



*We welcome all.*

*North Decatur Presbyterian Church is called by God to be a community of faith and worship, dedicated to Christian education and nurture so that we may go into the world to serve, work for peace and justice and share God's love with all people.*

611 Medlock Road, Decatur, GA 30033  
[www.ndpc.org](http://www.ndpc.org)

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 21, 2021

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent*

11:00AM

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### **PREPARATION & ADORATION**

WELCOME SONG

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

NDPC Balcony Choir



1. Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,  
2. Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;  
3. Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.  
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.  
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,  
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;  
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.  
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.  
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, ©1991 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission  
Tune: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, 7.6.7.6. D

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Erin Reed Cooper

OPENING PRAYER  
Cooper

Rev. Erin Reed

As we journey through the Lenten season, we invite your sung prayers. The NDPC staff has written a Kyrie together and we invite you to listen as it is intoned on the tongue drum, then join in song as you're invited by Paul. We pray these ancient words, ever aware of the need for God's love and mercy in our lives and in our world.

We will let these words from Wendell Berry guide our prayer.

*"It may be that when we no longer know what to do,  
we have come to our real work."*

Leader: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy  
On us. On us.

**All: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy  
On us. On us.**

*"And that when we no longer know which way to go  
we have come to our real journey."*

Leader: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy

On us. On us.

**All: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy  
On us. On us.**

*"The mind that is not baffled is not employed  
The impeded stream is the one that sings."*

Leader: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy  
On us. On us. On us.

**All: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy  
On us. On us. On us.**

Merciful God, help us to make music from the stones in our streams. Employ our minds. Lead us on the real journey. And let us imitate your mercy as we share Christ's Peace with one another.

#### PASSING THE PEACE

*During the Passing of the Peace, share a sign of peace with others in your home and greet others who are worshipping online by writing messages in the comment/chat section.*

### PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READING

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SERMON

*Journey into the Wilderness*

Rob Schoonover

### DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father [Mother] in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*Our **Change 4 Change** offering during goes to **CEDEPCA, our ministry partner in Guatemala**. Last November, two hurricanes (Eta and Iota) hit the northeastern coast of Guatemala. More than 200 people died and over 6,000,000 were affected. The area was unreachable for weeks, but CEDEPCA responded as quickly as they could with food bags and essential items for living. The area continues to struggle so CEDEPCA has created a 2021 plan that includes: more food bags, seeds, hens and chicken coops, stoves, psychosocial workshops and spiritual accompaniment. Make a generous gift today. Text '**NDPC C4C \$20 (or any amount)**' to **73256** to give to give to Change for Change.*

*Members who've made a 2021 pledge are encouraged to give through automatic payment arranged through their bank or to send a check by mail. Visitors and those giving outside a pledge, are encouraged to mail checks to NDPC, 611 Medlock Rd, Decatur, GA 30033, donate*

through Paypal at [www.ndpc.org](http://www.ndpc.org), or **Text 'NDPC \$20' (or any amount) to 73256** to give to the church's general fund.

To make a **pledge for 2021**, go to the [giving page](#) on [ndpc.org](http://ndpc.org).

#### OFFERTORY SONG

*The Journey of a Thousand Miles*

Words and Music: Paul Vasile,  
based on a teaching of Laozi from the *Tao Te Ching*

The journey of thousand miles begins with one step.  
The journey of thousand miles begins with one step.  
O though we may not know where the road will lead,  
we know that Love will always guide our feet.  
The journey of thousand miles begins with one step.

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*  
African-American Spiritual, arr. David Cherwein

#### **NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:**

##### **Music Credits:**

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey* – Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan, ©1991, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Music: MERLE'S TUNE, Hal Hopson

*Lord, Have Mercy*: Text: Trad. Liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008. Music: Erin Reed Cooper and Paul Vasile, ©2021

*The Journey of a Thousand Miles* – Words: A teaching of Laozi from the *Tao Te Ching*, Paul Vasile, Music: Paul M. Vasile, LovedIntoBeing Music ©2018

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**Video Editor:** Tim Merritt

#### **WELCOME VISITORS**

We're happy that you've joined us online today. We hope you will join us in person when we resume in-person worship after the pandemic subsides.

We come from many backgrounds, traditions, and cultures to worship at NDPC. We invite you to use the language, both for God and for persons, that is authentic to you.

#### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**If you would like to** donate flowers, volunteer to serve as an usher or liturgist, or submit comments or suggestions about worship, please email [worship@ndpc.org](mailto:worship@ndpc.org).

**Recent sermons** are available for online listening at <http://ndpc.org/worship/sermon-podcasts>.

## **CONTACT NDPC:**

The NPDC Office is closed. All members and visitors must alert staff when you plan to be on campus. Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: [office@ndpc.org](mailto:office@ndpc.org)

### Pastoral Care:

**Revs. David Lewicki and Beth Waltemath** are co-pastors of North Decatur Presbyterian Church. Beth or David are available to meet with any person seeking pastoral care or conversation. To schedule an appointment, contact them directly by email or by phoning the church office. David Lewicki ([david@ndpc.org](mailto:david@ndpc.org)); Beth Waltemath ([beth@ndpc.org](mailto:beth@ndpc.org))

**Rev. Mary Anona Stoops** is available to visit with senior adults at church or at your home. To schedule an appointment, contact her by phone in the church office or by email: [maryanona@ndpc.org](mailto:maryanona@ndpc.org)

For urgent needs, call the co-pastors' emergency cell phone: 404-981-NDPC (6372).

## **NDPC STAFF:**

Elizabeth Waltemath, *Co-Pastor, head of staff*  
David Lewicki, *Co-Pastor*  
Mary Anona Stoops, *Pastor for Older Adult Formation*  
Erin Reed Cooper, *Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries*  
Paul Vasile, *Interim Virtual Music Director*  
Kendra Peebles, *Ministry Fellow*  
Robert Schoonover, *Ministry Fellow*  
Nancy Weitnauer, *Operations Coordinator*  
Javier Sanchez, *Custodian*