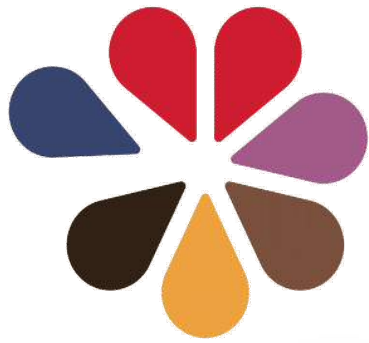




DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



November 30th, 2025, 11:00 AM
The First Sunday of Advent

*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.*

One: A day is certainly coming
Many: Sure as breath
One: A day of safety
Many: A name of a Holy One.
On the lips: Branch, Righteous One
Hope, Certainly on its way

*Hymn

O Day of Peace
(Music may be found on page 8.)

JERUSALEM

Prayer of Invocation

God of hope and anticipation, we invite You into our midst today.
May our lives have room for You, in our homes, in our country, in
our hearts. We make ourselves ready for You to do something new.
Amen.

Lighting the First Advent Candle: The Candle of Hope

One: Today we light the Candle of Hope, as we begin our Advent journey.
Many: Christ, our hope, is coming to us.

Time with Young Disciples

Robin Sheikh

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Music for Reflection

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

French Carol
Arr. Anne Britt

Second Reading

Matthew 24: 36-44

Sermon

Not Ready

*Hymn

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper
(Music may be found on pg 6.)

JEFFERSON

Joys and Concerns
Prayers for Healing and Justice

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS'

*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 Comfort, Comfort Now My People GENEVAN
(Verse 1—Music may be found on pg 9.)

Service of Communion

The Invitation

The Story

The Prayer

† 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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion Meditation on "Creator of the Stars of Night"

*Hymn Comfort, Comfort Now My People GENEVAN
(Verses 2-3—Music may be found on pg 9.)

*Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on "Comfort, Comfort"

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: Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby

Liturgist: John DeHority

Musicians: Jason Cloen, Alan Jones, and Lee Wright

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

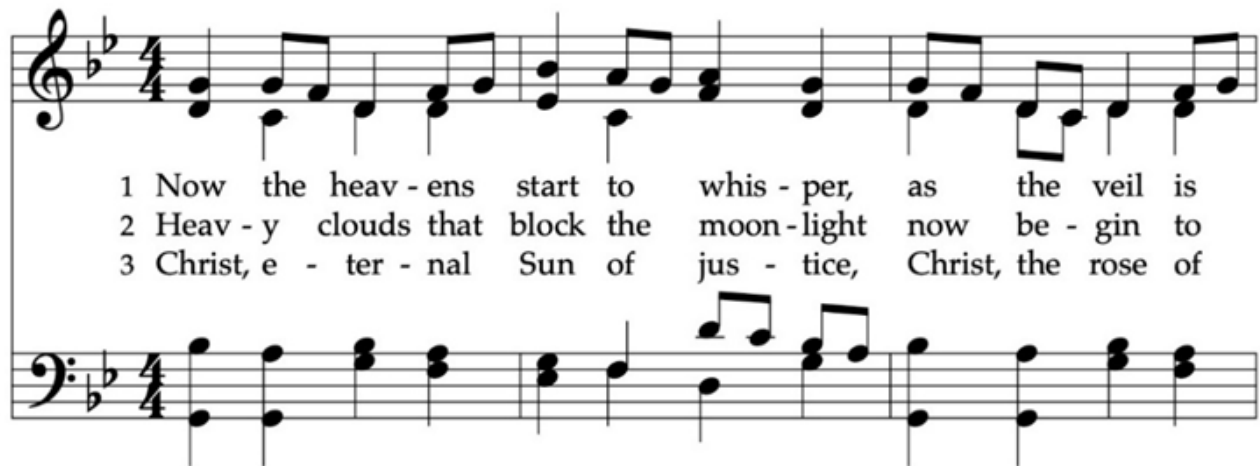
All music and musical texts in this bulletin are reprinted with permission under One License, License # A-707805 and CCLI License # 21572398

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. This feedback is vital as decisions are made about our pastoral leadership.

