



DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Letter to the Church
on Fitzhugh Street*



Celebration of Worship

February 18, 2024, 11:00 AM

First Sunday in Lent

[Click Here to Watch](#)

Prelude

Aria

Eugène Bozza

Dr. Tony Sun, alto saxophone

Words of Welcome

John DeHority

Chime

Introit

This Little Light of Mine

Arr. Steve Milloy

“This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. . .

Everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine. . .

Jesus gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine. . .”

*Call to Worship (Psalm 25 - from Nan C Merrill *Psalms for Praying*)

Pat Tweet

Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for through You will I know wholeness;

I shall reflect your light both day and night...

With your steadfast love, once again, companion me along your way.

* Hymn

Dear God, Creator of All Life

REST

(Verses 1, 3-5 - Music may be found on page 8.)

Centering Prayer (*unison*)

Oh God, we know that you love all of us. And yet we still struggle vainly to earn your love. by creating ever more elaborate standards of behavior and expectations for ourselves and for one another. Your infinite grace has already freed us from the need to run on this futile treadmill of trying to earn your love. May our time and energy become focused instead upon acts of love for one another--feeding the hungry, healing

the sick, comforting the broken-hearted, welcoming the stranger and freeing the oppressed. This is your wish for us. May it become our reality.

Assurance of Wholeness

Let Paul's words of assurance from the eighth chapter of Romans seep into our hearts and anxious minds.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:4-26

Time with Our Children and Youth

Black History Month Remembrance

Robin Shultz and the Youth

The Legacy of Katherine Johnson *(see page 6)*

Music for Reflection

Wade in the Water
Alan Jones, soloist

American Negro Spiritual
Arr. Moses Hogan

Scripture

Mark 12:28-34

Sermon

A Letter to the Church on Fitzhugh Street

John DeHORITY

*Hymn

We Are One in the Spirit
(Verses 1-3 - Music may be found on page 9.)

THEY'LL KNOW
WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Prayers of the People

+Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music I Love You, O My God Most High David Hogan

*"I love you, O my God most high, For first your love has captured me;
I seek no other liberty: Bound by your love, I shall be free.
All mine is yours: say but the word, Say what you will it shall be done;
I know your love, most holy one, I know you seek my good alone.
May memory no thought suggest but shall to your pure glory tend,
May understanding find no rest, except in you, its only end.
Apart from you, nothing can be, So grant me this, my only wish,
To love you, Christ, eternally, You give me all in giving this."
St. Ignatius Loyola, trans. Edward Caswall*

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication (*in unison*)

We offer our gifts to you, O God, from that which you have given to us. We send them out into a world of need, a world of hunger, of fear, of sickness, of hopelessness. May these gifts start to transform the world, so that the hungry are fed, the homeless are housed, the sick are healed, and justice flows across the earth. Amen.

*Hymn

Called as Partners in Christ's Service
(Verses 1, 3, and 4 - Music may be found on page 10.)

BEECHER

***Prayer of Blessing (*unison*)**

Because the world is poor and starving, **go with bread.**

Because the world is filled with fears, **go with courage.**

Because the world is in despair, **go with hope.**

Because the world is living lies, **go with the truth.**

Because the world is sick with sorrow, **go with joy.**

Because the world is weary of wars, **go with peace.**

Because the world is seldom fair, **go with justice.**

Because the world is under judgment, **go with mercy.**

Because the world will die without it, **go with love.**

Postlude

Mvmt. III from Tableaux de Provence

Paule Maurice

Dr. Tony Sun, alto saxophone

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Thank you to . . .

Guest preacher: John DeHority

Liturgist: Pat Tweet

Dr. Tony Sun, alto saxophone

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Carolina Sullivan, Joan Sussman, Nyla Thomas

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Kathryn Borden, Elizabeth Jackson, Emmalouise St. Amand

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, Evan McMahon

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers, Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd

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DUPC Black History Month Remembrance

Katherine Johnson



Katherine Johnson was one of the best mathematicians in the history of the United States. Before her math skills helped send the first American astronauts safely into space, she was a smart and curious girl who loved to learn new things about the world around her. She studied hard in school and became one of the first Black women hired by NASA.

In 2015, at age 97, Johnson added another extraordinary achievement to her long list: President Barack Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor.

