



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

May 3rd, 2026 11:00 AM

Fifth Sunday of Easter

[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.*

Choral Prelude

The Power of Many

Emily Drum

A song celebrating the power of community
You are invited to join in singing the final refrain:

"So carry this song on your shoulder

Let it live longer and louder

Our voices move mountains together

The power of many, many, many, many. . ."

Words of Welcome

Rev. Kristina Hansen

Announcements

Jason Cloen

Chime

*Introit

When I Rise Up

J. David Moore

"When I rise up let me rise up joyful like a bird

When I fall, let me fall without regret like a leaf"

-Wendell Berry

*Call to Worship (Chalice Worship 82, mod)

One: This is the place and this is the time;

here and now God waits to break into our experience:

Many: to change our minds, to change our lives, to change our ways;

One: to make us see the world and the whole of life in a new light;

Many: to fill us with hope, joy, and certainty for the future.

One: This is the place, as are all places; this is the time, as are all times!
Many: Here and now, let us praise God!

Prayer of Invocation (Chalice Worship, 171,172, mod)

Loving God, we gather in Jesus' name who proclaimed us your children.
Open our eyes now to Christ's living presence as we attend to your word
in holy scriptures and listen for the voice of Holy Spirit speaking to us.
Through prayer and praise, through bread and cup, let us know that you
are in our midst and commune with us on this day and always.

We pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to prayer together...

† Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples
of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom, sustain our hope and come
on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb
from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, Now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn

When the Morning Stars Together

WEISSE FLAGGEN

(Verses 1, 2 and 4—Music may be found on page 8.)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (Chalice Worship, 171,172, mod)

Merciful God, our refuge in times of trouble, and the rock of our salvation -

- forgive us our transgressions:

Those we commit knowingly,

and those we do without perception of how we have hurt others.

Open our hearts and our minds to hear your way, your truth and your life
to understand our failures, and to reach a new level of wisdom

that in all we do and say, we may bring glory to your name

and love and compassion to our neighbor.

In Christ's name we pray.

(A moment of silence is observed for listening and personal prayer.)

One: Speaking the truth to God and to ourselves in love, we begin anew.
Many: **With lives open to transformation, we pray our earnest prayer. Amen.**

Scripture Song of the Day Psalm 31:1-5

All singing:

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.
Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

All singing:

**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.**

Time with Young Disciples

Rev. Hansen

Music and Choir Recognition

Lee Wright

Music for Reflection

I Will Not Leave You Comfortless

Everett Titcomb

*"I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you yet again: Alleluia.
And your heart shall be joyful. Alleluia."*

Gospel Lesson

John 14:1-14

Sermon

A Promise & An Invitation

Rev. Hansen

*Hymn

Come My Way, My Truth, My Life
(Music may be found on page 12.)

THE CALL

Joys and Concerns
Prayers for Healing and Justice

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music Sweet Hallelujah Mark A. Miller
A joyful song of praise with quotes from the doxology

*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 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL
(Verses 1 and 2—Music may be found on page 10.)

Service of Communion (Thom M. Shuman, mod.)

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: May the God of every Way be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift your hearts to the One who is the Truth for God's own people.

Many: We offer them to the One who warms them with love.

One: Sing praises to God, who is our Life.

Many: Glad songs are offered to the One who provides shelter for us.

Many: God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

The Story

....

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise
your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Story Continues

• • • • •

Even as we celebrate the Life which was his,
as we claim the Truth that all are one with you,
we take refuge in that mystery called faith:
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Blessing of the Elements

• • • •

And when the Way leads us home to you,
when your Life gathers us with our siblings
around the Table which is prepared by your Truth,
we will sing glad songs of praise to you forever,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Music at Communion Meditation on Hyfrydol

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL
(Verses 3 and 4—Music may be found on page 10.)

Benediction

Choral Postlude Walk Together, Children American Negro Spiritual
Arr. Moses Hogan

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...