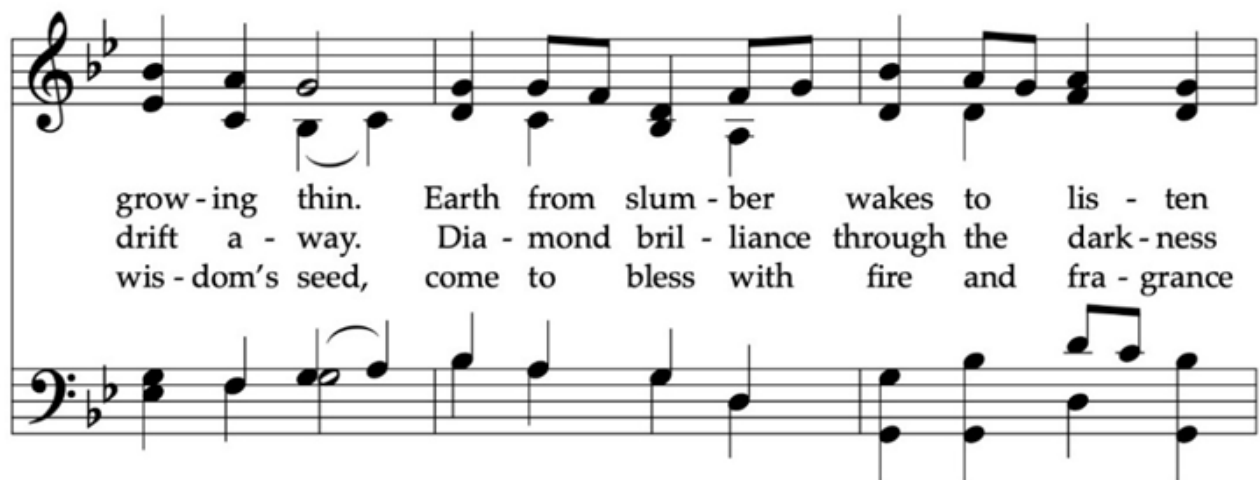
Next Sunday, we will welcome John DeHority.



94 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is
 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to
 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of



grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten
 drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness
 wis - dom's seed, come to bless with fire and fra - grance



to the stir - ring, faint with - in: seed of prom - ise, deep - ly
 shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing star of
 hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly, in the

This Advent text artfully interweaves what is hidden and what is revealed, primarily in the coming of the long-awaited Messiah. But Christ himself taught us about another hidden truth, his presence in the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40, 45), whom we are also called to welcome.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2005

MUSIC: Alexander Johnson's *Tennessee Harmony*, 1818; harm. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

JEFFERSON

8.7.8.7.D



plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Like the soil be -
splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim. Heav - en's em - ber
strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view: child who comes to

neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Next Sunday, December 7th, is Advent Music Sunday!
Our worship will be accompanied by the sounds of strings and oboe
with piano, organ, and choir.



Music will include familiar choruses by Handel and Vivaldi
alongside new arrangements of familiar carols.

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O Day of Peace

1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the

hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly

love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of hate
 graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e - mies

fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re - lease, till by God's
 shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac - cord; the hope of

grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.
 peace shall be ful - filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

This text on peace was created to offer non-nationalistic words for a popular British tune. The first stanza depicts *pax*, a mode of peace focused on ending conflict, and the second (based on Isaiah 11:6–9) describes *shalom*, the condition of living in harmony and mutual good will.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1982

MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1987

Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

Music Melody © 1916, 1944, this Arr. © 1977 Robertson Publications (admin. Goodmusic Publishing Ltd.)

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

JERUSALEM
LMD

Comfort, Comfort Now My People 87

1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

"Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un-der sor-row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen-tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

To my peo - ple now pro-claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre-pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a-broad,

Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war-fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet-ing and the hills bow down in greet-ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken."

