



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"THE LORD IS MY LIGHT
AND MY SALVATION."

Celebration of Worship

March 16, 2025, 11:00 AM

The Second Sunday In Lent

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Pastorale, from Sonata in D

Alexandre Guilmant

Words of Welcome

Rev. Phil Davis

Announcements

Chime

Introit

Day By Day

Martin How

"Day by day, dear God of thee three things I pray.

To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day."

Text: Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester

Time for Young Disciples

* Call to Worship

Sally Allison

Leader: When the world around me is disturbing, where do I turn?

People: **A psalmist says, "The Lord is my light and my salvation."**

Leader: When I am afraid, what can I count on?

People: **"The Lord is a fortress protecting my life."**

Leader: We gather in the light of God's protection.

People: **We come to pray, praise and sing.**

All: **Let us worship God together!**

*Invocation

All: Gracious God, prepare us to receive you. May our eyes behold you in those around us. May our ears receive your word. May our hearts be open to your teaching and leading. In this precious moment, may we know you in new ways.

*Hymn

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright PUER NOBIS NASCITUR
(Verses 1, 3 and 4. Music may be found on page 7.)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

All: Loving Protector, in times of chaos, we can be startled by sudden declarations, distracted by claims of solutions to problems. Forgive us, God, for our wandering from you. Forgive us, when our own fears draw other people's attention away from you. Help us to act, not from anxiety, but from faith in your certain presence. Help us to slow down and recognize you within and around us. Amen.

Words of Grace

Leader: No matter how far from God our resistance takes us, God wishes to draw us back, as deliberately as a hen gathers her brood under her wings. Receive God's embrace and this good news: You are forgiven.

Scripture

Psalm 27

Music for Reflection

Steal Away

American Negro Spiritual

*"Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home; I ain't got long to stay here.
My Lord, he calls me; he calls me by the thunder.
The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.
Green trees are bending; and sinners stand a trembling.
The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here."*
Text: Negro Spiritual, Leah Rosenman, soloist

Scripture

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

Carry On

Rev. Phil Davis

*Hymn

When Peace Like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

(Verses 1 and 4 - Music may be found on page 8.)

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 Thou Wilt Keep Them in Perfect Peace Samuel S. Wesley

"Thou wilt keep them in perfect peace, whose minds are stayed on Thee.

The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day.

The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike.

God is light, and in God is no darkness at all.

O let my soul live, and it shall praise Thee,

for Thine is the Presence, the power, and the glory, forevermore."

Text: Isaiah 26:3, alt.

*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

*Hymn

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

(Verses 1, 3, 4 and 6 - Music may be found on page 9.)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on "It Is Well"

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Thank you to:

Liturgist: David Lee

Chancel Choir Members:

Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Carolina Sullivan, Joan Sussman

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Leah Rosenman

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

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,

Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 16

9:45AM Sunday Forum-DUPC Bible
 10:00AM Choir Warm-up
 11:00AM Worship – Rev. Phil Davis
 11:15AM Sunday School
 12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 18

10:30AM Bible Study via Zoom
 7:00PM Session Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 19

4:30PM Sunday Forum Mtg via Zoom
 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 20

10:00AM Personnel Mtg via Zoom

Friday, March 21

10:30AM Friday Book Group via Zoom

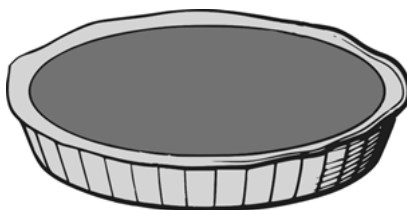
Saturday, March 22

TBD All-Church Retreat

Sunday, March 23

9:45AM Sunday Forum - ESWA
 10:00AM Choir warm-up
 11:00AM Worship – Rev. Phil Davis
 11:15AM Sunday School
 12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

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840 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought. My
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil-lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul;
 It is well with my soul;
 with my soul;

This text is a remarkable expression of faith born of grief. The author, an active Presbyterian layman who had just lost four daughters in a tragic shipwreck, wrote it while sailing to Paris to meet his wife, who had survived. The tune was named for the ship that sank.

