



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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 11th, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

11:00 AM

** We stand in body or spirit*

Our Advent banners were made by the NDPC Many Hands liturgical arts team, using a design created by A Sanctified Art artist Hannah Garrity. About this design, Hannah writes:

"Let there be light." The birth of the cosmos intersects with awaiting Jesus' birth this Advent. As a team, we were particularly drawn to the image of light shining in the lectionary texts this season. As with every year, Jesus' impending birth brings the light of hope to humanity. In the book of John, I imagine the poetic blend of the beginning of time and the beginning of Jesus' tenure as a burst of light from the swirl of the cosmos. In this banner design, the biblical texts for the four Sundays of Advent are represented in four quadrants of the two banners.

Hannah says about this week's focus:

For the 3rd Sunday of Advent, the upper right quadrant shows the ideas of paths becoming straight, praise and righteousness springing up, and God crying for humanity.

PREPARATION & ADORATION

PRELUDE

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming
La Marche des Rois
Wonder! Wonder!

arr. Bernard Dewagtere
arr. B. Dewagtere
arr. Mike Magatagan

Leah Jacobmann, violin; Ezekiel Werner, violin; Natalie Wallace, viola; Eric Chen, cello

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors are invited to leave your name and contact information by signing the Welcome Pad or by using the QR code on back of the bulletin.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

after Psalm 126
Mary Todaro, liturgist

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion after the exile,

we were like those living a dream.

Our mouths were filled with laughter

and our tongues released shouts of joy.

The Lord has done great things for us,

so we rejoice!

**Restore our community, O Lord,
like the rivers and streams that sustain our common life.**

May those who have sown the ground with our tears
reap with shouts of joy.

* GATHERING SONG *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* Glory to God #97

ADVENT MEDITATION *Conversations with God* by Rev. Sarah Are
Joy, Tim Merritt and Mary Louise Cromwell

Lee Butler designed and made the stoles for our readers in the liturgical colors of Advent season with the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love in Ukrainian, Latin, Spanish and Scottish Gaelic.

SILENT PRAYER

* LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

And God leaned back and laughed the most musical, heart-filled, soul-reaching laugh I'd ever heard, and that's when I remembered—joy is contagious, and it is a gift.

**And then I started singing...
Let there be joy!**

* RESPONSE *While We Are Waiting, Come* Glory to God #92

* PASSING THE PEACE

*Share a sign of peace by learning "Peace be with you" in American Sign Language.
Children 1st grade and below may leave to go to Extended Session or remain in the pew.*

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

SERMON Let There Be Joy Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM *O Magnum Mysterium* by Morten Lauridsen
NDPC Community Choir ©1995 Southern Music Publishing Co.
Leah Jacobmann, violin; Ezekiel Werner, violin; Natalie Wallace, viola; Eric Chen, cello

*O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in their manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Victoria Robinson

Our [Divine Parent] in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*Please make a generous gift today. All gifts made to Change for Change in the month of December will support the Pastors' Discretionary Fund to provide for emergency needs within our congregation and among our neighbors. Text **'NDPC C4C \$20 (or any amount)' to 73256** to give to give to Change for Change. Members who've made a 2022 pledge are encouraged to give through automatic payment arranged through their bank or to send a check by mail.*

To make a **pledge for 2023**, go to the "Give" page on ndpc.org.

* CLOSING SONG

Canticle of the Turning

Glory to God #100

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

by J. S. Bach

Leah Jacobmann, violin; Ezekiel Werner, violin; Natalie Wallace, viola; Eric Chen, cello

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Image of the Day: Good News of Great Joy, by Sarah Are, inspired by Luke 2:1-20, graphic image

Flowers are given by the Worship Committee.

Music & Lyrics are printed/streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-719269 and CCLI #21115205 & 21115212; CCS PERFORMmusic & WORSHIPcast License #14957

Livestream and video are produced by NDPC volunteers. If you would like to help with our weekly audio and video production, come up to the balcony and introduce yourself to the team.

WELCOME, VISITORS!

We're happy that you've joined us! Please introduce yourself to those around you as you are comfortable. You may share your email address with us by using the QR code on this bulletin—we will send you our weekly e-newsletter. You can learn more about NDPC's ministries and social justice work at www.ndpc.org. We come from different backgrounds, traditions, and cultures to worship. Please use language and pronouns for God and for yourself that are authentic to you. After worship, the pastors would love to meet you.



Welcome, Visitors!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Children are always welcome in worship at NDPC. We also offer a nursery for babies and Extended Session childcare for Preschool - 1st grade during the 11:00 service. For Extended Session, please walk your child down the education hallway before worship, or meet a volunteer in the narthex after the Children's Word in Worship.

Magnifying glasses and large print hymnals are available in the lobby. **Hearing assist devices** are also available. Ask an usher and they will gladly help.

If you would like to donate flowers, volunteer to serve as an usher or liturgist, or share comments about worship, email worship@ndpc.org.

Videos of worship services are available at ndpc.org. Subscribe to our **sermon podcast** through any major podcasting service.

CONTACT NDPC: Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: office@ndpc.org

Rev. David Lewicki is available to meet for pastoral care or spiritual conversation either in person or by phone/video call. Email david@ndpc.org.

Rev. Mary Anona Stoops is available to meet by appointment. Email maryanona@ndpc.org.

NDPC STAFF

David Lewicki, *Pastor*

Mary Anona Stoops, *Pastor for Older Adult Formation*

Erin Reed Cooper, *Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries*

Huu Mai, *Music Director*

Mahsheed Khawary, *Office Administrator*

Javier Sanchez, *Custodian*

Victoria Robinson, *Ministry Fellow*

Emily Halbert, *Graduate Music Assistant*