



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

February 15th, 2026 11:00 AM
Transfiguration Sunday

[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

A Transfiguration Improvisation

Words of Welcome

Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby

Announcements

Nancy Brown

Chime

*Introit

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamund Johnson

"Lift every voice and sing,

Arr. Craig Courtney

'Till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of Liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won."

Text: James Weldon Johnson

*Call to Worship

One: High on the mountain, Jesus was transfigured before them.

Many: His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became dazzling white.

One: The veil was lifted, and the glory of God was revealed in Christ.

Many: We behold His glory, full of grace and truth.

One: The voice from the cloud declared, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him."

Many: We turn our hearts to listen. We open our lives to His word.

One: When we see His glory, we are changed.

Many: As we behold Him, we are being transformed.

One: The light that shone on the mountain now shines in our hearts.

Many: Let His glory shape us. Let His radiance be reflected in us.

One: Do not be afraid. The Lord has drawn near.

Many: We rise and worship the One whose glory transforms us.

All: Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit—

May His glory be seen in us, now and always. Amen.

*Hymn

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

BREWER

(Music may be found on page 6.)

Time with Young Disciples

Robin Sheikh

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Today, as we tell old stories and new, give us wisdom to understand.

Today, as we sing, give us joy. Today, as we gather for worship, help us grow into the extraordinary beings you know we can be. Amen.

First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

Music for Reflection

Christ upon the Mountain Peak

Frank W. Boles

Jesus on the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing.

Let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and angels praising. Hallelujah!

Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.

All the prophets and the law shout through them their joyful greeting. Hallelujah!

Swift the cloud of glory came, God proclaiming in its thunder

Jesus as the Son by Name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder! Hallelujah!

This is God's beloved Son! Law and prophets sing before him;

first and last and only One. All creation shall adore him! Hallelujah!

Text: Brian Wren

Second Reading

Matthew 17:1-9

Sermon

Transfiguration

Rev. Suddaby

*Hymn Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

The choir will sing the verses. Please join in singing the refrain:

"Shine, Jesus shine, fill this land with Creator's glory;

blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with love and mercy;

send forth your Word, God, and let there be light!"

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

Rise, Shine!

American Negro Spiritual

Arr. Marques L.A. Garrett /Tom Trenney

"Refrain: Rise, shine! For the light is a-comin'.

My Lord says he's comin' by an' by.

Verses: This is the year of jubilee, my Lord says. . .

My Lord has set all people free,. . .

Wet or dry, I intend to try. . .

To serve the Lord until I die. . . [Ref.]

I intend to shout an' never stop. . .

Until I reach that mountaintop. . . [Ref.]"

*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

We Walk in Love
(Music may be found on pg 7.)

Deanna Witkowski

Benediction

Postlude

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541

J.S. Bach

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: Nancy Brown

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Cecelia Allchin*, Isa Apodaca, Nicole Knickerbocker*,
Lindsey Puc, Joan Sussman

Alto: Alyssa Koh, Leah Rosenman

Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,
Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier*

*on temporary leave

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

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We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

191



1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows; splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength - ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, where we wait with hope and long - ing
 flesh - joined Word; Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel
 faith de - cline, we like Pe - ter find it tempt - ing



for some to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 as the heaven - ly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 to re - main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, search - ing like those
 won - der how the law and proph - ets meet: Christ, with gar - ments
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, that our dai - ly



first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

Through this Transfiguration hymn runs an implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the three disciples on that mountain and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship. This event is reported in Matthew 17:1-9/Mark 9:2-9/Luke 9:28-36.

38. We Walk in Love

Words by Deanna Witkowski and Lemuel Colon

Music by Deanna Witkowski

New York, NY | 2017

Gospel 3 feel (♩ = 104)

C7sus F Gm/F F Gm7

1. We walk in love u - nit - ed in pur - pose. We
 2. We cry for peace and rights for all peo - ple. We
 3. We dream a world of jus - tice and kind - ness. We

A7 Dm7 G7sus G7 C7sus

join our hands and lift up one voice. We
 wel - come friends from far - and near. We
 build a bridge cre - at - ing new paths. We

Bm7(b5) Bbm6 F/C F

speak the truth with strength and com - pas - sion re -
 fight for those whose voic - es are si - lenced, re -
 march with joy as all walk to - geth - er. Em -

Gm F/A Gm/Bb F/C C7sus C7 F

sound - ing with hope, with cour - age and joy.
 sist - ing in faith, un - til all are free.
 brac - ing each one, we bold - ly stand.