Rev. Kristina Hansen

Liturgist: Jason Cloen

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, Dacid McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 3

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship—Choir
Appreciation
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary
4:00PM Arts Link—John Williams
Piano Concert

Tuesday, May 5

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

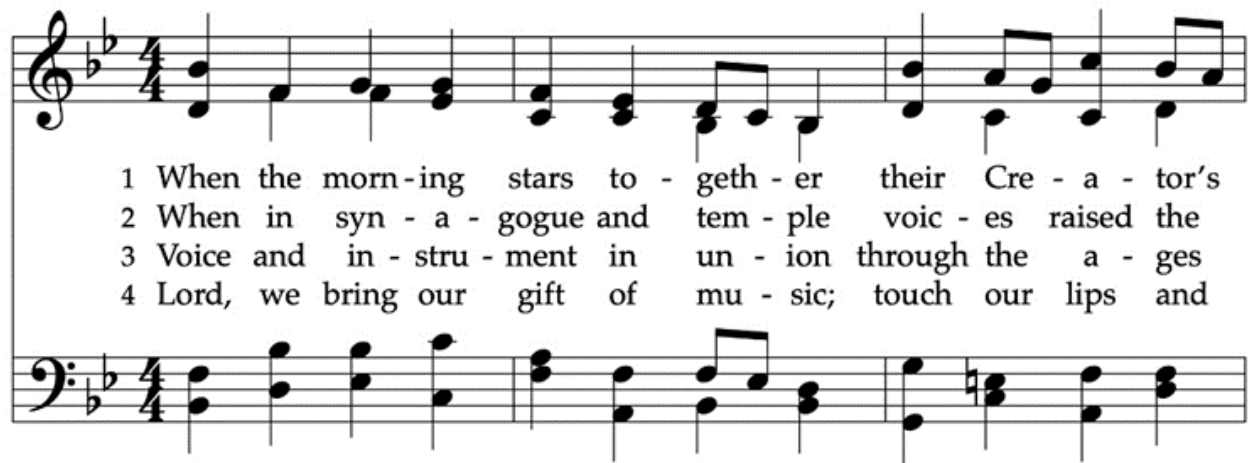
Thursday, May 7

11:00AM Worship Team Mtg, Zoom

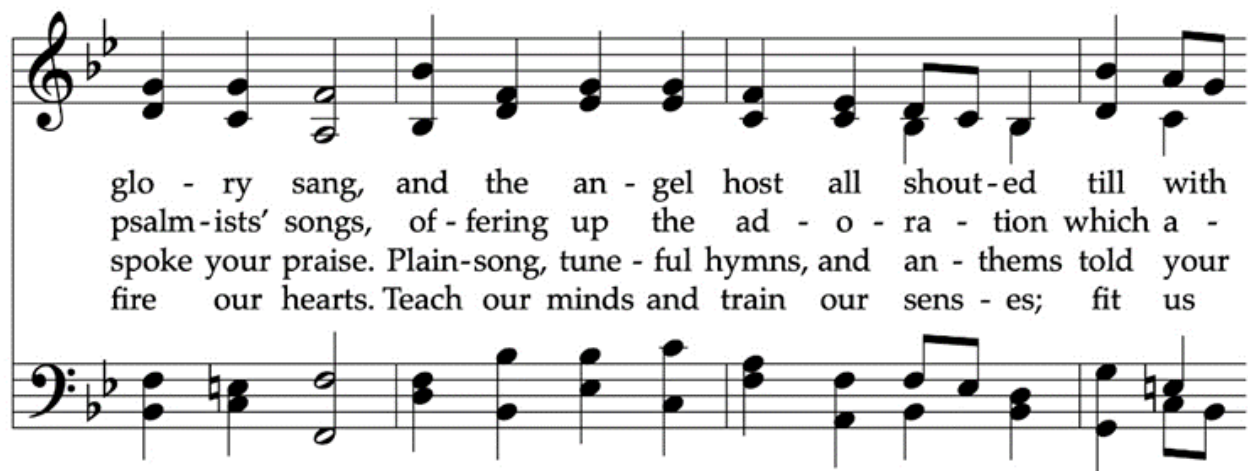
Sunday, May 10

9:45AM Sunday Forum, Hybrid
10:00AM Musicians Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

