Your wondrous works, To tell Your mighty deeds, To join the everlasting chorus

Let symphonies resound, Let drums and choirs ring out, All heaven hear the sound of worship  
Let every nation bring, Its honors to the King, A roar of harmonies eternal

*Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Sing His greatness, All creation, Praise the Lord, Raise your voice  
You heights and all you depths, From furthest east to west, You distant burning stars,  
All creatures near and far, From sky to sea to shore, Sing out forevermore,  
Let everything that has breath, Praise the Lord*

### Indescribable

Story

From the highest of heights, to the depths of the sea, Creation's revealing your majesty.  
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring; Every creature unique in the song that it sings; All exclaiming:

*Indescribable! Uncontainable! You placed the stars in the sky and you know them by name. You are amazing God!  
All powerful, untamable; awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim. You are amazing God!*

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go? Or seen Heavenly storehouses laden with snow?  
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light? Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night?

None can fathom:

*Incomparable, unchangeable; You know the depths of my heart and you love me the same.  
You are amazing God! You are amazing God!*

### I Give You My Heart

Morgan

This is my desire, to honor You;  
Lord, with all my heart, I worship You;  
All I have within me, I give You praise;  
All that I adore is in You.

Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul,  
I live for You alone;  
Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,  
Lord, have Your way in me.

## Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

**Elder Allen Schmidt**

*(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 Rick Stark**

**The Disciples' Love: God**  
**Luke 7:36-50** (Page 864)

## 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.)*

## 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.*

## **Benediction<sup>2</sup>**

**adapted from 1 Peter 1:8**

Though you have not seen him, may you love him... believe in him and rejoice with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, your salvation.

## **Song of Faith**

## **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

**Newton/Tomlin**

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.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.



**Fall Festival:** Join us for the Fall Festival Wednesday, October 25 at 5:30 p.m.! We will have games, inflatables, bonfire, chili-cookoff, and an open mic night. If you would like to make chili for the cookoff, please contact Vicki Stephenson at [vicki\\_stephenson@me.com](mailto:vicki_stephenson@me.com). Contact Jessica Keith to sign up for open mic night at [jlkeith78@gmail.com](mailto:jlkeith78@gmail.com). Candy donation bin located in children's wing.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Be an International Missionary in Decatur! (1) Visit the OCC table in the Gathering Room. (2) Take home a shoebox (3) Prayerfully shop for items to fill it. (4) Pray for the child who will receive your gift. (5) Return stuffed shoebox(es) by Wednesday, November 15. Our hope is to give out/receive all 95 boxes! Contact Mary Chism for more information, [maebelle12@att.net](mailto:maebelle12@att.net).

**ROOTS 2024:** The next edition of ROOTS is on the calendar from 1/19-1/21 at Camp ToKnowHim. Our theme for this year is "My Savior Makes Me Whole," and the cost is \$145. To sign up, scan the QR code outside the Youth Room or email [tucker@decaturpca.org](mailto:tucker@decaturpca.org) for more information!

**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](mailto:rick@decaturpca.org).

**Grandparenting Matters! Sunday School:** Grandparents are invited to join a new Sunday School. We are studying and discussing from the Scriptures why intentional Christian grandparenting matters and how do we practically pass along our faith to our children and grandchildren. For more information, contact pastor Rick, 334.728.1409 or [rick@decaturpca.org](mailto: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.

# 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: Galatians** The class taught by George Godwin, 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

## Church Staff

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Director of Youth Ministries  
Worship Director  
Office Administrator  
NextGen Coordinator  
Nursery Coordinator  
Kitchen Coordinator  
Media Coordinator

Scott Phillips  
Rick Stark  
Tucker Fleming  
Stu Schieler  
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## Service Times

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

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