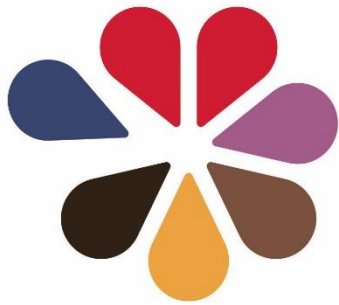




DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



First Words

Celebration of Worship

April 7, 2024, 11:00 AM

Communion Sunday

[Click Here to Watch](#)

Prelude

Come Sunday

Duke Ellington

Words of Welcome

Fall in Love

The Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.

Nothing is more practical than
finding God, than
falling in Love
in a quite absolute, final way.

What you are in love with,
what seizes your imagination, will affect everything.

It will decide
what will get you out of bed in the morning,
what you do with your evenings,
how you spend your weekends,
what you read, whom you know,
what breaks your heart,
and what amazes you with joy and gratitude.

Fall in Love, stay in love,
and it will decide everything.

From *Finding God in All Things: A Marquette Prayer Book* © 2009

Chime

Introit

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace Eugene W. Hancock

*"Creating God, Your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space;
Let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise Your might.*

*Sustaining God, Your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
Let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim Your care.*

*Redeeming God, Your arms embrace All now despised for creed or race;
Let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth Your healing love."*

Words: Jeffery Rowthorn, 1979

***Invocation**

Resurrected Christ, you have taught us how the unbelievable can be possible. When there is so much to fear in the world, we can find peace in your presence. As we worship, breathe your Spirit on us, that we may carry it with us. Help us comfort our neighbors. Help us serve a world of need. We pray this with thanksgiving for your work among us. Amen.

***Call to Worship**

John Williams

As we join in worship this day, we might feel like the disciples, overwhelmed by grief. After all, the state of the world is so uncertain now. But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, "Peace be with you." We might feel like Thomas, looking for physical signs that the unbelievable could be true. After all, nothing like this has ever happened before. But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying, "Here are the marks on my body." Can we really believe that Jesus is here again? Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on us. Christ's peace is with us. We don't need to be afraid. Our resurrected Christ calls us to worship, and we receive the peace of Christ. Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!

*** Hymn**

**Morning Has Broken
(Music may be found on page 8.)**

BUNESSAN

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God, we confess that we too might be like Thomas. As we are overwhelmed by the world's grief, it's natural for us to be cynical. It's hard to believe that hope is possible when hope is hard to find. But when we stop believing in hope, we also stop believing liberation can be possible. When we stop

working to tear down in justice and discrimination, we stop others from experiencing the peace we have found in you. Forgive our unbelief, calm our fears, and help us be instruments of your peace. Amen.

Words of Grace

x

Beloved, Jesus comes to us with grace, telling us we can believe. Because we believe, we can also be empowered to do the work of justice. Yes, the world is heavy. But because we know Christ's peace, we can share it with others.

We believe in the grace and peace of Christ. We are forgiven. Alleluia!

Scripture

Acts 4:32-35

Time with Our Children and Youth

Music for Reflection

Arise, My Love, My Fair One

Gerald Near

"Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the time of the singing of birds is come.

Arise my love, my fair one, and come away. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

Words: Song of Solomon 2:10-12

Scripture

John 20:19-31

Sermon

First Words

Rev. Davis

*Hymn

I've Got Peace Like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

1. I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul (2X).

2. I've got joy like a fountain. . .

3. I've got love like an ocean. . .

Words: American Negro Spiritual

^Joys and Concerns

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

Song of Kabir

Elizabeth Alexander

*"You are in us, and we are in You, Each being distinct, yet ever united.
You are the tree, the seed, and the cell; You are the flower, the fruit, and the shade;
You are the sun, the light, and the lighted; You are the manifold form of infinite space;
You are the breath, the word, and the meaning; You are the limit and the limitless.
You are the Immanent Mind in us; You are the Supreme Soul within the soul.
Blessed are all who see You."*

Words: Kabir (1440-1518), Trans. Rabindranath Tagore, adapt. Elizabeth Alexander

*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

Rev. Davis

*Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

(Verses 1-2 - Music may be found on page .)