She was a member of Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church for 50 years, where she served as an elder and sang as part of the choir. She was also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women. Johnson died in Newport News, VA on February 24, 2020, at age 101.

John DeHORITY (He/Him)

After attending the Earlham School of Religion in Richmond, Indiana, John was ordained as a Presbyterian minister and served part-time as the pastor of a small church in Canoga, NY. In his other “part time” John worked on a D.Min. in Marriage and Family Counseling at Colgate Rochester Divinity School. While writing his doctoral thesis, John got hooked on computers. Instead of writing his thesis, he enrolled in the Master’s Degree program at RIT in Computer Science.

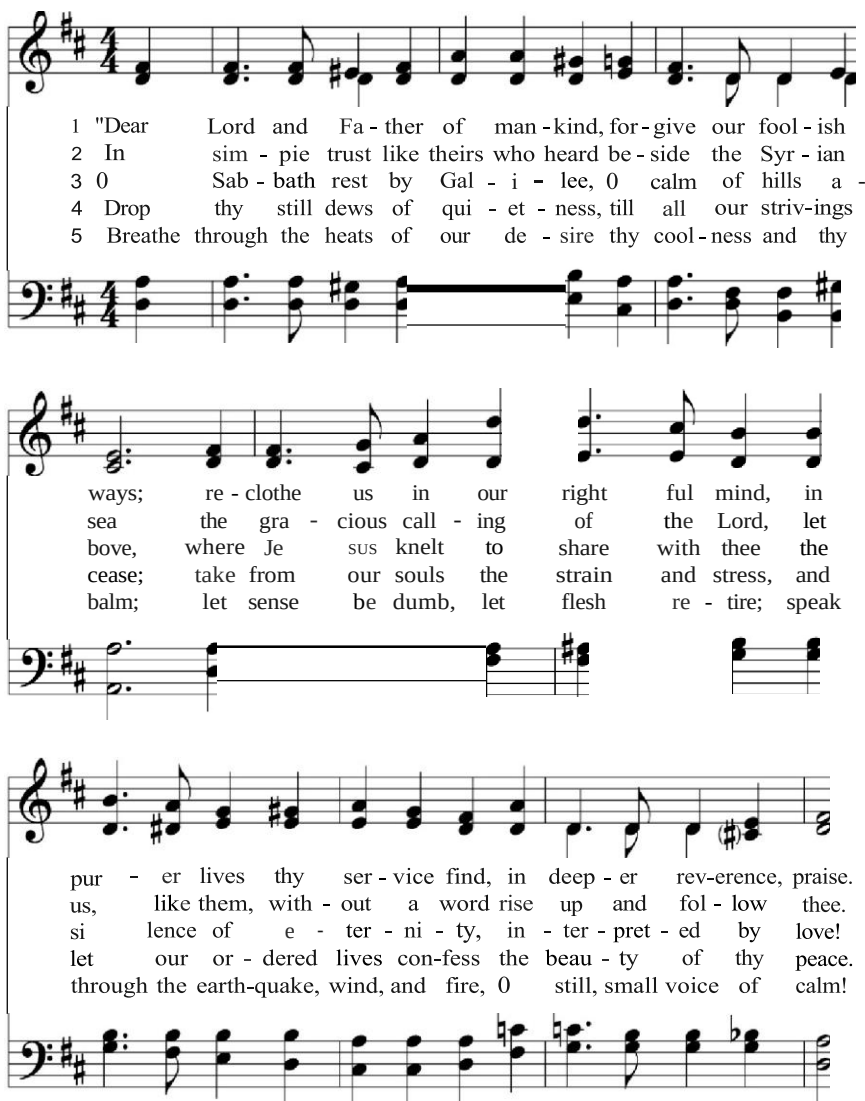
John was hired as a software engineer by Eastman Kodak, where he worked in research and new product development. Though he earned his living as an engineer and a research scientist, John has continued to serve the church in many ways. He served the Presbytery on the Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the Camp Whitman Program Committee and on the Committee on Ministry. He has served Downtown Church as a Deacon, Elder and Clerk of Session. He has also served on three PNCs.