TEXT: Horatio G. Spafford, 1876, alt.
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
 11.8.11.9 with refrain

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright 666



1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, from light e -
 2 Come, Ho - ly Sun of heaven - ly love, rain down your
 3 O joy - ful be the pass - ing day with thoughts as
 4 O Lord, with each re - turn - ing morn, your im - age



ter - nal bring - ing light; O Light of Light, light's
 ra - diance from a - bove, and to our in - ward
 clear as morn - ing's ray, with faith like noon - tide
 to our heart is born; O may we ev - er



liv - ing spring, true Day, all days il - lu - min - ing:
 hearts con - vey the Ho - ly Spir - it's cloud - less ray.
 shin - ing bright, our souls un - shad - owed by the night.
 clear - ly view our Sav - ior and our God in you.

This morning hymn is based on a Latin text attributed to a 4th-century bishop. It weaves various images of Christ as Light with light-based descriptions of each day's passing. It is set to a dance-like tune from at least the 15th century that enhances the energy in the text.

TEXT: Ambrose of Milan, c. 374; trans. composite
 MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR
 LM
 (alternate harmonization, 67)

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
 MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

ST. ANNE
 CM

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available in the Library

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 card (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.

Sunday Forums - March 2025

"Building a Beloved Community"

March 2 - Teen Empowerment Expansion!



Don Ackley, Shanterra Mitchum, Freemonta Strong & Mike Patterson

In July TE added their third neighborhood site meeting a growth goal they set over ten years ago. They also kicked off a new project - *Reconnections*. Come learn about their growth and how it is impacting the youth they serve.

March 9 - How Does Our History Define Us?

David Lee and Pat Tweet

In 1975 three churches united form the Downtown United Presbyterian Church. Each of these congregations began in the early 1800s, and played a large role in growth of the Rochester community religiously, economically, and civically. That tradition continued as DUPC came into being. What do our roots, through growth and contraction, tell us about DUPC now as we work with Rev. Mouser to define our identity?



**DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

March 16 - What Is Our "Biblical Narrative"?

We will continue to prepare for our work with Rev. Mouser and discuss which biblical narrative best defines who we are as a church. Have we been forced to be in the wilderness? Maybe one body with many parts? A valley of dry bones waiting for God's breath? Maybe like the early church in Acts, or like the disciples on the road to Emmaus? Might we be one of the servants in the Parable of the Talents? Let's decide together.

March 23 - ESWA: Here Until Poverty Isn't!

Katie Ferall and Cherrie McCown



Eastern Service Workers Association works to build a material manifestation of hope at the grassroots level in Monroe County. Katie will describe ESWA's approach, and Cherrie McCown will speak as a service worker, sharing about her work experiences and her leadership

March 30 - Telesca: Five Decades of Innovation

Rob Brown and Lori O'Brien



The Telesca Center for Justice is a groundbreaking collaboration of four legal organizations dedicated to stabilizing lives through the power of law. They provide civil legal representation to low-income individuals in Monroe County, benefitting 45,000 community members annually. The innovative model melds disparate public funding with private support and volunteer efforts to address clients' current needs and anticipate their future challenges.

Sundays, 9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

Bonus Forum!
Climate Action
Brady Fergusson
Wed, March 12
10AM
via Zoom

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
The Rev. Philip B. Davis, Sr.,
Stated Supply Pastor
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
Kristie Jones, Office Administrator
David Mear, Business Manager
Moses Nhial, Maintenance

Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator
Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Michael Stagle, Weekend Maint. Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Philip B. Davis,
Moderator
Nancy Brown
John DeHority
Lea Kone
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Cindy Hamliton

Jacque Hancock
Elizabeth Katz
Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales
Becky Parks
Susan Richane
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

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On Easter Sunday, April 20, the Worship bulletin will again include an insert which will list loved ones, remembered or honored, when you make a donation in any amount to the **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering**. Payment can be made by check (payable to Downtown Church **with OGHS in the Memo line**) or payment made via credit/debit card through the church website (Please check "Other Gift" and include a note in the memo field). Please submit your gift and information **by Monday, April 14, 2025**. You can also just make a donation to OGHS on Easter Sunday using the special envelopes that will be in the bulletin that day.

Two bouquets of Spring Flowers will grace the chancel, and a third arrangement of flowers will adorn the Communion table. This arrangement will be delivered to the Presbyterian Home after the Easter Worship service.

To remember a loved one or honor a special person with your gift, complete and return the form below.

Please print or type:

In memory or in honor of: _____

From: _____

**Please return the completed form with your donation
by Monday, April 14, 2025**

or send an email to the church office at
office@downtownpresbyterian.org.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.