



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 — December 31, 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

Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand

Alford/Dykes

Ten thousand times ten thousand in sparkling raiment bright,
The armies of the ransomed saints throng up the steep of light;
'Tis finished, all is finished, their fight with death and sin;
Fling open wide the golden gates, and let the victors in.

What rush of alleluias fills all the earth and sky!
What ringing of a thousand harps bespeaks the triumph nigh!
O day, for which creation and all its tribes were made;
O joy, for all its former woes a thousandfold repaid!

Bring near Thy great salvation, Thou Lamb for sinners slain;
Fill up the roll of Thine elect, then take Thy power, and reign;
Appear, Desire of nations, Thine exiles long for home;
Show in the heaven Thy promised sign; Thou Prince and Savior, come.

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:19-23

Leader: Therefore, brothers [and sisters], since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that He opened for us through the curtain, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

People: let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

All: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

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Hymn of Praise

I Am the Lord Your God (Isaiah 43)

Unknown

When you pass through the waters I will be with you, and the waves will not overcome you.

Do not fear. For I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine.

For I am the Lord Your God, (I am Lord your God)

I am the Lord your God, (I... Am)

I Am the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I am the Lord, (Do not fear.) I am the Lord, (Do not fear.)

I am the Lord, (Do not fear.) I am the Lord. (Do not fear.)

When you pass through the fire you'll not be burned, and the flames will not consume you.

Do not fear. For I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine.

Reading of the Word: *The Source of a Worthy Life*

Colossians 1:9-12

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Confession of Sin

Gracious Lord and Light of Salvation, we confess that we dishonor you in our words, thoughts and deeds. Depending on our strength, we stumble; boasting in our own righteousness, we reject you; and turning our eyes from you, we fix our hope on things of this world. We pray, Lord, for you to open our eyes, forgive our many sins; cleanse the darkness from our lives; and to turn our faces and our hearts back towards you ...Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin... **Amen!**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

His Mercy Is More

Boswell/Papa

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.*

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Fall On Us

Godwin

May the power of your presence overwhelm us, Holy Spirit living breath of God
Give your grace and gifts to all who gather, Help us see... set us free

May the beauty of your glory.. captivate us, Show us ways we fail to walk in love
Touch our troubled spirit with forgiveness, Renew us here... draw us near

*Fall on us, Holy Spirit, Breathe in our hearts and light your fire
Fall on us, Holy Spirit, Move in this place with resurrection power
Fall on us, Fall on us, Holy God*

May the comfort of your mercy bring the peace of God, Speak into our lives the word of Christ
Give us faith and hope for life's long journey, Fill our souls....make us whole

For the proud and for the hopeless, For the strong and for the weak
For the sure and for the doubting, For the one who has no peace
For the healthy and the ailing, For the rich and for the poor
For all who come in victory, For all who just endure

Purify My Heart (Refiner's Fire)

Doerksen

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver.
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy set apart for You Lord.
I choose to be holy, set apart for You my master, ready to do Your will.*

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy.
Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Pastor Scott Phillips

(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

Fresh Grace for New Hearts
Ezekiel 36:22-32 (Page 724)

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.)

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.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine;
Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

Benediction²**2 Corinthians 13:14**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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.



Christmas Holiday Schedule:

Dec. 31, no 8:15am worship; regular 9:30am Sunday school and 10:45am worship service.

Jan. 01, the church office is closed all day.

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: We will be taking our Christmas break December 12 - January 9, 2024 and resume on January 16, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the church gathering room. The Monday night study will begin again on January 22. Next year we are studying Luke, Part 3. Study books are available in the Book Nook for \$10. Childcare is provided! For questions, contact Teresa Quinn (256)565-0897. Visitors are welcome!

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 for more information!

Congregational Meeting: The elders have called a congregational meeting on January 28, for the sole purpose of electing men to the office of Ruling Elder and Deacon (BCO 24.1). All communing members in good standing (BCO 24.3) are encouraged to participate in the meeting and vote. The meeting will accommodate members who attend either worship service; stay tuned for more details. The recommended slate of candidates coming from the Session is as follows: Ruling Elder: Mike McMahan, Connor Ross, Allen Schmidt, Jay Suggs, Andy Thompson; Deacons: Sam Thompson, David Whitcomb.

DPC Short-Term Mission Trip: Mark your calendars! Our 2024 mission in the Dominican Republic will be June 4-11!!

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: We will take our Christmas break from our normal schedule of Wednesday night ministries, December 13 - January 03, and then resume on January 10, 2024! Mark your calendar!

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

WINTER 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
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Service Times

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

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