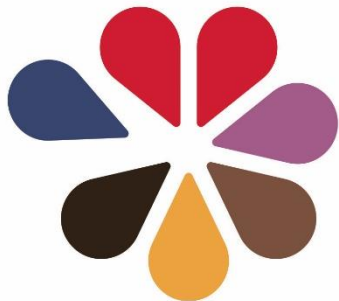




DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



It Depends on Faith

Celebration of Worship

February 25, 2024, 11:00 AM

2nd Sunday in Lent

[Click Here to Watch](#)

Prelude	Lord, I Want to Be a Christian	Negro Spiritual Arr. Florence B. Price
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Words of Welcome	The Rev. Val Fowler
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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 (<i>responsively</i>)	John Williams
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Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

Touched by God’s grace, and freed, grounded in love:

Let us worship God, in joy and gratitude.

* Hymn	Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud	ABERYSTWYTH
	(Music may be found on page 7.)	

Prayer for Wholeness (*in unison*)

Lord, in these times when we fear we are losing hope, or feel that our efforts are futile, let us see in our hearts and minds the image of your life, death, and resurrection. Let that be our source of courage and strength. With that—and in your company—help us to face challenges and struggles against all that is born of injustice. [Time for silent prayer]

Assurance of Forgiveness (*responsively*)

Nothing in all creation....

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.

..

Nothing, nothing at all. . .

Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God!

Scripture Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31

Time with Our Children and Youth

Black History Month Remembrance In memory of Enid and Ed Mitchell

Music for Reflection Exaltation Carson Cooman

"Which road, which road did you take that brought you here at last?

No road, no road did I take. I leaped, I leaped from dream to dream.

Did you never lose your way there in wood, fell, reed, and moor?

Lord, I saw not the sign, at the cross-road I saw not the sign.

And was not your foot entangled by many miles of thorn?

I flew here upon the storm a weeping, a single weeping long.

Say, what rescued you from the sand-tide of the night?

In my hair glimmered ever a nest, a nest of blue light."

Text: Franz Werfel, trans. Edith Abercrombie Snow

Scripture Romans 4:13-25

Sermon It Depends on Faith Rev. Fowler

*Hymn Let All Things Now Living ASH GROVE
(Music may be found on page 8.)

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

Clear Our Heart, O God

Tom Trenney

"Clear our heart, O God, that we may see you.

Clear our heart, O God, that we may truly see ourselves.

*Clear our heart, O God, that we may know the sacredness of this moment
and in every moment seek you serve you strengthen you
as the Living Presence in every presence.*

Clear our heart, O God, that we may see."

Text: John Phillip Newell

Evan McMahon, soloist

*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*)

**Dear God: We have experienced your goodness to us, and we are grateful.
Accept our generosity and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we
pray. Amen.**

*Hymn

To Abraham and Sarah
(Music may be found on page 10.)

LLANFYLLIN

*Prayer of Blessing (*in unison*)

Loving, passionate, and compassionate God, you welcome all who seek refuge in you. You honor our faithfulness and trust. Grant that we may walk always in your light. Grant that we may always take courage in your faithfulness. Grant that we may always rejoice in your goodness, grace, mercy, and love. Grant that others may see in our lives the fruit of these requests. We pray in Christ's grace, the Creator's power, and the Spirit's empowerment. Amen.

Postlude

Improvisation on Ash Grove

*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: Val Fowler

Liturgist: John Williams

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

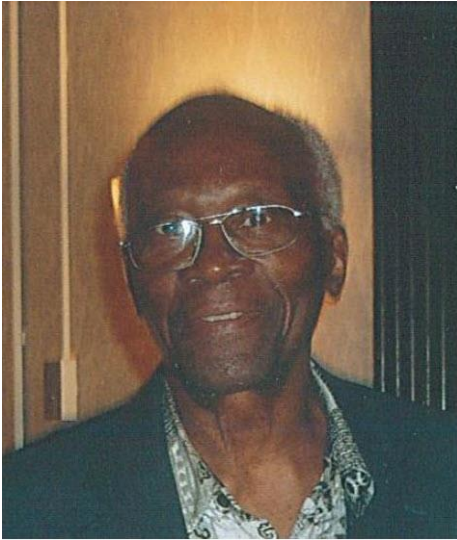
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Val Fowler "He/Him/His" has been a member of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley since 1990, when he began service at Chili Presbyterian Church. He subsequently served the Honeoye Falls Presbyterian Church. In 1996, he was elected to serve as stated clerk of the presbytery, serving from 1997 to 2016. A lover of music, he plays acoustic finger-style guitar, and sings. From 1998 until the start of the pandemic, Val provided many benefit concerts for churches and helping agencies in our multi-county area. He calls himself a "song finder," on the theory that if he doesn't find songs, learn them, arrange them, and present them no one will ever hear them. Sort of "paying forward" the gift that songwriters have been given. He has always loved the craft of preaching—particularly the challenge of finding and unpacking the intersections between God's love and the world in which we live. The ultimate intersection, he believes, is the Incarnation.

