



# DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA)

*Every child of God ~ belonging, engaging, being transformed*

October 2, 2022

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m.

## *World Communion Sunday* **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

We warmly welcome members of the Norvisi (Ghanian) and Zo (Burmese) congregations to the service this morning. Both these congregations worship in our chapel on Sunday afternoons. On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate the sacrament, which Christ instituted to bind us together. We celebrate it across the globe and across denominations. We celebrate it across traditions and theologies. We celebrate it, tasting the power and love of God, broken in bread, poured out in the cup. We celebrate it, whether we are grieving or rejoicing, struggling or successful, in prosperity or in poverty. We celebrate the sacrament as the family of God.

*Assisted listening devices are available in the Narthex and Philips Foyer.*

*OPENING VOLUNTARY*

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!*

*arranged, Paul Manz*

*WELCOME*

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*\*CALL TO WORSHIP*

Mawuli Mensah, *from Norvisi Congregation*

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; proclaim God's greatness; tell everyone what God has done.

People: **The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

Leader: Sing God's praises; tell all of the wonderful things God has done. Rejoice! We belong to God.

People: **The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

Leader: Go to God for help; Worship God always.

People: **The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!**

*\*HYMN 321*

*The Church's One Foundation*

*Aurelia*

*CALL TO CONFESSION*

Nicole Jiskoot

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

**We see them daily, Lord. We see them everywhere as we go about our business: the weak and the helpless, the abused and the homeless, the victims and the vanquished. We are no different than the men in your story—the ones who refused to help the beaten man on the road to Jericho. We too have passed by those in need on the other side of the road. We too have refused to help and have consciously chosen to remain uninvolved.**

**Forgive our indifference. May we become like the outcast Samaritan, who did everything in his power to help the suffering. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

*Children are invited forward. Following the Inter-generational Moment, children ages 4 to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade have the option of attending Children's Chapel in the Children's Multi-Purpose Room.*

*For pick up after worship, exit the sanctuary through the door by the piano and walk past the reception desk and take the stairs all the way down. Then, turn left to go down the short set of stairs.*

*The room is the first on your left. If you need assistance finding this space, please ask an usher.*

*Today's Children's Chapel Leaders: Linda LeBron, Catherine Carter, and Lori McMahan*

*INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT*

Nicole Jiskoot

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.****Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living***"Practice Generosity—Share Resources"*

SERMON

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *The Belhar Confession, PC(USA), 1986*)

Dr. Speed

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we are share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa traditionally had Three Standards of Unity: The Belgic Confession (1561), the Heidelberg Catechism (1563) and The Canons of Dort (1618-1619). In their original European context these documents asserted that Protestant Christians were not anarchists, but were good citizens, willing to obey the government of the land. These confessions from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries were used in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries in South Africa to justify obedience to a government that imposed strict separation of the races and domination by members of the white race. The system was called by its Afrikaans name, "Apartheid." The **Confession of Belhar** was written as a protest against a heretical theological stance by the white Dutch Reformed Church that used the Bible and the Confessions to justify the harsh and unjust system of Apartheid.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV

(Please sign and pass the **Ritual of Friendship Register** at this time so that we might know your concerns, and keep you informed about the life and ministry of this community of faith.)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

Paul T. Langston

Chancel Choir

God of grace, and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power; Crown Thine ancient church's story; Bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour! Lo, the hosts of evil 'round us scorn Thy Christ, assail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us, Free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days! Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives, that they may be armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set men free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor thee! *Amen.*

\*DOXOLOGY 606

Old Hundredth, L.M.

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Scan the QR Code on the back of the bulletin to give online!

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Invitation to the Table*

Dr. Speed

*Responding with Thanksgiving*

Rev. Fletcher and Sarah Lane

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: All honor and praise and glory be to God.

People: **The Lord's name be praised forever.***Prayer of Thanksgiving**Sanctus 552 (choir and congregation)*

arr. Richard Proulx

**Holy, Holy, Holy LORD God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Rev. Fletcher

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup*

Dr. Speed and Rev. Fletcher

*Agnus Dei (choir and congregation)*

*arr. Richard Proulx*

**O Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us Lamb of God, and grant us Your peace.**

*The Sharing of the Joyful Feast with the Community of Faith*

*(Please exit your pew to the right to come forward to receive the elements. Wait until you return to your seat to partake of the elements. Raise your hand if you are unable to come forward and we will bring the elements to you.)*

*MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: Drums provided by the Norvisi Congregation*

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

Mawuli Mensah

## **FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

*\*HYMN 773*

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

*\*BENEDICTION*

Rev. Wilmesherr

*\*CHORAL RESPONSE*

*Deep Peace*  
Chancel Choir

*Ron Alexander/John Bell*

Deep peace of the running wave to you; Deep peace of the flowing air to you; Deep peace of the quiet earth to you; Deep peace of the shining stars to you; Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

*[ancient Gaelic rune]*

*\*POSTLUDE*

*Toccata in D minor*

*Gordon Balch Nevin*

† † †

Matthew McMahan, *Organist & Choirmaster*; Chancel Choir

† † †

### **Sanctuary Flowers**

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God  
in loving memory of *Adelaide Bowen Owens*  
by her family

in loving memory of *Margaret "Peggy" Penn Weitnauer*  
by John Weitnauer, Kit Weitnauer, Penn Clark,  
David Weitnauer, and Meg Newsome

† † †

### **Deacons' Fund Offering**

On communion Sundays we collect an offering for a fund available to help members of our church family in times of financial crisis. Envelopes are available in the pew pockets.

