



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

*2 Corinthians 4:5*

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December 8, 2024

## ***SERVICE TIMES***

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

## ***ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES***

Room 158: Ecclesiastes

Room 167: Romans

Room 168: Philippians

## ***WEDNESDAY NIGHTS***

5:00pm	Soli Deo Gloria
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:

### Sing We Now Of Christmas<sup>1</sup>

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here!  
Listen to our praises to the Babe so dear.

*Sing we Noel, the King is born Noel!*

*Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!*

Shepherds on a hillside heard the angels sing:  
Glory, honor, praises to the infant King.

In the town they found Him; Son of God on high.  
Sleeping in a manger was the Holy Child.

Wise Men sought and found Him, treasures did they bring;  
Bowing down they worshiped Christ, the King of kings.

## Welcome & Announcements

Tucker Fleming, Youth Director

## Report of the Living Church

Connor Ross, Financial Update

<sup>1</sup> All songs used by permission of covered under CCLI License #391165

## ***PSALM 96:1-4***

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

## **Call to Worship**

Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song;

**People: Sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Leader: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

**People: Tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations,

**People: His marvelous works among all the peoples!**

Leader: For great is the Lord,

**People: And greatly to be praised!**

## **Prayer of Adoration & Praise**

## **Hymn of Praise**

### **O Holy Night!**

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,

It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.

Long lay the world in sin and error pining.

Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born;

O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another,

His law is love and His gospel is peace.

Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother.

And in His name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,

Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever,

His power and glory ever more proclaim!

His power and glory ever more proclaim!

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

Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**O God our Father, forgive us for thinking less of you than we ought; for we think your truth too high, your will too hard, and your power too remote; but they are not! We humbly ask that you resolve our confused minds with your word, redirect our divided wills with your law, restore our troubled consciences with your forgiveness, and revive our anxious hearts with your presence, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us**

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

## Assurance of Forgiveness

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

## *MALACHI 3:1-4*

The Reading for the 2nd Sunday of Advent  
Jake & Mackenzie Larson (8:15 am)  
Ryan & Magan Bussiere (10:45 am)

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.

## *JOHN 3:16*

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**

## **We Have A Savior**

A child has been given, The King of our freedom.  
Sing for the light has come, This is Christmas.  
Come and adore Him, and bring gifts before Him.  
Joy to the world, worship the Son, This is Christmas.

*Jesus, Emmanuel here with us, tell all the world,  
We have a Savior, We have a Savior.  
We are no longer lost, 'cause He has come down for us,  
We have a Savior, We have a Savior.*

Sing with angels, and lift up your voices,  
Join in the song of hope, This is Christmas.

His love will reign forever.  
His love will reign forever.  
His love will reign forever.

## **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee,  
Day-spring from on high, appear;  
Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse,  
Of Thy birth we long to hear.  
O'er the hills the angels singing news,  
glad tidings of a birth;  
"Go to Him, your praises bringing;  
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
He whose glories knew no end;  
By His life He brings us gladness,  
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
Born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood;  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood.  
He will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way.  
As the Light of light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day,  
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish,  
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
cherubim, with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

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

Jake Larson

**...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, during the 10:45 service only, 4-6 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

Joy To The World

Worship Choir & Soli Deo Gloria (8:15am service)

All Choirs (10:45am service)

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

Jesus Came To Preach

Luke 4:40-44 (Page 860)

Pastor Rick Stark



# 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.)*

## Surrender

No more running, no more hiding.  
No pretending I'm OK.  
No more struggling, no more fighting.  
Come and have Your way.

I surrender, I bow down.  
I surrender, here and now.  
I am captured, Yours forever.  
I surrender, I bow down.

You pursue me, You have found me.  
I fall helpless at Your feet.  
Your possession, I am conquered.  
Love has set me free.

I come and worship, come and worship  
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

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.

## ***COLOSSIANS 3:16***

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 the word of Christ richly dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

# ***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 them 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***

### **Christmas Cantata**

Today, Sunday, December 8th at 5 p.m. the DPC Worship Choirs present *Joy to the World*, a Christmas Cantata, leading us through the story of Christ's birth. Reception with hors d'oeuvres to follow. Bring friends for a joyful evening of worship and celebration!

### **Christmas Eve Service**

Celebrate Christmas Eve with us at 4:30 PM for a Lessons and Carols service! This evening of Scripture and song is a time for worship, fellowship, and outreach. Invite someone to join you!

### **Decatur Presbyterian Church, P.C.A.**

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