Performance Suggestion:

- Step on beat 1, Clap beats 2 & 3.

Deanna writes: "After writing the tune, I looked at 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' as a starting point in creating a list of positive key words to include in the lyrics."

Editor's note: Optional piano part available at deannawitkowski.com.

Always include songwriter's name when posting recordings. Link to PDF: <https://songs.justicechoir.org/WeWalk>

creative commons



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JUSTICE CHOIR.ORG

Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 15

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Music Sunday
Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary
7:00PM Sophia Circle, Zoom

Tuesday, February 17

Fat Tuesday

10:30AM Psalms+ Bible Study

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday

4:30PM Sunday Forum Mtg, Zoom
7:00PM Choir Practice

Friday, February 20

12:00PM 3rd Fri. Book Group, Zoom

Sunday, February 22

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship - Rev Kristina
Hansen
11:15AM Sunday School



Welcome Visitors!

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

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 children 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.



This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

† **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.

*** 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.

If you would like to honor someone or a special event with flowers you can purchase a bouquet (\$35) for a future worship service by contacting Deacon Helen Ganotis at <helenganotis@gmail.com>.

Registration is Open!



Presbytery of Genesee Valley's
CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING DAY

Saturday, March 7, 2026

8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Online via Zoom. FREE

Session 1:

1. A workshop for Elders/Elder training -
Led by Rev. Colin Pritchard
2. A workshop for Deacons -
Led by a Rev. Erin Jacobson
3. A workshop on Grants –
Led by a panel of speakers
4. Anti-racism training -
Led by Janette Henderson

Worship: Led by Rev. Twyla Boyer

Session 2:

5. Anti-racism training -
Led by Janette Henderson
6. Stated Clerk training-
Led by Bethany Benz-Whittington
7. Caring for our Immigrant Neighbors -
Led by a panel of speakers
8. Can We Talk?
Led by Rev. Kirk Baker

[Click here to view the brochure and details about the event.](#)

Or scan the QR code below:



If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Simpson (simpsfam37@gmail.com)

Sunday Forums—February 2026

Jesus' Inclusive Call - Spiritual Journeys



Susan Richane

Susan's spiritual journey has been one of "thin places," where the boundary between earth and another realm feels permeable. In the words of Father Gregory Boyle, "The Beloved is found everywhere and anywhere. The Beloved in whom we "live and move and have our being" dwells in all that gets thrown at us every day. This journey will be shared as windows to the Holy, through story, poetry and reflection.

**Feb.
1**

Grania Marcus

Grania grew up in the Episcopal Church, but has lived in many locations and has belonged to Episcopal, Catholic, UCC, and Presbyterian churches. She has often sought answers in theological writings and prayer, and as a member of DUPC's Psalms Plus group, continues to seek understanding and learn from her Psalm Psisters. Her faith in the love of God has led her to amplifying that love through justice work.



**Feb.
8**

Rev. Val Fowler

Currently serving as the Moderator for the DUPC Session, Val has been a life long Presbyterian, growing up in several congregations—each a great church to be a kid. That nourished a life-long appreciation for faith communities, going to seminary, and a life as a pastor. The blessings and challenges of his life shaped his love of God as revealed in the person and work of Jesus. And ... his dedication to children.



**Feb.
15**

Kehar Kahn

Born in a small town in Pakistan, Kehar's Spiritual journey began with a quiet but courageous yes to Christ at the age of 16. That choice carried him through valleys of danger, loss, and rejection, and across lands and churches—from Baptist and Brethren fellowships to a Presbyterian church in Bangkok, and finally to DUPC in 2024. His life has known many turns, but through every storm and silence, one light never dimmed: an unshakable faith in God.



**Feb.
22**

Sundays, 9:45AM—The Shaw Room



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
Baker Mohammed, Bookkeeper	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
Jacque Hancock and Carol Samuel - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler, Moderator	Jason Cloen	Jim Vesper
Nancy Brown	John DeHority	Pat Tweet
	Sally Allison	Mary Rees

Deacons

Andrea Folan	Stephen Lloyd	Becky Parks
Helen Ganotis	Grania Marcus	Carol Samuel
Jacque Hancock	Sandy Morales	Kelley Sheils
Elizabeth Katz	Gie Oey	Marilyn Terpening

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