



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 29, 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***

***(RESUMES 01.08.25)***

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:

### Glory In The Highest<sup>1</sup>

The heav'nly host proclaim Your birth,  
"Glory to God, and praise be on the earth!"  
Your name is near, Emmanuel,  
"God with us here, God pleased with us to dwell."

*Glory in the highest, glory in the highest, glory in the highest*

Apart from You there is no God,  
light of the world, the bright and morning star  
Your name will shine for all to see,  
You are the one, You are my glory

And no one else could ever compare to You, Lord,  
All the earth together declares.....

*Glory in the highest, glory in the highest  
Glory in the highest to You, Lord, to You, Lord*

All the earth will sing Your praise,  
the moon and stars, the sun and rain  
Every nation will proclaim  
You are God and You will reign  
Glory, glory Hallelujah, glory, glory to You, Lord.  
Glory, glory Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

## Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Scott Phillips, Senior Pastor

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

## ***PSALM 24:7-10***

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

## **Call to Worship**

**PASTOR:** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**PEOPLE: Who is this King of glory?**

**PASTOR:** The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

**PEOPLE: Lift up your heads, O Gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors.**

**PASTOR:** That the King of glory may come in.

**PEOPLE: Who is this King of glory?**

**ALL: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

## **Prayer of Adoration & Praise**

### **Hymn of Praise**

#### **How Great Thou Art**

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r thro' out the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

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 thus says the Lord God: I swear that the nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer reproach. “But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they will soon come home. For behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. And I will multiply people on you, the whole house of Israel, all of it. The cities shall be inhabited and the waste places rebuilt. And I will multiply on you man and beast, and they shall multiply and be fruitful. And I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times, and will do more good to you than ever before. Then you will know that I am the Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**O promised Christ we are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming. We are a world at war. Our peace depends on your return. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promise. Our only hope of doing your will is that you keep your promise. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world, our nation, our families, and our hearts wait for your peace, for your pardon, and for your grace. Therefore Lord with earnest hearts we plead: come, Lord Jesus!**

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

## Assurance of Forgiveness

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

## *EZEKIEL 36:7-11*

Our Hope of Restoration

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

## *ZEPHANIAH 3:15-17*

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**

## **King Of Kings**

In the darkness we were waiting,  
without hope, without light  
'Till from Heaven You came running,  
there was mercy in Your eyes.  
To fulfill the law and prophets,  
to a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory,  
to a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son,  
praise the Spirit, three in one  
God of Glory, majesty,  
praise forever to the King of Kings.*

To reveal the kingdom coming,  
and to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation,  
You did not despise the cross.  
For even in Your suffering,  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation,  
Jesus for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose,  
All of heaven held its breath  
'Till that stone was moved for good,  
for the Lamb had conquered death.  
And the dead rose from their tombs,  
and the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come,  
to the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born,  
then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old,  
shall not kneel, shall not faint.  
By His blood and in His name,  
in His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ,  
who has resurrected me.

# Lo, He Comes

Every eye shall now behold Him,  
Robed in dreadful majesty.  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree.  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
Shall the true Messiah see.

*Lo! He comes with clouds descending,  
Once for our salvation slain.  
Thousand, thousand saints attending,  
Swell the triumph of His train.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.*

Lo! He comes in glory shining,  
Saints arise and meet your King.  
Glorious captain of salvation,  
“Welcome, welcome” hear them sing.  
Shouts of triumph, Shouts of triumph,  
Make the heav’ns with echoes ring.

Yea amen let all adore Thee,  
High on thine eternal throne.  
Savior take the power and glory,  
Claim the kingdom for thine own.  
O Come quickly, O come quickly,  
Alleluia, come Lord, come!

# At The Cross I Bow My Knee

Oh Lord You’ve searched me, You know my way  
Even when I fail You, I know You love me

Your holy presence, surrounding me  
In every season, I know You love me, I know You love me

*At the cross I bow my knee,  
where Your blood was shed for me  
There’s no greater love than this,  
You have overcome the grave  
Your Glory fills the highest place,  
what can separate me now?*

You go before me, You shield my way  
Your hand upholds me, I know You love me

You tore the veil, You made a way  
When You said that it is done

And when the earth fades, falls from my eyes  
You stand before me, I know You love me,  
I know You love me

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**

**Pastor Rick Stark**

*(There is no Teach Me to Worship for the 4 & 5 year-olds on the 5<sup>th</sup> 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**

**Jesus Is Coming Again**

**John 14:1-3 (Page 901)**

**Pastor Scott Phillips**



# 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.)*

## I Saw The Cross of Jesus

I saw the cross of Jesus, when burdened with my sin;  
I sought the cross of Jesus, to give me peace within;  
He drew my soul to Him and then  
He cleansed it in His blood;  
And in the cross of Jesus Christ I found my peace with God.

I love the cross of Jesus, it tells me what I am  
A vile and guilty creature, saved only through the Lamb;  
No righteousness nor merit mine, no beauty can I plead;  
Yet in the cross I glory, my title there I read.

I trust the cross of Jesus, in every trying hour,  
My sure and certain refuge, my never failing tower;  
In every fear and conflict see I more than conqueror am;  
Though living safe, or dying, through Christ, the risen Lamb.

*Safe, Safe am I, in the cross of Jesus!  
Still resting in a peace that is unshaken  
Then in glory I'll sing His wondrous power,  
Where sin can never enter in, and death is known no more.  
And in the cross of Jesus Christ I found my peace with God.*

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.

# **1 THESSALONIANS**

## **5:23-24**

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**

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

# ***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***

### **Wednesday Nights Start**

All Wednesday Night Activities will resume on January 8th.

### **ROOTS**

Junior and Senior High students, join us for ROOTS, January 24–26 at Camp ToKnowHim in Pisgah, Alabama. Cost: \$145. Register online.

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

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