† † †

### **October Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Birthdays:** October 5: **Matt McMahan**, organist & Choirmaster  
October 9: **Karol Eubanks**, Church Administrator  
October 17: **Sylvester Poole**, Custodian

**Anniversaries:** **R. G. Evans** celebrates 7 years (10/15/15), Physical Plant Manager  
**Todd Speed's** ordination anniversary—29 years (10/10/93), Senior Pastor

† † †

### **Registration Is Open for the Honduras Mission Trip**

After too many years DPC is finally going back to Honduras! **July 8 to 15, of 2023** Youth and Adults will go on a mission trip in partnership with HOI. We will travel to Rancho El Paraiso and spend a week working alongside our Honduran siblings. The trip is open to DPC Youth in high school, and recent graduates who missed out on the 2020 trip. **Sign up now! Registration closes soon!** Sign up now: <https://tinyurl.com/honduras2023>

† † †

### **Mark Your Calendars for Intergenerational Hurricane Relief February 16-20, 2023**

Hurricane Ian has been devastating to southwest Florida and beyond. Disaster relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) will begin soon and continue for months and even years, with all sorts of ways to help. DPC will begin planning an intergenerational mission trip for February. All ages and families are welcome. Contact Lana at [lteko@dpchurch.org](mailto:lteko@dpchurch.org) if interested in participating.

## All Hands on Deck!

Calling All Hands on Deck! All participants in the DPC community are encouraged to engage in ministry opportunities, in addition to regular Sunday worship, that will deepen their belonging with others, help them to grow in their relationship with God, and discover meaningful avenues to share the love of Christ with neighbors. To which of the “learning and growing” and/or “giving and serving” opportunities available will you offer your time and commitment? Have you seen the booklet with the opportunities available listed? Look for the booklet with the All Hands on Deck logo for a listing many of the areas you can engage beyond attending worship at DPC, with an attached card where you can request more information. Look for the ‘hands’ basket, take a cut out hand, write your name and at least one of our ministries where you are engaged beyond worship at DPC, and drop it in the offering plate. We will attach your ‘hands’ to our All Hands on Deck board and fill our ‘deck’!



† † †

### All Hands on Deck “Empowered to Serve” Highlight

Got an empowered volunteer to highlight? Email [dhowell@dpchurch.org](mailto:dhowell@dpchurch.org).

Thanks be to God! for **Kris Taylor**! Kris is an elder and serves on our Outreach Team and the Decatur Presbyterian Children's Community Ministry. She was instrumental in securing the accountant to handle DPCC finances. Kris has also led the team planning the Blessing of the Pets service this year.

## Look what's coming up!

Look for more information in our announcement slides and church emails on these events (if you're not receiving our emails, please contact [dhowell@dpchurch.org](mailto:dhowell@dpchurch.org)):

**October 10, 12, & 14—Women's Ministry Gatherings**

**October 11—HOI's (Honduras Outreach International) 2022 Inspire Gala**, 7 to 9 pm, The Metropolitan Club in Alpharetta, with guest speaker Mark Richt

**October 15—Blessing of the Pets Service**, 10:00 am in the Terrace Garden

**October 16—Guest Preacher Victor Ayolo, new President of CTS; Supervised Ministry Team Training**, 6:00 pm in the Session Room, come learn how easy (and important!) it is to support and encourage our Supervised Ministry Intern this program year!

**October 23—Threshold Winter Coat Drive**, collection bins available Oct. 16-23, drive thru on October 23 from 11:30 to 1 pm

**October 24—SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) Trip to Blue Ridge** to ride the leaf viewing train!

**October 28—Trunk-n-Treat**, 5 to 7 pm in the DPC main parking lot

**October 30—Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service**, Scone Contest and light lunch after worship!

**July 8–15, 2023—Honduras Mission Trip for High School Youth and Adults**; mark your calendars and get your passports renewed now! Registration is open!

### 'Follow Me' Sermon Series Resumes; October Theme is “Practicing Generosity”

|   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| October 9 – Todd Speed                  | <i>“Share Wisdom”</i>                                 | Deuteronomy 6:4–9; Acts 18:1–4, 24–28 |
| October 16 – Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo, Jr. | <i>New President of Columbia Theological Seminary</i> |                                       |
| October 23 – Todd Speed                 | <i>“Share Power”</i>                                  | Leviticus 25:1–17; Luke 18:18–30      |

### November Theme is “Forgive”

|                             |                                       |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| October 30 – Tully Fletcher | <i>“Recognize Sin”</i>                | Luke 15:11–32                   |
| November 6 – Todd Speed     | <i>“Receive Forgiveness”</i>          | Psalms 32; 51; Luke 15:20–24    |
| November 13 – Todd Speed    | <i>“Forgive Others”</i>               | Matthew 18:21–35; Luke 15:25–32 |
| November 20 – Todd Speed    | <i>“Build a Bridge to the Future”</i> | Genesis 50:15–21; Luke 15:25–32 |



*Actively Engaged in the World*

**A Bold Vision and Invitation:**

- Building Congregational Vitality
- Dismantling Structural Racism
- Eradicating Systemic Poverty

Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!



## DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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