



DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**We Live
Into Jesus'
Inclusive
Call to Love
Every Person,
Care for
Creation,
And Work for
God's Justice.**

Celebration of Worship

August 10th, 2025, 10:00 AM
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[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 during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Meditation on "Baronita"

Words of Welcome

Robin Sheikh

Announcements

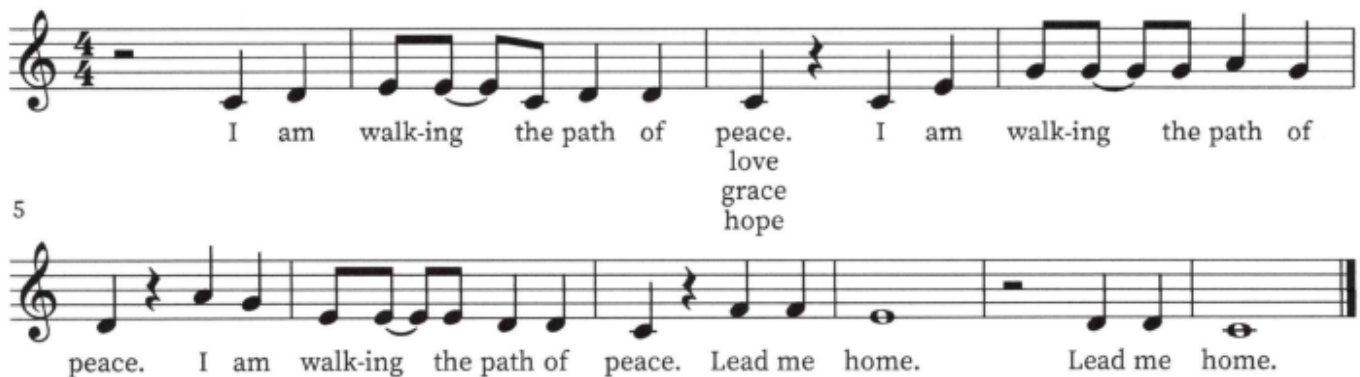
Sally Allison

Chime

Introit

I Am Walking the Path of Peace

Janet Bauman Tissandier



*Call to Worship

One: God of the path and the pivot,

All: We come. Some sprinting, some stumbling, some standing still.

One: You welcome our questions, our grief, our hope.

All: We bring our whole selves, unpolished and honest.

One: Even a single glance can hold sorrow, memory, love.

**All: Let us worship the One who walks with us—through the fire, the fog,
and the forward.**

Centering Prayer

Holy One,
We confess that we love tidy stories
Clear villains. Clean exits.
But life rarely works that way.
We look back sometimes.
We grieve what we've lost.
We hesitate. We wrestle.
And yet, still, you walk with us.
You never salt us into stillness.
You lead us with compassion.
Help us extend that same grace to others
And to ourselves. Amen.

First Reading

"Lot's Wife"

Anna Akhmatova

And the just man trailed God's shining agent,
over a black mountain, in his giant track,
while a restless voice kept harrying his woman:
"It's not too late, you can still look back
at the red towers of your native Sodom,
the square where once you sang, the spinning-shed,
at the empty windows set in the tall house
where sons and daughters blessed your marriage-bed."
A single glance: a sudden dart of pain
stitching her eyes before she made a sound . . .
Her body flaked into transparent salt,
and her swift legs rooted to the ground.
Who will grieve for this woman? Does she not seem
too insignificant for our concern?
Yet in my heart I never will deny her,
who suffered death because she chose to turn.

Music for Reflection I Want Jesus to Walk With Me African American Spiritual

Second Reading Genesis 19:23-26

Sermon Paths, Not Pillars Robin Sheikh

*Hymn Help Us Accept Each Other BARONITA
(Music may be found on page 7.)

Joys and Concerns
Prayers for Healing and Justice

† 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 Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) Chris Tomlin

*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.

*Hymn Make Me a Channel of Your Peace PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS
(Music may be found on page 8.)

Benediction

Postlude Accentuate the Positive Johnny Mercer

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us extend the Peace of Christ to one another.

Thank you to...

Guest Worship Leader: Robin Sheikh

Liturgist: Sally Allison

Musicians: Alan Jones and Jessica Ann Best

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

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Robin Sheikh has spent the past two years teaching Sunday School here at Downtown United Presbyterian Church, and it's been one of the most meaningful parts of her week. She studied Religious Studies and Interfaith Studies at Nazareth College, and she's now in her final year of a Master's in Social Justice at Union Theological Seminary. This is her first time preaching at DUPC, which feels a bit out of her comfort zone, but she's deeply grateful for the chance to step into this role and share in worship with a community that has already shaped her in so many ways.

- **We continue to welcome** a wide variety of worship leaders. The Worship Team and the Session encourage you to consider what speaks to you in each worship experience and share your feedback with them. **You may write to:** session@downtownpresbyterian.org OR worship@downtownpresbyterian.org
This feedback is vital as decisions are made about our pastoral leadership. Next Sunday we will again welcome the **Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby**.

