



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

2 Corinthians 4:5

August 2, 2026

SUNDAY TIMES

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

- Room 158: Proverbs
- Room 167: Ecclesiastes
- Room 168: Romans
- Parlor: Presbyterian 101

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

(Resumes September 9th)

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 Me¹

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

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Psalm 100:1-5

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

Call to Worship

PASTOR: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

PEOPLE: Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

PASTOR: Know that the Lord, he is God!

PEOPLE: It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

PASTOR: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

ALL: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Prayer of Adoration & Praise

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

Hymn of Praise

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need thy tender care;

In thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use thy folds prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine, do thou befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;

Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;

Thou hast mercy to relieve us,

Grace to cleanse and power to free.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Let us early turn to thee.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Let us early turn to thee.

Reading of the Word

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

PASTOR: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

Confession of Sin

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We confess that we have longed too much for the comforts of this world and loved your gifts more than the giver. In your mercy, help us to see that all the things we think will satisfy us in this world are only shadows, but you are the substance. We ask for your forgiveness because Jesus gave his life for us

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

He himself bore our sins in his body on a tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but now have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls .

John 10:7-18

Behold the Good Shepherd

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.

1 Peter 2:24-25

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

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

Abide

For my waking breath , for my daily bread,
I depend on You, I depend on You.
For the sun to rise, for my sleep at night,
I depend on You, I depend on You.

*You're the way, the truth, and the life.
You're the well that never runs dry.
I'm the branch and You are the vine,
Draw me close and teach me to abide.*

Where the Spirit leads as I'm following,
I depend on You, I depend on You.
For the victories still in front of me,
I depend on You, I depend on You,
Yes, I depend on You.

Be my strength, my song in the night.

Be my all, my treasure my prize.

I am Yours, forever You're mine.

Draw me close and teach me to abide.

When I pass through death as I enter rest,

I depend on You, I depend on You.

For eternal life to be raised with Christ,

I depend on You, I depend on You.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,

Pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but Thou art mighty;

Hold me with Thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore;

Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,

Whence the healing waters flow;

Let the fiery cloudy pillar

Lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield;

Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,

Bid my anxious fears subside;

Death of death, and hell's destruction,

Land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises I will ever give to Thee;

Songs of praises I will ever give to Thee.

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 Greg Smith

(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.)

His Tithes & Offerings

Sermon

On the Paths of Righteousness with the Good Shepherd
Psalm 23:1-6 (Page 458)
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.)

He Will Keep You (Psalm 121)

I lift my eyes and see, I need not be afraid
All my help comes from the Lord
Who the earth and sky has made

*He will keep you from all evils, behind you and before
He will sustain you, through this journey
From now and evermore*

The Lord will never sleep
My steps He has ordained
For the One who holds the night
Is the Sovereign of my days

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.

Hebrews 13:20-21

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 may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Jordan Littrell

For those that would like to send a letter or card to Jordan & Leigh Littrell during their Houston stay, the address is:

Jordan Littrell
1850 Old Main Street
Apt. #3009
Houston, TX 77030

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

Baby Shower

Join us for a baby shower for Emily and Dustin Joiner, Sunday, August 16th at 2:00 at the Schieler's House (1228 Darrowby Lane). You can find their registry at decaturopca.org/events.

Leader Training

If you're currently leading (or hope to lead) in NextGen, Youth, or Adult teaching, join us for a Leadership Training on Saturday, August 22, from 9:00-Noon. We'll cover ministry basics and break into groups for practical training.

State of the Church

Join us Sunday, August 30th, at 6:00pm as we reflect on God's faithfulness, share plans for the year ahead, and pray together. Nursery provided, please sign up online.

Margaret Rodgers Newsletter

To keep in touch with Margaret while she is serving in Japan, scan the QR code to sign up for her newsletter.



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