



DANVILLE
Congregational Church

Fruits of the Spirit

Cultivating the
Beloved Community

PRELUDE

The Fruit of the Spirit

arr. J.K. Bailey

WELCOME & BREATH PRAYER

Rev. Lauren Jewett

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad, pass it to another.

Place your signed sheet in the offering plate.

To offer a prayer, fill out a Prayer Card which will be collected during Prayer Time.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Karol Mead

**All are invited to rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

One: Sometimes the journey is long,
and the way ahead seems impossible.

All: Still, we continue.

One: Sometimes the storms come, and all we can do is hold on.

All: Still, we are held by Love.

One: Sometimes we grow weary,
and even the smallest step feels like too much.

All: Then we rest, trusting that rest is part of the journey.

One: And sometimes, when we look back,
we discover how far we've come.

**All: Not because we traveled alone,
but because Love has accompanied us all along.**

One: So come, beloved community. Bring your weariness,
your courage, your hope, and your determination.

**All: Together, we will keep growing.
Together, we will keep going.
Together, we will worship God!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Karol

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another and pass the peace of Christ.

1. How firm a foundation for you has been laid,
by God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!
What more can God say than to you has been said,
to you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand."
3. "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of woe shall not over you flow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
delivering you from your deepest distress."
4. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace all-sufficient shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have designed
your soul to make pure just as gold is refined."
5. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

TIME WITH CHILDREN/MODERN LESSON

Nancy Halseth

*Inspired by a centuries-old Eastern proverb:
 "A snail climbing Mt. Fuji will eventually reach the top."
 Afterward, children are invited to
 meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.*

A little snail named Silo set out to climb a massive, ancient oak tree to reach the sweet, tender leaves at the top. The birds flew there instantly, but Silo knew their journey would take months.

As they crawled up the rough bark, a grasshopper mocked him from below: "Give up, Silo! Summer will be over before you even reach the first branch." Silo simply replied, "Every inch brings me closer than I was yesterday," and kept moving.

Weeks later, a violent storm shook the tree, threatening to tear them from the bark. Exhausted and terrified, Silo couldn't advance, but they refused to retreat. Silo retreated into their shell and gripped the tree with all their might until the weather cleared.

Months passed, and the animals below forgot about Silo. But one crisp autumn afternoon, Silo pulled themselves onto the highest branch, looking down at the ground far below. Silo had conquered the giant tree not through speed, but through an unstoppable series of tiny steps.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Romans 5:3-4](#)
Easy English Bible

Doug Leich

We are happy even when we have troubles and pain. That is because we know that those troubles help us to become patient and strong. And when we remain strong, we show that we trust God. When we trust God like that, it causes us to hope for God's help.

SERMON

The Refusal to Surrender Hope

Pastor Lauren

ANTHEM

We Will Rise: A Song of Perseverance and Resilience Lea Morris

*We are going to keep moving though our limbs grow tired.
We are going to keep striving toward the light.
We are going to keep choosing to be true to life.
We will fall and we will rise.*

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Lauren

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

TIME OF GIVING

Doug

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Perseverance

Berlinist
arr. David Peabody

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*Offertory Prayer

For those of you who have already made a gift by check or automated giving, we are grateful. If you would like to make a gift today, please place it in the offering plate or give using the website, or scan the QR code using your mobile device.



*CLOSING HYMN

Guide My Feet

#497

1. Guide my feet while I run this race,
guide my feet while I run this race,
guide my feet while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain.
2. Hold my hand while I run this race,
hold my hand while I run this race,
hold my hand while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain!
3. I'm your child while I run this race,
I'm your child while I run this race,
I'm your child while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain!
4. Stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race,
Stand by me while I run this race,
For I don't want to run this race in vain!

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Lauren

*People of God, carry the light out with you as you depart in hope and love.
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Space for REFLECTION

*Use this page to follow along with the sermon
and take it home to continue and reflect.*

What does the feeling of perseverance (and/or associated feelings) feel like in your body? What part of your body do you feel perseverance (and/or associated feelings) in?

When did you persevere and it was the healthy decision to keep going?

When did you persevere and it was an unhealthy decision for you?

What messages about perseverance did you receive in your family/culture of origin?

What do you think about those messages now?

How would you re-write them?

How do you discern when it is helpful to persevere or not?



What's HAPPENING

Congregational Meeting and Vote

Sunday, October 25 | after worship

In June, the congregation approved the budget which included the minister of children, youth and community engagement (70% of a full-time equivalent) A transition team that was formed, met over the past few months and recommended calling Lauren Jewett to the new position. The church council voted and approved the recommendation. DCC members will vote this recommendation at the congregational meeting/potluck luncheon—bring a main dish or side dish—the Emmaus team has desserts covered. Contact Alene Riley with any questions or comments.

Trunk or Treat

Monday, October 26 | 5:00pm

We're looking for a parking lot full of DCC folk to decorate their trunks (as simple or as over-the-top as they want!) and person "trick-or-treat" stations during Dayspring's Trunk-or-Treat. If you're able to join, email the church office.