Service of Holy Communion

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. Our Savior invites those who trust him to sit at the table in the kingdom of God. As we come to the Lord's table, let us humble our hearts and be open to the call of Your Spirit.

Compassionate God, have mercy on us, we pray.

Let us examine ourselves: our thoughts, our actions, our motives, and our attitudes toward others.

O Holy God, have mercy and forgive us our shortcomings.

Help us to remember our responsibility to our families and our neighbors, our stewardship to You, and the work You have given to our hands.

O Living God, we stand in need of Your grace, strength, and mercy.

As we eat the bread which represents Your body, which is the True and Living Bread, open our eyes to recognize the intimacy that You yearn to share with us.

O Loving God, teach us to love You above all else.

As we drink the cup which represents Christ's blood shed for us, we thank You for the new covenant, "Love ye one another," which is written in our hearts. Let us rejoice because our names are written in heaven.

Tender Father and Mother, may Your great sacrifice of redeeming love renew us for loving service and sacrifice for others.

May this Lord's Supper energize every area of our lives and enable us to transcend our circumstances, our inadequacies, and our enemies.

God who sees us, touch and empower us so that our lives will be renewed.

We praise You, O God, who made us Your own people through the death and resurrection of Your Son, our Lord.

Abide in us, Savior and Redeemer. Fill us with the life-giving power of Your Spirit, now and forever.

The Words of the Institution

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, And after giving thanks to God, He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, he took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, Shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Pastor: Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord. Now all the people say **Amen, Amen, and Amen.**

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion

*Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

(Verse 3 - Music may be found on page 9.)

Litany for a Grand Celestial Event

Creator God, you bring life to this earth and beyond.

All of creation is infused with your spirit.

We praise your creation!

We marvel at the vastness of your realm!

We are humbled as we witness the spectacle of your grand design.

We pause to consider our own unique part in your universe.

You created each of us to be an important contribution to your vast cosmos.

And each of our actions participates in the health of your creation.

We will stand in awe before this display.

We will unite in praise of your loving hand, guiding the moon around the earth.

As day is seemingly brought to night

are reminded of your power to transform and heal.

As the moon travels before our eyes

we wonder: You, who can move an object a third of the size of the earth, can you move our own fears, our limitations, our wars from night to day?

Tomorrow, bring us to a deeper understanding of your power.

On all days we pray you will, unite us as one human family, committing to work together toward the peace and wholeness of your creation.

May your peace travel throughout the universe. Amen.

Postlude

Here Comes the Sun

George Harrison
Arr. Duncan Lloyd

*Passing of the Peace

Morning Has Broken

664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931, alt.
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012
 Text © David Higham Assoc., Ltd.
 Music Arr. © 2012 Beverly A. Howard

BUNESSAN
 5.5.5.4.D

Thank you to . . .

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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Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me. (on me)

This African American spiritual quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshippers' experience.

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.

^Joys and Concerns – If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request slip (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person(s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The prayer requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

DUPC Sunday Forum Series

April 2024

What Are Our Tenants Doing?

Sundays, 9:45AM—Shaw Room

April 7

Spiritus Christi Ministries

Lauren Urzetta – Spiritus Christi Hospitality and Youth Minister

Come learn about Spiritus Christi's many ministries including a mental health center, a recovery house, prison outreach, anti-racism coalition, buddy readers, and ongoing work in Haiti and Mexico.

April 14

DUPC Building Tour

Eileen Dietsch, DOO and Staff

Ever wonder about spaces in our buildings seldom seen? Come take a grand tour.

April 21

Faith Groups at DUPC

Alan Dailey – UCLM (United Christian Leadership Ministry)

Rev. Fred Dicks – LIFFE (Love International Faith Fellowship Experience)

Eager to find out more about these two organizations?

This Sunday Forum will give you the chance to listen, learn, and ask questions.

April 28

The Problems with Plastics

Rochester Friends Meeting Earthcare Committee Members

Plastics are ubiquitous and problematic. The Quaker Earthcare Committee will share ways to reduce single use plastic, what plastics are recycled locally, and the health effects of plastics and microplastics. Efforts to regulate plastic use will also be discussed.

The Downtown Church Staff

The Rev. Philip B. Davis, Sr., Pastor
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. Philip B. Davis,
Moderator
Nancy Brown
David Lee
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper

Raina Bouphavong
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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