23rd Sunday after Pentecost | November 1, 2026



PRELUDE *The Fruit of the Spirit* arr. J.K. Bailey

WELCOME & BREATH PRAYER Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley & 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 Miguel Atkins-Whitley

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

One: We gather today as a people of hope.
All: Hope that is sometimes challenged,
hope that sometimes feels thin,
but hope rooted in the grace of God.
One: We gather today as a people rooted in hope.
All: Hope that reminds us we are held through our grief,
our challenges, our woes.
One: We gather today as a people living in hope.
All: Hope that trusts nothing will ever separate us from
God's love.
One: Let us worship today grounded in a stubborn hope.
All: Amen!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Miguel

One: Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Let us greet one another and pass the peace of Christ.

*OPENING HYMN *My Hope Is Built* #403

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When shadows veil my Savior's face, I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

Christ's oath and covenant and blood support me in the rising flood;
When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay.
[Refrain]

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

A gluten-free station is available for those who need it.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

SURSUM CORDA

One: God is with us.
All: And with all creation.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them in hope.
One: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**All: God of enduring Love, thank you for this bread and cup,
for the people who have nourished our lives,
and for the community that holds us today.
As we leave this table,
may we carry your love into an uncertain world,
trusting that Love is still at work,
even beyond what we can see. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

*Afterward, children are invited to
meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 5:4–5, 8:38–39 Miguel

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. And when we hope like that, it will not disappoint us. That is because we know that God loves us very much. God has given their Holy Spirit to be with us. The Holy Spirit causes us to know God's love very well.

I am sure of this. Nothing can stop God from loving us. Death cannot do that. Life cannot do that. Angels cannot do that, nor can demons do that. Nothing that happens to us now, or that will happen in a future time can do that. No powerful spirits can do that. Nothing that is high above the world can do that, nor anything that is deep down below the ground. Nothing else in the whole universe can stop God from loving us. Because of our Lord Christ Jesus, we know how much God loves us.

SERMON The Defiance of Hope Pastor Todd

TIME OF PRAYER Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

All Saints' Day Remembrance

Taizé *Jesus, Remember Me* Jacques Berthier

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

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 Miguel

Invitation to Give

Offertory *For All the Saints* arr. Chas Hathaway

*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.

Missed a service or just want to watch it again?
Email the office for the YouTube link.

WORK OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Lauren

*CLOSING HYMN *We Set Our Hope in Jesus*

We set our hope in Jesus whose grace we have received.
We trust that he will lead us as we roll up our sleeves.
With great anticipation of what we're called to do,
we join in celebration as God does something new.

We wonder at the struggles — the challenges we'll face.
Like those who came before us, we'll need God's gift of grace.
We'll take the yoke Christ gives us; we're ready to say "Yes!"
For God in Christ has called us to preach and heal and bless.

We cannot stay in towers we think that we deserve;
For ministry that matters, we need to kneel and serve.
We need the mud of mission, the grime of ministry,
We're called to serve with daring as we roll up our sleeves.

Where youth are asking questions, where people live in pain,
where strangers face unwelcome, where racist ways remain,
where people need a message that heals and claims and frees —
God, give to us your Spirit, as we roll up our sleeves!

- Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*BENEDICTION Pastor Todd

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 do you notice that's different about the bulletin image or sanctuary tree this week?

What part of a fruiting plant best represents hope to you? Why?

What helps you hold on to hope when it feels thin?

How does hope help us imagine possibilities we cannot yet see?

What does “stubborn hope” mean to you?

What will you carry with you from worship today?

What's HAPPENING

Children, Youth & Families Commission Meeting

Today | after worship

The Children, Youth, and Families Commission will be meeting in the Godly Play room. All are welcome to join. Please contact Pastor Lauren with any questions.

Anti-Racism Coffee Chat

Today | after worship

There will be an Anti-Racism Coffee Chat today in Kairos Hall. All are welcome to attend, including Lunch Bunchers who are welcome to leave our chat before noon. Doug Leich and Karol Mead will facilitate. Looking forward to chatting with you!

Monthly Lunch Bunch

Sunday, November 1 | noon

Come join the lunch-bunch at Fat Maddie's in Blackhawk Plaza – 3483 Blackhawk Plaza Circle. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, Paypal or Venmo.

Worship Commission Zoom Meeting

Monday, November 2 | 1:00pm

Worship Commission will have its quarterly meeting. Anyone interested in joining the group or just attending the meeting as we prepare for the busy and exciting Advent and Christmas seasons can get the zoom link from the church office or from Tahir Mahmood mahmoods200@hotmail.com to attend the meeting.

Men's Coffee and Donuts

Tuesdays | 9:00am

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

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

Hanging of the Greens

November 22 | after worship

Luncheon and Cookie Exchange:

December 13 | after worship



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

Preaching SCHEDULE

Next Sunday..... Pastor Todd
November 8 ..... Pastor Todd
November 15 ..... Pastor Todd
November 22 ..... 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

11/1 SUNDAY
8:30AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30AM Worship In-person and Online
10:45AM Fellowship (Koinonia Hall)
11:15AM Children, Youth & Families Commission Meeting (Godly Play room)
11:15AM Anti-Racism Coffee Chat (Kairos Hall)
12:00PM Monthly Lunch Bunch (Fat Maddie's)

11/2 MONDAY
1:00PM Worship Commission Zoom Meeting (contact Tahir Mahmood for link)

11/3 TUESDAY
9:00AM Men's Coffee and Donuts

11/4 WEDNESDAY
10:00AM Morning Prayer (Sanctuary or Zoom)
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal



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