



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 24, 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:

### With Me<sup>1</sup>

God of the past and of the future,  
You are faithful, always faithful.  
God in my strength and in my failure,  
You are faithful, always faithful.

*In every promise I can find  
Your Spirit reassuring mine. You are with me.*

*You go before, You go behind  
Your faithfulness on every side  
You were with me then, You are with me now.  
In every season I can see, Your hand of blessing over me.  
You were with me then, You are with me now.  
(With me now)*

God in my joy and in my sorrow,  
You are faithful, always faithful.  
My God who holds every tomorrow,  
You are faithful, always faithful.

You were there in the darkness  
You were there in the shame  
You were there in the moment when I called Your name  
You were there in the mourning,  
You were there in the pain.  
You were God in the waiting forever the same.  
You are here in our worship  
You are here in our praise.  
You will always be with us to the end of the age.

## Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Rick Stark, Associate Pastor

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

## *from Psalm 66*

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

## Call to Worship

**PASTOR:** Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

**PEOPLE:** Sing the glory of his name; give to him  
glorious praise!

**PASTOR:** Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

**PEOPLE:** All the earth worships you and sings praises  
to you!"

**PASTOR:** Come and see what God has done:

**PEOPLE:** He is awesome in his deeds toward the  
children of man.

**PASTOR:** Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise  
be heard!

**PEOPLE:** Blessed be God, because he has not rejected  
our prayer or removed his steadfast love from us!

## Prayer of Adoration & Praise

## Hymn of Praise

### O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing,  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace.

Jesus! The Name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease,  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of reigning sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean,  
His blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread thro' all the earth abroad,  
The honors of Thy name.

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

If you will fear the Lord and serve him and obey his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God, it will be well. But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you and your king. And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king." And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

PASTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**Almighty God, to know You is the fulfillment of our deepest longings and the satisfaction of our most ardent desires. Yet foolishly we have sought our pleasures elsewhere. We have put the seeking of idols, which are bound to leave us feeling empty, above seeking You. We have failed to love you with our whole heart, soul, and mind. We have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us for our sins for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. And grant that from now on, we might serve you in the newness of life**

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

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

## 1 Samuel

### 12:14-15, 19-25

Serve the Lord with All Your Heart

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.

## ISAIAH 1:18

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

## Always

I believe You gave sight to the blind,  
I believe that the dead came to life  
I believe there were wonders and signs,  
And You're still the same

*I will tell of Your wonders, sing of Your grace,  
The God of creation he knows me by name  
The Lord is faithful, yesterday, now, and always. Always.  
Your mercy is mighty, age after age,  
And all generations will bow down and praise  
The Lord is faithful, yesterday, now, and always. Always.*

I believe You will come in the clouds,  
I believe You are here even now  
In Your presence, I know there is power, Power to save, oh  
You were, You are, You always will be God,  
You were (You were). You are (You are)  
You always will be God. Yes, You always will be God

## By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design  
In the lives of those who prove  
His faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the power of His promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign

*We will stand as children of the promise,  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done,  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the power to break the chains of sin and death  
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go  
In the power of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In every corner of the earth

*We will stand...*

By faith this mountain shall be moved  
And the power of the gospel shall prevail  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name

*We will stand...*

## Christ Is Mine Forevermore<sup>1</sup>

Mine are days that God has numbered,  
I was made to walk with Him  
Yet I look for worldly treasure,  
And forsake the King of kings

But mine is hope in my Redeemer,  
Though I fall, his love is sure  
For Christ has paid for every failing,  
I am His forevermore

Mine are tears in times of sorrow,  
Darkness not yet understood  
Through the valley I must travel,  
Where I see no earthly good

But mine is peace that flows from heaven,  
And the strength in times of need  
I know my pain will not be wasted,  
Christ completes his work in me

And mine are keys to Zion city,  
Where beside the King I walk  
For there my heart has found its treasure,  
Christ is mine forevermore

Come rejoice now, O my soul, For his love is my reward  
Fear is gone and hope is sure, Christ is mine forevermore!

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 Jason Seale

*(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.)*

## **His Tithes & Offerings**

### **Sermon**

The Way Up Is Down  
Colossians 2:6-7 (Page 984)  
Pastor Scott Phillips

## **We Respond: The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made; Who, for us men and for our salvation, Came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; And the third day he rose again, According to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits on the right hand of the Father; And he shall come again, with glory, To judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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 Nicene Creed is a concise summary of Christian belief. It developed through several early church councils to affirm biblical truth that corrected errors afflicting the church. By confessing these truths, we acknowledge our unity with the church through the ages. 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.

## When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

### ***Numbers 6:24-26***

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**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

# ***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 – TODAY 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.

### **No TMtW next Sunday!**

Next Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. There will be no Teach Me To Worship for the 4-5 yr olds

### **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) to get connected.

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

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