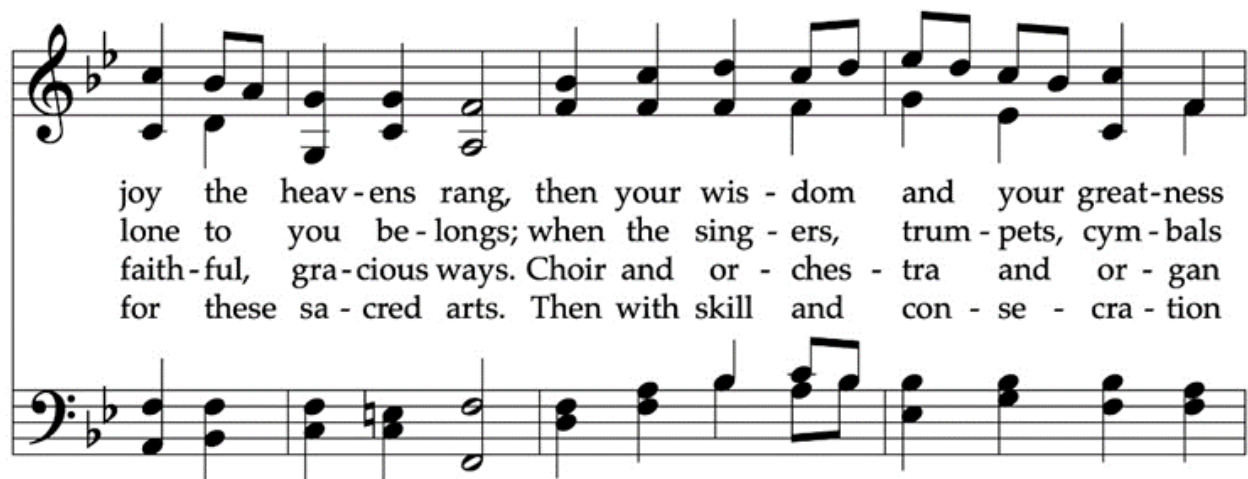
689 When the Morning Stars Together



1 When the morn-ing stars to - geth - er their Cre - a - tor's
2 When in syn - a - gogue and tem - ple voic - es raised the
3 Voice and in - stru - ment in un - ion through the a - ges
4 Lord, we bring our gift of mu - sic; touch our lips and



glo - ry sang, and the an - gel host all shout-ed till with
psalm-ists' songs, of - fering up the ad - o - ra - tion which a -
spoke your praise. Plain-song, tune - ful hymns, and an - thems told your
fire our hearts. Teach our minds and train our sens - es; fit us



joy the heav-ens rang, then your wis - dom and your great-ness
lone to you be - longs; when the sing - ers, trum - pets, cym - bals
faith-ful, gra-cious ways. Choir and or - ches - tra and or - gan
for these sa - cred arts. Then with skill and con - se - cra - tion

Opening with imagery from Job 38:7, this text celebrates the role of music in worship from earliest times to the present. It is set to a German tune that may have originated as a folk melody. The tune name, German for "white flags," comes from one of the early texts set to it.



their ex - ul - tant mu - sic told, all the beau - ty
 all com - bined, your praise to share, awe - struck peo - ple
 each a sa - cred of - fering brought, while, in - spired by
 we would serve you, Lord, and give all our powers to

and the splen - dor which your might - y works un - fold.
 saw your glo - ry fill the sa - cred house of prayer.
 your own Spir - it, po - et and com - pos - er wrought.
 glo - ri - fy you, and in serv - ing ful - ly live.



A piano concert by John Williams

"Songs of Faith and Inspiration"


The Downtown United Presbyterian Church
 121 North Fitzhugh Street
 Rochester, NY 14614

* *Free parking*
 * *Reception following concert*

Suggested Donation:
 \$25/adults, \$10/ students,
 Choose your own price
 Proceeds to support
 programming for
Arts Link at DUPC