John maintained an involvement with Camp Whitman his entire adult life. He was a life-guard there during seminary. Every summer during his years at Kodak he spent a week at Whitman leading bike trips, sailing camps, or Adirondack canoe trips. After he retired from Carestream Health he spent eight summers at Whitman as their Aquatics Director.

John’s hobbies include volleyball, soccer, bicycling, wood-working, canoeing, and photography.

In his newest role as a proud grandfather to Parker he bears the title “P-pop”.

169 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind



1 "Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
 2 In sim - pie trust like theirs who heard be - side the Syr - ian
 3 O Sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, O calm of hills a -
 4 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
 5 Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

ways; re - clothe us in our right ful mind, in
 sea the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let
 bove, where Je sus knelt to share with thee the
 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

pur - er lives thy ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 us, like them, with - out a word rise up and fol - low thee.
 si lence of e - ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love!
 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm!

*Or "Dear Lord, Creator good and kind"

These stanzas were carved into a hymn from a much longer poem describing a frenzied ritual by an obscure sect in India, but they culminate in a reference to 1 Kings 19:11-12 that celebrates silence (as befits a Quaker poet). *This* tune was created especially for these words.

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-pie, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-spond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal - tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of Men shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 and worn-en, rich - er, Words poor - er, all God's peo-pie, young and old,
 of com - fort, words of Make vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col - leagues, free and fair.
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981

MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870
 Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

February 2024
DUPC Sunday Forum Series
Sundays, 9:45AM—Shaw Room

Beyond Resistance

**The Institutional Church
Meets the Postmodern World
by John Dorhauer**

**Come join the discussions of this thought-provoking book led by
several members of the congregation.**
***Beyond Resistance* presents a call “to move the institutional church
out of a modality of denial and into a perspective of hope.”**

**Copies are available to loan.
contact David Lee for more information.**

February 18th and 25th

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available in room C24.

Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the “Time with Our Children and Youth” for a brief time with the pastor, and then will be taken up to their Sunday School room by their teacher. Parents are welcome to come up with their kids if they would like.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



+We seek to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the “T” (telephone) position.

*** An asterisk indicates** “please rise in body or spirit”

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING DAY

Saturday, March 2, 2024



- For New & Experienced Church Leaders & Church Members
- Offering 6 Courses—2 of which are offered twice—and Worship Online
- Registration deadline: 2/26/24

SCHEDULE:

9 – 10:45 a.m. Introduction & Workshop Session 1

10:45 – 11 Break

11 – 11:30 Worship *

11:30 – 1 p.m. Workshop Session 2

* Worship will be led by Acts of Faith participants from various locations around the country—as they do with their weekly eWorship services. The Acts of Faith model was created by South Presbyterian Church as a 21st century embodiment of the first century Christian community.

Course Topics: Sexual Misconduct Prevention Policy Training, Ruling Elder Training, Deacons Training, PGV Website, Google Drive and More Training, Property Guys From Around the Presbytery (featuring Don Fairman and David McDowell), PCUSA's Long Standing Support for Justice in Palestine.

REGISTER: <https://pbygenval.org/congregational-learning-day/>

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian

Black History Month

Monday, February 19

Presidents' Day- Building is Open

Tuesday, February 20

10:30 Bible Study via Zoom

2:30 Personnel Meeting via Zoom

7:00 Session Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, February 21

4:30 Sunday Forum Mtg via Zoom

7:00 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 22

10:00 Personnel Mtg via Zoom

Sunday, February 25

9:45 Sunday Forum Mtg-Beyond

Resistance Book Study

10:00 Choir Warm-up

10:45 Nursery

11:00 Worship – Rev. Val Fowler

11:15 Sunday School

12:00 Coffee Hour in Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 27

10:30 Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday, February 28

7:00 Choir Rehearsal

The Downtown Church Staff

Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Jackie Griffin, Nursery Coordinator
Robin Shultz, Sunday School Teacher
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance

Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator
Keisha Betts, Office Administrator
Kelly Muñiz-Miles, Receptionist

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Lea Kone, co-Clerks of Session
Henry Ehindero, Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Laura Norris-
Buisch, Moderator
Nancy Brown
David Lee
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper
Raina Boupavong
Pat Tweet

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Elizabeth Katz
Elaine Johnson

Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Carol Samuel
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening
Sandy Morales
Helen Ganotis

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