All Saints Sunday

Sunday November 1

During the Time of Prayer, we will pause and remember those saints who have gone on before us. If you would like to honor someone, bring their photo with you (preferably in a frame) to place on the altar before worship begins. (You are welcome to honor more than one person.) If you are unable to be in worship Sunday, you can drop off your photo(s) at the church office any time before October 28th. For folks unable to travel, you can email your photo(s) to the church office with the subject line "All Saints Sunday" before October 28th.

Men's Coffee and Donuts

Tuesdays | 9:00am

Join the men's group for coffee and discussion Tuesdays at 9:00am in Koinonia Hall.

Monthly Lunch Bunch

Sunday, November 1 | noon

Come join the lunch-bunch at [Fat Maddie's in Blackhawk Plaza](#) – 3483 Blackhawk Plaza Circle on the Blackhawk Museum end of Blackhawk Plaza. Park in the old Blackhawk Theaters parking lot at the top of the Circle. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, Paypal or Venmo. Thanks! Please RSVP to Wilson Jackson (925-819-0222 or wrlachev@netzero.com) to let him know you'll be attending.

Morning Prayer

Wednesdays | 10:00am

Pastor Todd facilitates morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10:00am via Zoom and in the Sanctuary. Contact the office or see Wingspan for the link.

Save the DATES

**Long-Range Planning Task Force
Today | after worship**

**Quarterly Congregational Meeting
Sunday, October 25 | after worship**



Use the QR code above to access all the information about these activities.

Preaching SCHEDULE

Next Sunday	Pastor Todd
November 1	Pastor Todd
November 8	Pastor Todd

Note to Worshippers

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to you. Be aware of others’ personal space and space yourselves out in the sanctuary accordingly. Remember to invite consent before shaking hands and hugging. The left-hand section of pews as you enter the sanctuary has been designated for those who are free of scents and perfumes. We ask that your silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary. If you would like to use one of our listening-assistance devices, see the sound technician in the back of the sanctuary. Worship time is generally 70 minutes—75 on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month.

First-Time Guests

Welcome to Danville Congregational Church! *We are glad you have joined us today.* We’d love to share with you what is happening at DCC. If you’re willing, provide your contact information on the Guest Info cards available in the Narthex or on one of the sheets in the blue pew pads passed around early in the service. Our Welcome Commissioner, Joyce Klassen, and our pastors are glad to connect with you and share more about DCC. [Feel free to ask any of our members as well!] We look forward to connecting with you!

Land Acknowledgement

DCC acknowledges that the land this house of worship sits upon is the traditional, unceded land of the Ohlone and Bay Miwok people. We offer this land acknowledgment as a sign of respect, with the knowledge that this land was sacred before we ever arrived.

Open and Affirming Congregation

DCC is an Open and Affirming church, welcoming **all** of God’s people—of diverse race, age, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental, and emotional ability.

Emerging Anti-Racist Church

Since 2020, DCC has been on a journey of healing and solidarity as we strive, as an expression of our faith, to undo systems of white supremacy within the Christian church and in the wider culture. We realize this work will never be finished but strive to become *Anti-Racist* as a community, in our worship, and our ministry together.

Families with Children

Godly Play (for children ages preschool through 5th grade) is offered immediately following Time With Children. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play. Our nursery is available for those who wish to access it.

Prayer Requests

The DCC Prayer Team prays daily for those in need of prayers. To submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else, contact a pastor or send an email to prayers@danvillechurch.org. Requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours remotely on Monday and in the office Tuesday through Thursday. To meet with Pastor Todd, reach out to him directly via phone or text (510.710.1280) or at todd@danvillechurch.org. **Pastor Lauren** keeps regular office hours Tuesdays and Wednesdays and remotely on Thursdays. You can reach Pastor Lauren by phone or text (510.684.9183) or at lauren@danvillechurch.org.

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

Senior Pastor The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley
Minister of Youth &
Community Engagement The Rev. Lauren Jewett
Music Director John Kendall Bailey
Office & Communications
Manager Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam

Church Leadership

Co-Moderators Alene Riley & Heidi Bridgeman
Vice Moderator Dianne Dorn
Financial Secretary..... Doug Leich
Acting Treasurer Steve Bridgeman
Clerk Eileen Ackley
Building and Grounds Tom Sonnemann
Children and Youth..... Pastor Lauren
Community Life..... Kyra Kennedy
Dayspring Preschool Nancy Halseth
Journeys in Faith Carrie Hrousis
Outreach Doug Leich
Stewardship..... Barb DeBarger
Welcome and Media..... Joyce Klassen
Worship Tahir Mahmood

Dayspring Preschool Staff

Director Maria Arroyo
Administrative Assistant..... Stacey Perez

Upcoming Gatherings

10/18
SUNDAY

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30AM Worship In-person and Online
10:45AM Fellowship (Koinonia Hall)
11:15AM Long Range Planning Second Hour
11:15AM Children, Youth and Commission Meeting

10/20
TUESDAY

9:00AM Men's Coffee and Donuts
4:00PM Finance Committee Meeting

10/21
WEDNESDAY

10:00AM Morning Prayer (Sanctuary or Zoom)
10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

10/22
THURSDAY

6:00PM Council Meeting



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