



Davidson College Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

Today is the Third Sunday in the worship season of Lent, a period of reflection in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Purple is the worship color for Lent. Worship services during this season often include elements like a kyrie (see bulletin) and special liturgies (words used in worship).

The tall colorful banners in the Sanctuary and Chapel represent our international partnerships with the Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kenya and the Kilambe communities in Nicaragua. They have identical banners in their worship spaces. Learn more about our partnerships at our website or use this QR code.



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude My Heart is Ever Yearning Johannes Brahms

*** Call to Worship**

One: Worship is a place to rest.
All: We breathe deeply here.
 One: We still our aching bones.
All: We sit in the quiet.
 One: We surround ourselves with music.
All: Worship is a place to rest.
 One: Worship is a place to grow.
All: We listen for God's word.
 One: We invite it to challenge us.
All: We lean in with curiosity.
 One: We ask questions.
All: Worship is a place to grow.
 One: So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.
All: For where two or more are gathered, God is always there.
 One: Let us worship our gracious God.

*** Hymn 32** I Sing the Mighty Power of God ELLACOMBE

Prayer of Confession

One: Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest.
All: We stretch ourselves too thin. We say "yes" to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.
 One: There are also days when we fail to act.
All: We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction.
 One: God, forgive our imbalance.
All: Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.

Our prayer continues in silent personal confession.

Kyrie, Hymn 437 You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy! WAYFARING

All Sing:
You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Declaration of Love

One: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

All: **God's grace is deeper than the ocean. God's love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

* Passing of the Peace

One: Jesus Christ has broken down the walls that separate us, so that we might meet with one another in the middle. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

All: **Creator God, Your Word is like soil, something we can root ourselves in. Your Word is like the sun, big enough to touch everything with its warmth. And your Word is like a gardener, a love that prunes and encourages, waters and delights, seeds and tends. So as we turn to your text today, warm our bones, tend to our broken pieces, and show us how to grow. With hope we pray, Amen.**

Time with Children

JESUS LOVES ME

All Sing:

**Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.**

Scripture

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Musical Offering

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Michael Larkin

Scripture

Luke 13:6-9

Sermon

Now the Green Blade Rises

Peter Henry

* Hymn 216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ST. CHRISTOPHER

Use this QR code to fill out the online friendship pad.



Responding to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe in a God who loves and tends to us like a gardener. We believe that like the trees, some seasons are for growth, and some seasons are for rest. Some days require pruning, and some require planting. Fortunately, we believe that our green-thumbed God sees us and cultivates the sweetest fruit. So may we plant roots, reach for the sky, grow where we can, and rest when we need, for we believe there is holiness in the pruning and in the planting. And we do not grow alone. Thanks be to God, amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory (8:45)
(11:00)

Gaelic Blessing
My Heart is Ever Yearning

John Rutter
Johannes Brahms

* Doxology, Hymn 35, v. 3

LOBE DEN HERREN

All Sing:

**Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.**

* Prayer of Dedication

Taking the Word into the World

* Hymn 722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

CANONBURY

* Benediction

* Postlude

Aberystwyth

Ashley Grote

Please use this QR code to make an online gift to support our ministries. When you do so, you are impacting the lives of neighbors near and far, including Cuba, Nicaragua, Kenya as well as Huntersville and Cornelius.



Worship Leaders

Preacher – Peter Henry Liturgists – John Ryan, Art Gooray and Matthew Merrell (11:00)
Musicians – David Brinson, Sarah Allred, Chancel and Geneva Choirs
Technology – Bill Hatfield (8:45), Kline Pepper and Ben Slay (11:00)
Greeters – Sue Farina, Bev Mitchell, Jan Tevepaugh, Janet Webb (11:00)
Ushers – Lewis Barber, Mary Jane McLean, Joel Ritchie (11:00)
Our art, theme and words for worship during this season of Lent come from A Sanctified Art.

Davidson College Presbyterian Church

[A congregation of the Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#)

www.dcpc.org



Like us on Facebook:
@dcpreschurch

P.O. Box 337
100 N. Main Street,
Davidson, NC 28036

704-892-5641
info@dcpc.org



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@dcpreschurch

Staff

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor | Peter Henry | phenry@dcpc.org |
| Associate Pastors | Robert Alexander | On sabbatical |
| | John Ryan | jryan@dcpc.org |
| Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry | Caitlyn Zold | czold@dcpc.org |
| Parish Associate | Deborah Conner | dconner@dcpc.org |
| Director of Music | David Brinson | dbrinson@dcpc.org |
| Associate Director of Music | Sarah Allred | sallred@dcpc.org |
| Staff Associate for Youth | Currently vacant | jryan@dcpc.org |
| Staff Associate for Children | Jenny Alexander | jalexander@dcpc.org |
| Preschool Director | Kristin Clark | kclark@dcpc.org |
| Assistant Preschool Director | Jan Tevepaugh | jtevepaugh@dcpc.org |
| Director of Membership and Communications | Stephanie Malushizky | smalushizky@dcpc.org |
| Church Administrator | Harriett Rosebrough | hrosebrough@dcpc.org |
| Administrative Assistant | Rhonda Boggs | rboggs@dcpc.org |
| Administrative Assistant | Mariette Levert | mlevert@dcpc.org |
| Bookkeeper | Trish Jones | pjones@dcpc.org |
| Custodian | Peggy Tilley | ptilley@dcpc.org |

Davidson College Presbyterian Church is part of the [PC\(USA\)](#). As a member of the [Covenant Network of Presbyterians](#), we are a welcoming, affirming, and inclusive faith community where all are **one in Christ**. We are a **Matthew 25, Earth Care and Stephen Ministry congregation on the corner of campus and community**. Our congregation celebrates partnerships in Christ with the **Sigona Presbyterian Church in Kikuyu, Kenya; and the Kilambe communities in Jinotega, Nicaragua; and Blythe Elementary School in Huntersville, NC**. Together we seek to grow in witnessing to Christ in a complex world and to learn more about how to respond as disciples to the great needs of the world. Our sanctuary stands on lands once occupied by the indigenous communities of the Catawba people and our first worship space was built with bricks made by enslaved people. We remember them to God as we honor and recognize them in worship.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in worship. Children's worship bags and bulletins are available at the entrances.

We provide free childcare for ages 0 to 6 in Room 14, which is in the lower level of the Main Building.

Hearing Assistance Devices

Our devices are available in baskets at each entrance to the sanctuary. Each receiver pack has one of two cords: a simple in-ear piece and a T-Coil neck loop. If you need assistance, please see a worship leader.

Pew Cushions

A limited number of pew cushions are available for worshipers with back issues in the narthex.

Narthex Bathrooms

The bathrooms in the narthex (the entry way from the campus, at the back of the sanctuary) are all-gender bathrooms.