740 Lead Me, Guide Me

Capo 1: (D)
Refrain E^b (A7) B^b7 (Em) Fm 3

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) B^b (D) E^b (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b 3 3

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) B^b7 (B7) C7 (Em) Fm (D) E^b (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b Fine

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) E^b 3 (B7) C7 (Em) Fm (A7) B^b7 (Em) Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) B^b (D) E^b (D) E^b (D7) E^b7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) Fm (D) E^b (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b to Refrain

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

TEXT: Doris Akers, 1953
MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; arr. Richard Smallwood
Text and Music © 1953, ren. Doris Akers (admin. Chappell & Co., Inc./Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME
Irregular

Help Us Accept Each Other 754

G Em Am7 B7 C

1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,

C G A A7 D

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,

G Em Am7 B7 C

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:

C G Em D7 G

we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The scriptural basis of this text is Romans 15:7, recast as a prayer in the opening two lines of the first stanza. The many implications of living as people who have been accepted by Christ fill the remaining stanzas. This tune was composed for the first publication of this text.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1974
 MUSIC: Doreen Potter, 1974
 Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

BARONITA
 7.6.7.6.D

753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

D Bm A7 D Em A7

1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It

D Bm G Em A7

there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in

Em A7 Em7 A7

there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in

Em A7 D 1 2, 4 (Fine)

where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

G Em D Bm

3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so

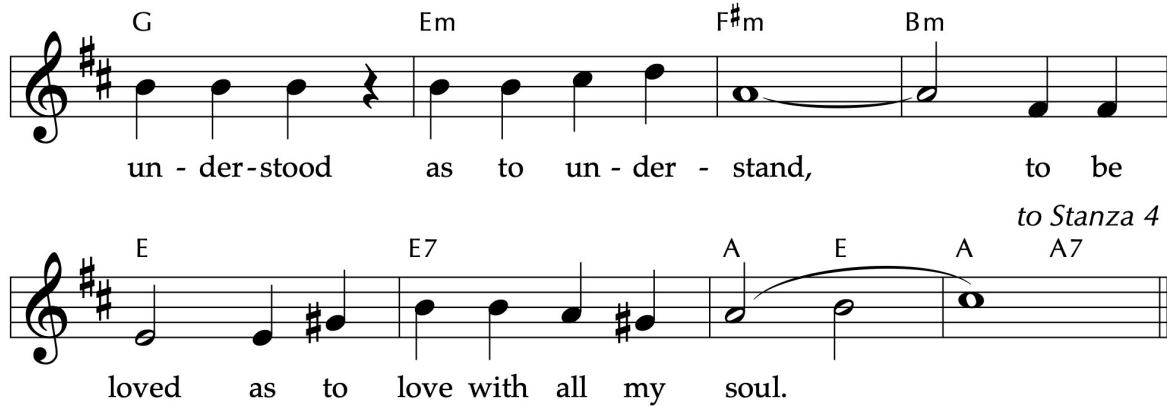
Em A7 D A7 D D7

much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Though popular opinion credits this prayer to Francis of Assisi, the earliest known printing was in a French religious magazine in 1912. Yet that gentle saint's spirit seems evident in these words, a quality that has spurred many paraphrases and musical settings such as this one.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 10

- 9:00AM Musicians Warm-up
- 9:45AM Nursery
- 10:00AM Worship,
Robin Sheikh
- 11:00AM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 13

- 3:00PM DEIB Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, August 14

- 5:00PM Finance Team Mtg, Zoom
- 7:30PM Property Team Mtg, Zoom

Friday, August 15

- 1:00PM Leap of Faith Team Mtg.

Sunday, August 17

- 9:00AM Musicians Warm-up
- 9:45AM Nursery
- 10:00AM Worship,
Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby
- 11:00AM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 19

- 7:00PM Session Mtg., Hybrid

We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care is available for children up to 2nd grade either in the library or C-23 upstairs. Check with the receptionist.

Sunday School is on summer recess through August.

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 requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the Deacons.



"Lot's Wife," a pillar of salt, on the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist	Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper & Receptionist Coordinator
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician	Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations	Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Alan Jones, Associate Musician	Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
David Mear, Business Manager	Ed Verna, Maintenance
Moses Nhial, Maintenance	Lee S. Wright, D.M.A., Director of Music Ministry
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator	

Parish Leaders

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

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler, Moderator	Lea Kone	Jim Vesper
Nancy Brown	Bob Richane	Pat Tweet
John DeHority	Sally Allison	Mary Rees
	Sam King	

Deacons

Bob Carlisle	Jacque Hancock	Becky Parks
Andrea Folan	Elizabeth Katz	Susan Richane
Helen Ganotis	Stephen Lloyd	Kelley Sheils
Cindy Hamilton	Grania Marcus	Marilyn Terpening
	Sandy Morales	

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