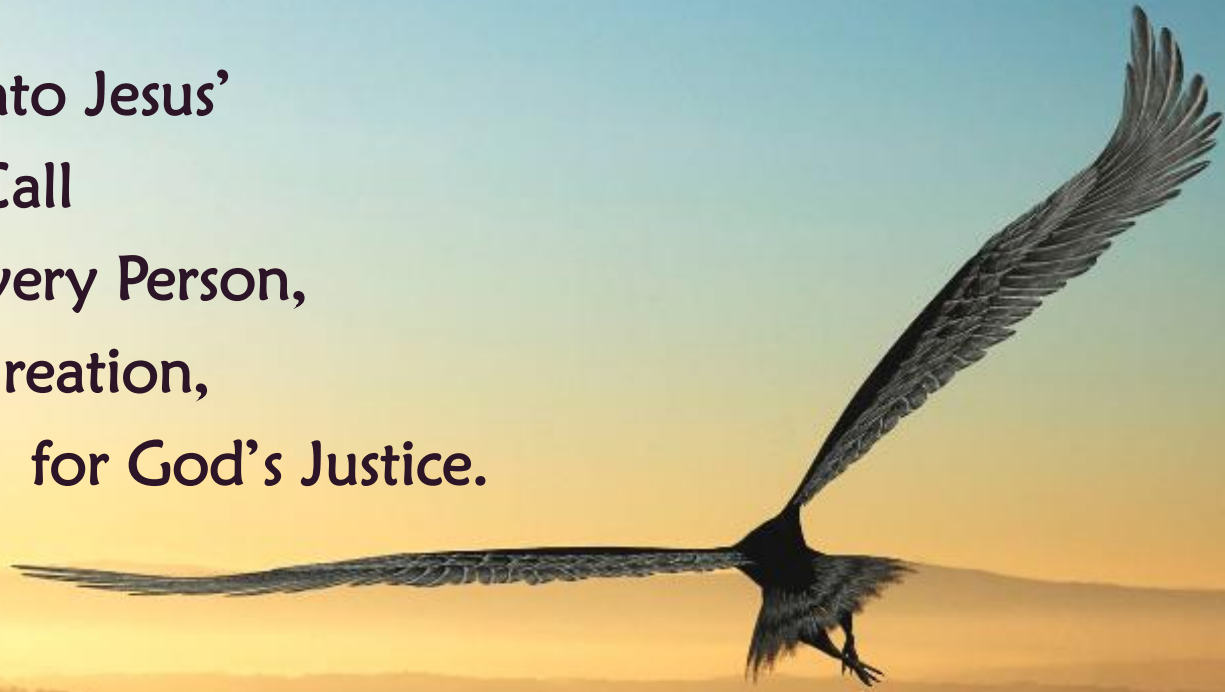




DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



July 5th, 2026

Celebration of Worship

July 5th, 2026 10:00 AM

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

[Click Here to Worship Online](#)

*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 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

Bird Song

Heather Masse
(Wailin' Jennys)

Words of Welcome

Reverend Kristina Hansen

Announcements

John DeHority

Chime

Introit

Be Like the Bird

Abbie Betinis

"Be like the bird that, pausing in her flight awhile on boughs too slight, feels them give way beneath her -- and sings -- knowing she hath wings."

*Call to Worship

One: Siblings in Christ, we have come together to worship God

Many: Who call us to freedom through Jesus Christ.

One: For the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free!

**Many: We did not receive the spirit of bondage to fall back into fear,
but we have received the spirit of the children of God!**

One: In the name of our God who unsettles and inspires us,

Many: let us give our praise and thanks!

*Hymn

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound
(Verses 1-4 —Music may be found on page 10.)

MCKEE

Prayer of Invocation

Holy One, we come before you today:
full of hope, full of desire, full of promise.
Help us take up the mantle of faith
you have laid before us,
that we may use our own gifts of the Spirit
to face the challenges before us.
Help us face the turmoil within and around us,
that we may face the future unafraid.
Show us how to be fully who you made us to be
that we may joyously express the Fruit of the Spirit.
In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Gracious Lord,
you have blessed us with freedom—
freedom to follow or to turn away;
freedom to love or to hate;
freedom to heal or to hurt.
Forgive us when we do not follow your ways
and so fail to love our neighbors as ourselves.
In the midst of our turbulent lives,
reveal to us the gifts you set within us
and help us claim these gifts today.
In Jesus' name we pray.

