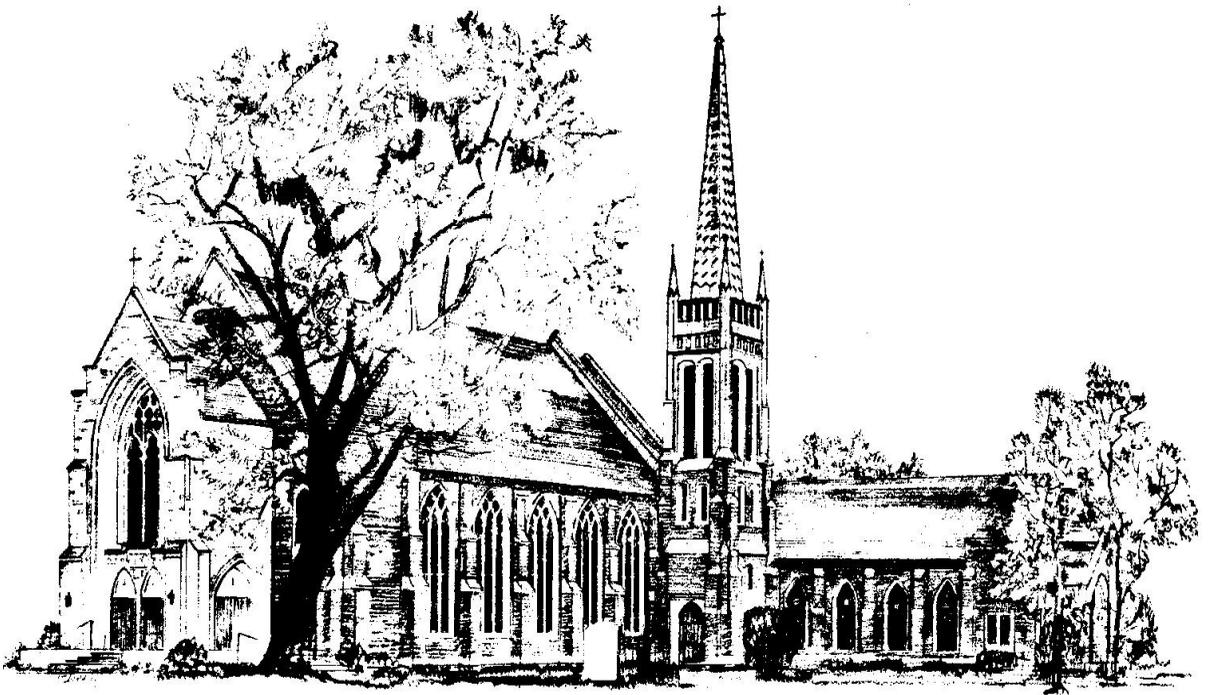


DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Paul Godfrey Sherer

March 24, 1946 ~ September 5, 2022

A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION
OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

2:00 p.m., Saturday, September 24, 2022

Sanctuary

and

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE AND WITNESS

of

Paul Godfrey Sherer

March 24, 1946 ~ September 5, 2022

PRELUDE

Matthew McMahan, *organist*

MEDITATIONS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

“If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.” *Romans 14:8*

“The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?...I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage—wait for the LORD!” *Psalm 27:1, 13-14*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 121)*

Leader: I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come?

People: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved: he who keeps you will not slumber.

People: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The LORD is your keeper: the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

People: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Leader: The LORD will keep you from all evil: he will keep your life.

People: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on, and forevermore.

**HYMN 664*

Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

**PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. *Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 23

Ecclesiastes 2:22-24

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Romans 12

Romans 8

Dr. Speed

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKSGIVING Rebecca Sherer, Kathryn Sherer, Dr. Speed

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING and THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

*HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Amazing Grace

*PASTORAL CHARGE and BENEDICTION

Dr. Speed

*ORGAN VOLUNTARY

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We accept death as a part of the good life we are given. We are reluctant to surrender life, but we know in the end that earthly death comes to each of us. But death is no match for God. The resurrection of Jesus was God's victory over death. Death often seems to prove that life is not worth living, that our best efforts and deepest affections go for nothing. But we do not yet see the end of death. Christ has been raised from the dead, transformed, and yet the same person, and in his resurrection is the promise of ours.

We are convinced the life God wills for each of us is stronger than the death that destroys us. The glory of life everlasting exceeds our imagination but we know we shall be with Christ. So we treat death as a broken power. Its ultimate defeat is certain. In the face of death, we grieve, yet no life ends so tragically that its meaning and value are destroyed. Nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Thus, in hope, we celebrate life.

From A Declaration of Faith, PC(USA)

† † †

*God has told you, O mortal, what is good
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.*

Micah 6:8

† † †



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