



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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April 26, 2026

## ***SUNDAY TIMES***

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

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

Room 158: Parables of Jesus  
Room 167: Ecclesiastes  
Room 168: Romans  
Parlor: Presbyterian 101

## ***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:

### King's Cross <sup>1</sup>

King of the ages, all you've created,  
Jesus, Ruler of the universe as man  
Laid down your glory, entered my story,  
Jesus, gave your life a ransom as the Lamb.  
Your sacrifice has set me free.

*On the King's cross, on the King's cross,  
Scarlet hands and crown of thorns  
God himself who saved His own,  
I'm forgiven on the King's cross*

Now you are risen, and it is finished,  
Jesus, God as human reigning on your throne  
I am your treasure, purchased forever,  
Jesus, with your life and death marked as my own  
Your sacrifice has set me free.

Amazing love, how can it be,  
That you my God, would die for me.

## Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Rick Stark, Associate Pastor

## *from Psalm 111*

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

## Call to Worship

**PASTOR:** I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation!

**PEOPLE: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them!**

**PASTOR:** Full of splendor and majesty is his work. He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered!

**PEOPLE: The Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever!**

## 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!*

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

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

PASTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

## Confession of Sin

**Eternal God, your covenant with us is never broken, but we confess that we fail to keep your commands. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ, you love us perfectly and completely, yet we have not loved you fully or loved one another as we love ourselves. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Enable us to live by faith**

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

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

## *Galatians 3:1-9*

Works of the Law or Faith

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.

## *Galatians 3:13-14*

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**

## **Great God Who Saves**

Oh, the promises of God, the rock on which I stand,  
The truths to which I cling.  
His love that knows no bounds; He showers us with grace,  
Withholding no good thing.

*When I stumble and my faith is small,  
I will call Your name, great God who saves.*

*And I would have despaired if I had not believed  
That You would come to me, great God who saves.  
And in my darkest hour, Your mercy and Your power  
Are reaching out to me, great God who saves.*

Oh, the mystery of God, who holds all space and time,  
Yet knows my every need.  
The vastness of Your power, the strength You give the weak;  
I soar on eagle's wings.

And in my pain and in my need,  
You heard me calling out Your name.  
When I was blind and could not see,  
You stepped in and saved a wretch like me,  
And saved a wretch like me.  
Great God who saves.

## **Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken**

Jesus I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee;  
Naked, poor, despised, forsaken,  
Thou from hence my all shalt be.  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known;  
Yet how rich is my condition,  
God and heaven are still my own.

Man may trouble and distress me,  
Twill but drive me to Thy breast;  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
heaven will bring me sweeter rest.  
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me while  
Thy love is left to me;  
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go then earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service pain is pleasure,  
With Thy favor loss is gain  
I have called Thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl and clouds may gather,  
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation,  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care;  
Joy to find in ev'ry station  
Something still to do or bear;  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine,  
Think that Jesus died to win thee;  
Child of heav'n, canst thou repine?

## 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

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 Connor Ross

*(Immediately following this prayer, 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**

Worship Choir

Oh Sacred Head, Now Wounded

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**

The Keeper of the Covenant

Genesis 17:1-14 (Page 11)

Pastor Scott Phillips

## **The Lord Adds to His Church**

Dustin & Stacey Doughty

Dustin & Emily Joiner

Ruling Elder Prayer, Greg Smith

## **We Respond: Philippians 2:6-11**

**Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

## **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 Christ Hymn**

Scholars have called these poetic verses "The Christ Hymn." Paul incorporated this passage within his letter to the church in Philippi, and the early church likely used it as a summary of what Christians believe about Jesus to be publicly confessed, or even sung, together in worship.

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.

## Take Shelter

When the nations rage and death is at the door  
When the wars are waged as they have been before  
There's a refuge that I run to, a respite from my fear  
Nothing in this world can harm me here

When my song of hope is swallowed by the pain  
As the weariness of grief floods in again  
Will You find me in the valley? Oh, hear my helpless cry  
Hold me as a mother holds her child

*And I'll take shelter,  
take shelter In the loving arms of God  
And I will take shelter,  
take shelter In the loving arms of God*

When a greater war had torn apart my soul  
And the iron hold of sin would not let go  
All of Heaven stormed the darkness in the power of the cross  
I'm freed beneath the banner of His love

When the labors of this fleeting life are done  
As the shadows fall, we'll see the lights of home  
And then all our present troubles will be stories of the past  
Safe within His gates, we'll find our rest

## ***1 Peter 2:9-10***

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**

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.

# ***SERMON NOTES***

## *SESSION*

John Elder	Jason Seale
George Godwin	Greg Smith
Jeff Keith	Stuart Smith
Mike McMahan	Jay Suggs
Connor Ross	Blake Temple
Allen Schmidt	Andy Thompson

## *DIACONATE*

James Fudge	Steve Sasser
Braden Ladner	William Sasser
Wade Littrell	Sam Thompson
Scott Missildine	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



VBS Child  
Registration



VBS Volunteer  
Registration

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*

### **VBS Registration is Open!**

VBS is June 15-19. You can register both students and volunteers with the QR codes in the bottom left corner of this page. Make sure to visit our registration table in the café today.

### **Officer Nominations**

We are accepting nominations for Elders and Deacons throughout April. Nomination cards are available in the foyer and should be turned into the church office. Thank you for prayerfully considering those called to serve!

### **MNA Disaster Response Training**

Join us Saturday, May 2 @ 9am at DPC for a Providence Presbytery Disaster Response Training Day. Learn how to serve in disaster relief through a morning seminar and optional hands-on chainsaw training in the afternoon. Register online.

### **Senior Sunday**

Join us Sunday, May 3 for a reception honoring our 2026 high school graduates in the Café. Gift tables for our 6 high school graduates will be set up there. Our 2026 graduates are Ella Bailey, Evan Craddock, Ben Elder, Anna Kate McMahan, Sela Mote, and Annalee Seale.

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

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