This 17th-century German paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1–5 was one of the texts translated as part of the 19th-century British interest in German religious poetry. It is set here to one of the most popular Genevan Psalter tunes, probably derived from an earlier French folksong.

Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 30

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
 10:00AM Choir Warm-up
 10:45AM Nursery
 11:00AM Worship - Rev. Suddaby -
 Communion Celebrated
 11:15AM Sunday School
 12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 2

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study
 5:00PM Justice Team Mtg, Zoom

Wednesday, December 3

7:00PM Choir Practice

Thursday, December 4

11:00AM Worship Team Mtg, Zoom
 3:00PM Space Use Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, December 7

10:00AM Advent Festival Begins
 10:00AM Choir Warm-up
 10:45AM Nursery
 11:00AM Worship - Advent
 Music Sunday
 11:15AM Sunday School
 12:00PM Advent Festival Continue

An Invitation shared with us from the Quakers.

Rochester Friends Meeting (Quaker) Fundraiser to Address Humanitarian Needs and Peace-building Efforts in Palestine/Israel: Contributions received by **November 30th** will be matched by funds in the Rima Segal legacy gift, up to a total of \$4,000. Donations by check may be made out to **Rochester Friends Meeting**, with "Fundraising Match" in memo line. Designate one, some, or all of the organizations below.



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 young children beginning in the library and moving to C-23 on the second floor. Parents are welcome to come up with their kids if they would like.

Sunday School Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Youth" and then will follow their teacher to the Sunday School room.

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.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist	Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator & Sunday School Teacher
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician	
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations	Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Alan Jones, Associate Musician	Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
David Mear, Business Manager	Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Moses Nhial, Maintenance	Ed Verna, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes, Nursery Coordinator	Lee S. Wright, D.M.A., Director of Music Ministry
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper & Receptionist 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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Telephone: (585) 325-4000

email: office@DowntownPresbyterian.org

www.DowntownPresbyterian.org



You are Cordially Invited to:

The Annual DUPC Advent Festival

Our 2025 Theme:

“A Star Shines Brightly!
Sharing in the Light, Hope,
and Joy of the Season”

Sunday, December 7th
10AM—1PM

Before and After
Advent Music Sunday Worship

Follow the Crowds to the Hallway
Behind the Sanctuary

Enjoy Light Refreshments and
the Joy of Community

★ One World Goods ★ Building Minds in South Sudan
★ Angel Tree ★ Christmas Cookies ★ Craft

Bring a monetary donation, baby doll, board game, or book for our Angel Tree on December 7th and help bring Christmas joy to children served by the Jordan Health Center.

Sunday Forums - December 2025

Caring for Creation
Christmas with Less Consumerism

**Dec. 14 “One World Goods: Supporting
Artisans from Around the World”**



Presenters: Pat Massa and others, One World Goods

When you buy gifts for your loved ones this year, shop at One World Goods rather than shopping online. Save the planet from packaging waste and energy consumption by taking a short trip to Pittsford Plaza, and purchasing hand-crafted items made by artisans who use natural and repurposed materials to support their families and communities. If possible you can then hand-deliver them. Our presenter will bring many beautiful items and tell us how they were made, and how their sale benefits the creators and their communities.

**Dec. 21 “Five Years of Advent Celebration
on Zoom: DUPC's Psalms+ Study Group”**

Presenters: Panel of Group Members, In Person & Online

The Psalms+ Study Group, sometimes affectionately referred to as “Psalm Psisters+,” is a weekly Zoom meeting that was born during the Pandemic. Five years later the group is closing in on Psalm 150, having taken time out during Lent and Advent each year to explore the art, music, poetry, and scripture for those seasons. The group will present a PowerPoint describing the themes chosen for each year's Advent, and favorite images and music pieces shared by members. Panelists will reflect on how this unique companionship anchored them through the COVID years as well as holiday drama.



Sundays, 9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

