



Decatur Presbyterian Church

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

2 Corinthians 4:5

March 23, 2025

SERVICE TIMES

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

- Room 158: Ecclesiastes
- Room 167: Romans
- Room 168: Judges

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:

The Sands Of Time Are Sinking¹

The sands of time are sinking, The dawn of heaven breaks;
The summer morn I've sighed for,
The fair, sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark had been the midnight, But dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth, In Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain, The deep, sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted,
More deep I'll drink above:
There to an ocean fullness, His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth, In Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment,
But her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory, But on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth, But on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory, Of Emmanuel's land.

Welcome & Announcements

Tucker Fleming, Youth Director

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Psalm 89:14-19

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

Call to Worship

LEADER: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of
your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

**PEOPLE: Blessed are the people who know the festal
shout, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day and in your
righteousness are exalted.**

LEADER: For you are the glory of their strength; by your
favor our horn is exalted.

**PEOPLE: For our shield belongs to the Lord, our
king to the Holy One of Israel.**

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

“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord. “You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. “You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord. “You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

LEADER: 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. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and 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

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

LEVITICUS 19:11-18

The Royal Law

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

1 PETER 2:9-10

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

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.

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.

*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!*

Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of Heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else could whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated? Only a Holy God

*Come and behold Him, the One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God*

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God, Only my Holy God

In Christ Alone

In Christ Alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross, as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied,
My every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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

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

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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Petition

Elder Andy Thompson
(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

Lord From Sorrows Deep I Call
Worship Choir

His Tithes & Offerings

Sermon

James The Presbyterian
Acts 15:1-35 (Page 923)
Pastor Scott Phillips

(10:45 service)

The Lord Adds to His Church

Mollie Grace Elder
Luke & Quinley Etheredge
Josh Nelson
Ruling Elder Prayer, Connor Ross

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.)

Thy Mercy My God

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart. and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine,
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

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.

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

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 to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen

SERMON NOTES

SESSION

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

DIACONATE

John Elder	Kris Olin
James Fudge	William Sasser
Braden Ladner	Sam Thompson
Wade Littrell	David Whitcomb
Scott Missildine	David Zajic
Bill Nelson	

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

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Mark your calendars! Next Sunday morning, March 30, our youth will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast in place of Sunday School. Join us in the fellowship hall from 9:30–10:30 AM for a delicious meal before the second service. A suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family will help fund their ministry. Questions? Contact Tucker Fleming at tucker@decaturpca.org.

Dominican Republic Trip

Be part of what God is doing in the DR! Serve alongside our team June 3-10, 2025, as we share the love of Christ and build meaningful connections. Registration closes March 31. Register online.

RYM High School Summer Retreat – July 8–13!

Join DPC's high school students for an unforgettable week at Reformed Youth Ministries! It'll be a time of worship, fun, and growing together. Cost: \$300 (\$75 deposit). Register online. Want to help a student cover their camp cost? Offer a paid project to a student! Contact Tucker Fleming at tucker@decaturpca.org.

VBS

Make sure to save the date for VBS this summer! June 16-19

Decatur Presbyterian Church, P.C.A.

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