DUPC Black History Month Remembrance



Enid and Ed Mitchell were beloved members of DUPC. They were devoted to each other and to their close bonds of friendship within the church. They were loving parents to Claudette Mitchell. Enid was Pearl Rugless' sister. Both born in Jamaica, Ed and Enid put down roots in Rochester and served their community and country in WWII and through the Self-Development of People Committee of the Presbytery. Even today our congregation remembers their warmth, love and commitment to their family and the wider world around them.

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/>

11 Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

1 Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
 2 Word and Wis - dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
 3 Storm and Still - ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,

Judge, De - fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
 Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
 Com - fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er - gies that nev - er tire:

May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name

but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

These scriptural names and images of the Triune God express a theological view reinforced by the structure: the stanzas deal, in turn, with each Person of the Trinity and the refrain affirms their unity. The swirling patterns of the Welsh tune add much energy to the text.

37 Let All Things Now Living

G D G Am D

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing
2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,

G C G D G

to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

G D G Am D

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains,

G C G D G

by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony G E Am D

God's ban - ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

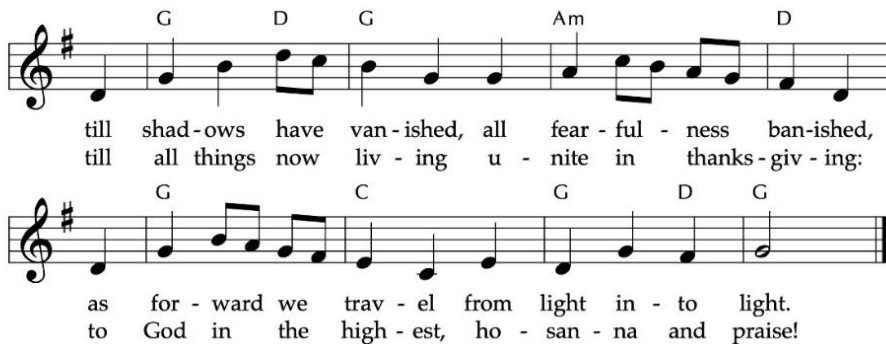
G Em D A7 D

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

TEXT: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; harm. Gerald H. Knight, 20th cent.
Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company
Music Harm. © Royal School of Church Music

ASH GROVE
6.6.11.6.6.11.D



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.

51

To Abraham and Sarah

I Will Be Your God

1 To A - bra - ham and Sa - rah the call of God was clear:
 2 From A - bra - ham and Sa - rah a - rose a pil - grim race,
 3 We of this gen - er - a - tion on whom God's hand is laid

"Go forth and I will show you a coun - try rich and fair.
 de - pen - dent for their jour - ney on God's a - bun - dant grace;
 can jour - ney to the fu - ture se - cure and un - a - fraid,

You need not fear the jour - ney, for I have pledged my word
 and in their heart was writ - ten by God this sav - ing word,
 re - joic - ing in God's good - ness and trust - ing in this word,

that you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
 "That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
 "That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."

This hymn condenses the narrative of Genesis 17:1–22 and grounds it in the recurring statement of the covenant relationship between God and the people God has chosen. This Welsh tune also occurs in a minor version called LLANGLOFFAN, used elsewhere in this hymnal (see no. 362).

TEXT: Judith A. Fetter, 1984
 MUSIC: Welsh melody
 Text © 1984 Judith A. Fetter

LLANFYLLIN
 7.6.7.6.D

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian

Black History Month

Tuesday, February 27

10:30 Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday, February 28

7:00 Choir Rehearsal

MARCH

Sunday, March 3

9:45 Sunday Forum-Book Study
Beyond Resistance
10:00 Choir Warm-up
10:45 Nursery
11:00 Worship – Rev. Sam Kinsman
11:15 Sunday School
12:00 Coffee Hour in Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 5

10:30 Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday, March 6

7:00 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 7

4:30 Worship Team Mtg via Zoom

Saturday, March 9

12:45 Justice League Mtg via Zoom

Sunday, March 10

9:45 Sunday Forum-Book Study
Beyond Resistance
10:00 Choir Warm-up
10:45 Nursery
11:00 Worship – Susan Richane
11:15 Sunday School
12:00 Coffee Hour in Sanctuary

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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