



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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August 17, 2025

## ***SUNDAY TIMES***

7:45am	Prayer
8:15am	Worship
9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Worship

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

Room 158: Hebrews

Room 167: Romans

Room 168: The Heart of Worship

Parlor/Rm 115: College & Career

## ***WEDNESDAY NIGHTS***

*(resumes in September)*

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:

### Jesus Loves Me <sup>1</sup>

God, You're good to me even when I cannot see it  
Open my eyes and show me how You love me

You sing over me even in my unbelieving  
Open my ears and let me hear You love me

*Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me, I know, I know, I know. Jesus loves me*

God, You're close to me even if I cannot feel it  
Open my heart to all You are, You love me

You are strong for me when my world is crumbling,  
You are the one thing that I need, You love me

Love that died for me, I will live for You, All my love for You  
Love that died for me, I will live for You, All my love for You

## Welcome & Announcements

Tucker Fleming, Youth Director

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

## ***1 Peter 1:3-4***

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

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

## ***Revelation 4:1-11***

Lord Upon His Throne

## **Call to Worship**

**LEADER:** Come! Let us bless the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead!

**PEOPLE:** **To an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for us!**

## **Prayer of Adoration & Praise**

### **Hymn of Praise**

#### **How Firm A Foundation**

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**

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were

burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**Exalted Lord, You alone see all things visible and invisible, even the motives and intentions of the heart. But we often see only what we want to see: blind to Your beauty, blind to our sin, and blind to the sin beneath the sin: the secret idols of the heart, other loves, other goals, other treasures. Have mercy upon us; forgive us in our failings and deliver us from our fears. We long for change that we might serve You in the newness of life, from the inside out**

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

## Assurance of Forgiveness

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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.

## COLOSSIANS 1:13-14

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**

## **Cornerstone**

My hope is built on nothing less,  
than Jesus blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus name

*Christ alone, cornerstone,  
Weak made strong, In the Savior's love  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all*

When Darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless stand before the throne.

## **Goodness Of God**

I love You, Lord, Oh, Your mercy never fails me  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up, Until I lay my head  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

*And all my life You have been faithful  
And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire  
And in darkest night You are close like no other  
I've known You as a Father, I've known You as a Friend  
And I have lived in the goodness of God, yeah

'Cause Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything, 'Cause Your goodness is running after,  
It keeps running after me

# My Worth Is Not In What I Own

My worth is not in what I own;  
Not in the strength of flesh and bone  
But in the costly wounds of love,  
At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name  
In win or lose, in pride or shame  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed,  
At the cross

*I rejoice in my Redeemer, Greatest Treasure,  
Wellspring of my soul, I will trust in Him, no other.  
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

As summer flowers we fade and die  
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by  
But life eternal calls to us  
At the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might  
Or human wisdom's fleeting light  
But I will boast in knowing Christ  
At the cross

Two wonders here that I confess  
My worth and my unworthiness  
My value fixed - my ransom paid  
At the cross

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 Allen Schmidt

*(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.)*

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**

What Can The Righteous Do?

Psalm 11:1-7 (Page 452)

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.)*

## Slice The Bread

Slice the bread, pour the wine; join the family at the table.  
Pass the plate, share the cup: the blood and body rendered.  
Giving thanks to the One who gave Himself for us,  
As we gather at the table of the King.

Raise the cross, strike the nail;  
Break the body, nay the bone.  
Crown of thorn, grave of stone: the righteous for the guilty.  
The bride's price was paid: the lifeblood of the groom  
To satisfy the justice of the King.

Remember... the Fall of All, a promised Lamb.  
Remember... God with us, Emmanuel.  
Remember... Darkness fell when mercy rose.  
Remember... one sacrifice; one risen Son.

Bring the feast, ring the bells; start the wedding of the ages.  
Groom and bride, bread and wine; elect from every nation.  
'Til the last trump shall sound  
And the church will rise with Him,  
We will gather at the table of the 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.

*from* **Colossians 1:22-23**

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

**Benediction**

May you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.

# ***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'd love to get to know you better. If you're willing, please scan the QR code and share a little about yourself. This helps us follow up, answer any questions you might have, and find ways we can serve or pray for you.



## ***CHURCH FAMILY REMINDERS***

### **State of the Church – Sunday, Aug 24 at 6:00 PM**

Join us as we reflect on God's faithfulness, share plans for the year ahead, and pray together. Nursery provided, please sign up online.

### **Prayer and Fasting**

Following our State of the Church gathering, we're setting aside Monday–Friday, Aug 25–29, as a church-wide week of prayer and fasting. We're inviting everyone to fast from lunch each day and use that time to pray. Each day we'll focus on one of our core values, asking the Lord to shape us and guide us in the year ahead. You can join us at the church at noon or pray from wherever you are. A daily prayer guide will be provided.

### **Life Groups**

Life Groups are where friendships grow and God's Word comes alive in community. The start of the school year is a great time to jump in. Let us help you find a group where you can belong, grow, and walk with others in faith. Contact our Associate Pastor, Rick Stark (256-351-6010, [rick@decaturpca.org](mailto:rick@decaturpca.org)) to get connected.

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

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