



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

So Jesus' kingship is not something that remains in the future. Christ is King right this minute. He is in the seat of the highest cosmic authority. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to God's anointed Son.

R. C. Sproul

This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'"

Acts 2:32-35

# The Lord's Day — January 14, 2024

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>

### The Wonderful Cross

Watts/Tomlin

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.

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?

*O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross, Bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.  
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross, All who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.*

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

## Welcome and Announcements

## Responsive Call to Worship

Psalm 130:5-6

Pastor: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope

**People: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**

## Prayer of Adoration & Praise

---

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

## Hymn of Praise

## How Firm a Foundation

Rippon

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus hath fled?

Fear not! I am with thee; O be not dismayed, For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee; and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose; I will not, I will not desert to His foes.  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

## Reading of the Word: *...that the invisible might be visible*

John 9:1-7

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone; and especially in chaffing at your mysterious providence, demanding that you justify yourself. Our love for you is often fickle and divided, and the same for our neighbors. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name** ...Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin... **Amen!**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

## Worship with Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

### O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Francis

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;  
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Your love;  
Leading onward, leading homeward, to Your glorious rest above.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of every love the best:  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;  
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

### The Roar

Tomlin

I waited for the Lord, He turned and heard my cry  
His mercy opened up my eyes, when I couldn't see and my strength was failing me  
*I heard the roar of the Lion of Judah, I heard the voice that calms the raging sea, He came to me, came to me  
When I needed the Lord, I heard the roar of the Lion of Judah.*  
I waited for the Lord, He appeared in blinding light  
He led me through the darkest night, when I couldn't see and my strength was failing me  
I lifted my hands, He lifted me out, All praise to the Savior, all worship to God  
With all that I am, with all of my heart, All praise to the Savior, all worship to God  
You came to me, came to me, when I needed You, Lord  
I heard the roar of the Lion of Judah, I heard the roar of the Lion of Judah

### He Will Hold Me Fast

Habershon

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast.  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path.  
For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast.  
*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast.  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*  
Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast.  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last.  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.  
For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast.  
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last.

## Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Brian Rodgers

...Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*(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

### Dealing With Our Doubts 1 Kings 17:17-24 (Page 299)

## 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.)*

### King's Cross

Ezra

King of the ages, all you've created, Jesus, Ruler of the universe as man  
Laid down your glory, entered my story, Jesus, gave your life a ransom as the Lamb.  
Your sacrifice has set me free.

*On the King's cross, on the King's cross, scarlet hands and crown of thorns  
God himself who saved His own, I'm forgiven on the King's cross*

Now you are risen, and it is finished, Jesus, God as human reigning on your throne  
I am your treasure, purchased forever, Jesus, with your life and death marked as my own

Amazing love, how can it be, that you my God, would die for me

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

**Jude 24-25**

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. 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.

---

<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.



**Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study:** Beginning again this Tuesday January 16... every Tuesday morning, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the church gathering room. We are studying Luke Part 3, by Hope Blanton and Christine Gordon, a study of Luke 17-24. Study books are available in the Book Nook for \$10. Childcare is provided! For questions, contact Teresa Quinn (256)565-0897. Visitors are welcome!

**Monday Night Women's Bible Study:** Our Monday night Women's Bible study begins January 22nd from 6:15pm-7:45pm at the home of Amy Nelson, 2522 Sherwood Drive SE. We are studying Luke Part 3, by Hope Blanton and Christine Gordon, a study of Luke 17-24. Study books are available in the Book Nook for \$10. For questions, contact Teresa Quinn (256)565-0897. Visitors are welcome!

**Relationships ReFormed:** Vicki Stephenson will be the keynote speaker for a community women's event sponsored by Habitat For Humanity, this Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:00am – 12:00pm, at 1st Bible. This exciting event is titled: Relationships ReFormed – Trusting God's process in the pursuit of authentic love. Skip and Margie Thompson will also be sharing their own personal journey. Purchase your tickets at <http://tinyurl.com/yhe3papr>.

**IronMan Night:** All the men in the church (16 and over) and their friends will gather again for Ironman Night, Friday night, January 26, from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Gil Cook's farm (88 Akins Mountain Rd, Hartselle). Gil & the gang will be grilling the meat, DPC will provide the drinks, and the men should bring sides and dessert. Jason Ellerbee, pastor of Christ Covenant PCA, Cullman, will lead us in a discussion on an issue relevant to men.

**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 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. The meeting will accommodate members who attend either worship service in the following way:

8:15am service - after communion, open the meeting for those in attendance to vote.

9:30am - recess the meeting for Sunday School

10:45am service - after communion, resume the meeting for those in attendance to vote.

**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).

**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

WINTER 2023

9:30 am

**Romans:** Come join us as we study Romans in the classroom across the hall from the church offices. Please join us in this study.

**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  
Tonya Roth  
Jessica Keith  
Allison Seale  
Elena Suggs  
Leah Scott

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

## Service Times

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

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, P.C.A.

2306 MODAUS ROAD, SOUTHWEST / DECATUR, ALABAMA 35603  
(256)351-6010