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

One: Holy One, You call each of us beloved. Each of us cherished. Each of us desired. Each of us sacred.

Many: For this, we give you thanks now and forever! Amen.

Hebrew Scriptures Reading

Psalm 1

Nan C. Merrill

Music for Reflection Faith Is the Bird that Feels the Light Elizabeth Alexander

"Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark."

Rabindranath Tagore

New Testament Reading Galatians 5:1, 13-22

Sermon Free Yourself to be Fully You

Pastor Kristina

*Hymn Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

MADELEINE

(Music may be found on page 11.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Healing and Justice

The Prayer of Jesus † 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music People Got to Be Free

Cavaliere/Brigati

Arr. Kirby Shaw

*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

"Holy One, as we present our offerings today, we are reminded of your great love for us. May these gifts be used to spread your love to others, bringing hope and healing to a world in need. Thank you for your love that never fails us. Amen."

*Hymn

For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free

MATERNA

1. "For freedom, Christ has set us free!"

What joy is ours to claim!

No more enslaved, humanity

Finds life in Jesus' name.

We try, Lord, to be justified

Through all the works we do.

Yet you adopt us, saying, "Child,

It's Christ who makes you new."

2. We're clothed in Christ and we belong;

Now no one waits outside.

In him we find our common song;

Old ways no more divide.

"It is no longer I who live,

But Christ who lives in me."

He died for us, new life to give —

And new identity.

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Sacrament of Holy Communion (by Kurt Stuckmeyer, mod.)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

For the power of love in human life and history,

We give thanks and praise.

Long ago our ancestors knew love's power

and they became the tellers of love's tale.

Love bound them in covenant,
teaching them to live in community
**with compassion and concern
for the poorest among them.**

Yet centuries of domination and violence
shaped a different kind of community
based on selfishness and inequality.

In the struggle against oppression,
**Jesus became the face of love,
showing us the way to abundant life.**

In word and deed, he announced love's new reign
of justice, reconciliation, and peace.

Filled with the courage and passion of love's spirit,
**he gave his life to challenge
the unjust systems of this world.**

On the night of his betrayal and arrest,
as he shared a meal with his friends,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his followers, saying:
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,

do this in remembrance of me.

God of love, Spirit of compassion,
bless us and this bread and wine.

May this meal be food and drink for our journey—
renewing, sustaining, and making us whole.

**When we eat this bread and drink from this cup
we experience again the presence of Jesus in our midst.**

The table is ready.

All are welcome.

Therefore, let us share the feast!

Lifting the bread:

The bread of life for all who hunger. **Amen.**

Lifting the cup:

The cup of compassion for a broken world. **Amen.**

*Hymn

For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free

MATERNA

3. Now, Spirit-filled, may we be led

From ways that would destroy.

May we your people turn instead

To lives of love and joy.

May we find peace that makes us whole

And patience everywhere.

God, give us kindness, self-control,

And hearts and hands that share.

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Benediction

Postlude

One Voice

Ruth Moody

Arr. Marcelline Moody

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...

Pastor: The Rev. Kristina Hansen,

Liturgist: John DeHority

Musicians: Isa Apodaca, Izzy Granger, Leah Rosenman and Lee Wright

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

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Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 5

9:00AM Musicians' Warm-up

9:45AM Nursery

10:00AM Worship

11:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Tuesday, July 7

5:30PM Justice Team Mtg., Zoom

Wednesday, July 8

3:00PM DEIB Mtg via Zoom

Thursday, July 9

5:00PM Finance Team Mtg via Zoom

7:30PM Property Team Mtg, Zoom

Sunday, July 12

9:00AM Musicians' Warm-up

9:45AM Nursery

10:00AM Worship

11:00PM Refreshments, Sanctuary



Rochester Pride Parade

Saturday, July 18, 2026

Join us at 11AM on South Avenue

Come March with the Presbyterian Pride Posse

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 6 years and under either in the church library or C-23 on the second floor. Check with an usher. Parents are welcome to stay with their children if they would like.

Sunday School - Is on summer recess and will return in the fall. Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Young Disciples" and then will remain in the service.

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>.

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

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1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who

earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,

for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -

path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1993
 MUSIC: Donna Kasbohm, 1995
 Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press
 Music © 1997 The Pilgrim Press

MADELEINE
 8.7.8.7.8.7

The Downtown Church Staff

Jackie Beltran, Accounting Specialist
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
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes,
Sunday School Teacher

Robin Sheikh, Office Administrator
Ebony Smalls, Evening Receptionist
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Me'sha 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

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