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

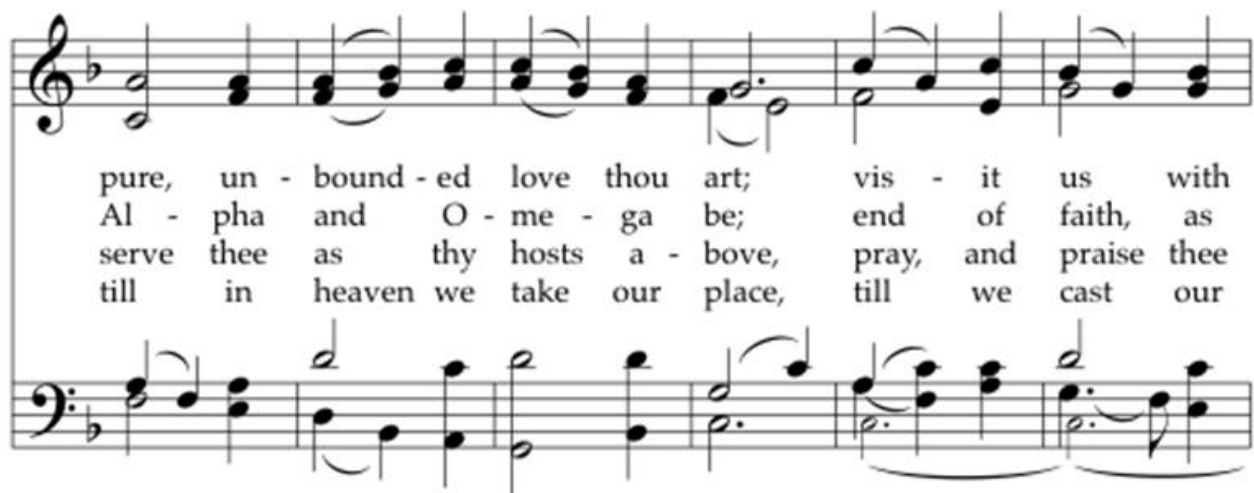


earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

AΩ

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life 403

Unison Eb Bbm Ab Bbsus Bbm Eb

1 Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a
 2 Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a
 3 Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a

Bbm Ab Bbsus Bbm Gb Fm Ab Bbsus Bbm Fm.

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can

Eb Db Eb Fm Bbm Ebsus Eb

strife; such a life as con - quers death.
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

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>.

2026 ROC City Concerts

featuring
faculty and students from the Eastman School of Music



Darrin Nicholson II,
baritone



The Lazuli Quartet



David Ying, cello



Elinor Freer, piano



University
of Rochester

Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St.

May 6, 7:30PM; free admission

Music of Astor Piazzolla, Margaret Bonds, Tchaikovsky, Florence Price, Schubert, and more.



Sunday Forums May 2026



Living Into Jesus' Inclusive Call: What Can Progressive Christianity Be?

May 3

Heschel's "No Religion is an Island" Is Still Important 60 Years Later

Presenter: Dr. David Lee

Abraham Heschel, Jewish philosopher/ rabbi/mystic/social activist, believed strongly that religions could and should coexist. His idea of "depth theology" meant that all religions begin with an awareness of human inadequacy while seeking to explain and rise above it. His lecture at Union Theological Seminary in 1965 primarily addressed Jewish-Christian relations, and his comments are even more pertinent now in a world that is "post-modern" and "neo-liberal." What is God telling us in 2026?

May 10

From Liberation Theology to the "Nones" Are Alright: Is Christianity Too Political or Not Political Enough?

Presenter: Father Curt Cadorette

Father Cadorette began his career as a Maryknoll priest, serving for two decades in Peru. There he made friends with Gustavo Gutierrez, one of the founders of Liberation Theology. This doctrine states that Christ's message originated in concern for the well-being of the poor and powerless. Dr. Cadorette has written three books and several dozen articles on Gutierrez, Liberation Theology and the social justice traditions of Catholicism.

May 17

Theology or Practice? The Art of Being Progressive

Presenter: Pastor Kristina Hansen

What is progressive theology? Is it something you "just have?" Is it something that develops over time? Join PK as she shares with us her personal journey and insights into what progressive theology looks like in theory and practice.

Sundays, 9:45AM—The Shaw Room



The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Rev. Kristina Hansen, Senior Pastor
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager
Baker Mohammed, Bookkeeper
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes, Sunday School
Teacher

Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator
Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Mesha Thomas, Nursery Coordinator
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Jacque Hancock and Carol Samuel - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Kristina
Hansen, Moderator
Nancy Brown

Jason Cloen
John DeHority
Sally Allison

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Jacque Hancock
Elizabeth Katz

Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales
Gie Oey

Becky Parks
Carol Samuel
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

121 N. Fitzhugh Street, Rochester, NY 14614

Telephone: (585) 325-4000

email: office@DowntownPresbyterian.org

www.DowntownPresbyterian.org

