



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

September 29, 2024

SERVICE TIMES

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Room 158: Mark
Room 167: Romans
Room 168: Philippians

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5:30pm Meal
6:00pm NextGen & Youth
6:15pm Adult Choir
6:30pm Adult Groups

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Worship is the heart and soul of the church; we are made for exalting Christ. We are intentional to invite everyone each Lord's day to encounter the living Christ in a joyful, reverent, and accessible way, receiving all the blessings of his Gospel to the praise and glory of God.

OUR IDENTITY

Vision: A community of transforming grace

Mission: Inviting everyone to love and follow Jesus

CORE VALUES

Worship: Reverent and Relevant
Community: Close-knit and Outward-facing
Discipleship: Robust and Transformational
Service: Compassionate and Bold

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

LITURGY NOTES

Do you have questions about how we worship? This column throughout the worship guide answers the "what" and "why" of the elements of our liturgy.

During responsive readings, the part of the Leader will be in plain text, and **the part of the People will be in bold.**

This song allows us to get situated in the room and prepare our hearts for worship.

Song of Assembly:

Living Hope¹

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The King of Kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

*Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope*

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, Yours is the victory, woah-oh-oh

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Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Rick Stark, Associate Pastor

PSALM 63:1-4

At God's command and invitation, we enter his presence and respond with worship.

Call to Worship

PASTOR: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;

PEOPLE: **my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

PASTOR: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

PEOPLE: **Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.**

ALL: **So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.**

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

Hymn of Praise:

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word;
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth.
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Worship involves the whole person: body, soul, intellect, emotions. Singing hymns and songs grounded in biblical truth engages all our faculties in worship together.

Reading of the Word

Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

Confession of Sin

O merciful God, we need a renewed heart. Give us true repentance and turn our hearts of stone to hearts of flesh. Some of our sins are plain to us; some escape us; and some we think we cannot face. In all these, we have failed to love you and others. Forgive us, we pray. Set us free to hear Your Word to us. Set us free to worship you and serve you with our whole hearts

...Silent & Personalized Confession of Sin... **Amen!**

Assurance of Forgiveness

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

EZEKIEL 36:22-28

My Spirit Within You

When we confess our sins, we agree with Scripture's claim that all have sinned and fall short of God's glory. We confess general sins together, followed by a silent moment for personal confession.

ROMANS 8:1-2

All who confess their sins and trust in God's mercy through Jesus Christ believe their sins are pardoned. We remember this truth with a weekly Scripture assuring us of God's willing forgiveness.

Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

Living Hope

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How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness
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Build My Life

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

O Church, Arise

O Church, arise, and put your armor on;
hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle cry is love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
for the Conquerer has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away
and Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
every eye and heart shall see Him.

*Arise, shine for your light has com,
Arise, shine for the Risen Son
Lift your eyes, we are His radiant bride
Arise, o church arise!*

So Spirit come, put strength in every stride,
give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
when with Christ we stand in glory.

Elders, responsible before God to care
for and lead the church, serve by giving
thanks for our blessings and praying for
our needs.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Mike McMahan

*(There is no Teach Me to Worship for the 4 & 5 year-olds on
the 5th Sunday)*

All we have belongs to God. One act of
worship is to acknowledge his
generosity through cheerful and
sacrificial giving.

His Tithes & Offerings

God promises to communicate with us
through the preaching of his Word. Our
trust is not in the preacher's ability, but
in the Holy Spirit using the scriptures to
engage our minds and hearts.

Sermon

The New Community

Acts 2:42-47 (Page 910)

Pastor Rick Stark

(10:45 service)

The Lord Adds to His Church

Ryan & Magan Bussiere

Ruling Elder Prayer, Jeff Keith

We Respond: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(Elders will bring the bread and cup in trays to each row. Gluten free communion bread is available upon request; simply pass the regular bread to the next person and raise your hand to signal the pastor. He will bring you the gluten free bread. 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.)

The Apostle's Creed is a concise summary of Christian belief. As early as the second century it served as a baptismal confession. It developed and reached its current form by the ninth century. It is the most popular creed used in worship by Western Christians. The word "catholic" means universal.

Jesus gave the Church this symbolic meal to communicate his presence and fellowship with believers. It is the family meal of Christians.

To those not taking the Supper

We're glad you're here and welcome you back any time. Take this moment to reflect on the claims made in this service and consider praying to ask God if he will persuade you of how you can know him.

Behold the Lamb

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
Slain for us: and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King.

The body of our Savior, Jesus Christ,
Torn for you: eat and remember
The wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
Paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
Shed for you: drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God.
So we share in this Bread of Life,
And we drink of His sacrifice,
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond: and to remember.
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering,
We proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King.

PHILEMON 1:5-6

Just as God welcomed us into his presence
at the beginning, now he blesses his
children as we depart. We receive this
blessing in faith as we trust God to do all he
says he will do.

Benediction

May your faith towards the Lord Jesus and your love for
all grow; and may the sharing of your faith be effective
and bless you, so that you may have a fuller
understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

SERMON NOTES

SESSION

George Godwin	Allen Schmidt
Jeff Keith	Jay Suggs
Mike McMahan	Blake Temple
Brian Rodgers	Andy Thompson
Connor Ross	Chip Walraven

DIACONATE

John Elder	Steve Sasser
James Fudge	Sam Thompson
Wade Littrell	David Whitcomb
Bill Nelson	David Zajic
Kris Olin	

CHURCH STAFF

Scott Phillips	Senior Pastor
Rick Stark	Associate Pastor
Tucker Fleming	Youth Director
Stu Schieler	Worship Director
Jesse Pawley	Administrative Director
Tonya Roth	Office Administrator
Jessica Keith	NextGen Coordinator
Allison Seale	Nursery Coordinator
Elena Suggs	Kitchen Coordinator

If this is your first time joining us, we would love to get to know you better. Please use the QR code to give us as much contact information as you are comfortable sharing. In this way, we reconnect with you and find ways that we may be able to serve you or pray for you.



Church Family Reminders

WIC Fall Fellowship

Join us for a casual evening of fellowship at the Cress home (152 Ashwood Drive, Decatur) on Thursday, October 10, at 6:30 PM! Bring your favorite appetizer and come connect with other women in the church. It's a wonderful opportunity to relax, enjoy good food, and build community together. We'd love for you to invite a friend!

Wedding Table Shower for Pierce & Carli Thompson

Sunday, October 13. A table will be set up in the Gathering Room for those who would like to leave a gift for the couple (Andy & Carla Thompson's son and daughter-in-law) as we celebrate their wedding!

Wednesday Night Meals

Enjoy dinner with us! \$5/person or \$20/family. You can now scan a QR code to pay online. Leftovers will be boxed and set out at the coffee bar—grab them for FREE while they last!

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