



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

January 8th, 2022

Baptism of the Lord

11:00 AM

** We stand in body or spirit*

PREPARATION & ADORATION

PRELUDE

Joyful Day

Mark Hayes
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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

Carol Tveit, liturgist

In the beginning, darkness covered the deep,
and God said: *Let there be light.*

The Spirit is over the water!

Through the prophet Isaiah, God said:
*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.
Do not fear, I have called you by name; you are mine.*

The Spirit is over the water!

When Jesus was baptized by John,
suddenly the heavens were opened.
And as Jesus was coming out of the water,
the Spirit rested on him like a dove.

The Spirit is over the water!

And when we were baptized, God's voice said to each of us:
You are my beloved child; with you I am so pleased.

The Spirit is over the water!

* GATHERING SONG

Down in the River to Pray

David Leonard, guitar

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way

O *sisters let's go down
Let's go down, come on down
O *sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray

1. Sisters, 2. Brothers, 3. Fathers, 4. Mothers

Children are invited to come forward and sit in front of the baptismal font, alone or with a parent.

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

In the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove and a voice proclaimed to that particular human body, “*You are my beloved child.*”

Friends, today, recall that the same Spirit of God proclaims those same words over your own life and your body through baptism. You are God’s beloveds.

In the sacrament of baptism, God’s Spirit is over the water,

**water that flows freely for all the earth to receive,
water that rolls down from the streams of God’s justice,
water that satisfies all who thirst for righteousness,
water that refreshes life, nurtures growth, and brings new birth.**

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you renounce evil and turn from the power of sin?

We do.

Do you trust in Jesus Christ, and will you let your life be conformed to the life of Jesus Christ?

We do and we will.

Will you pour out your own life to nourish the lives of others in this church and for the whole household of God?

We will.

QUIET REFLECTION

Thanksgiving Over the Water

We give thanks to you, God, for You nourish and sustain all living things with water.

In the beginning of time, your Spirit moved over the watery deep, calling forth life.

In the time of Noah, you destroyed evil by the waters of the flood.

You parted the waters of the sea and led your people to the freedom of the promised land.

In the waters of Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with your Spirit.

God, the life you give us through our baptism into Jesus Christ never ends.

Your justice never fails.

Your Mercy is everlasting.

Your healing river flows.

Your Spirit moves where you will.

Come to us, Holy Spirit! Come over this water.

Come to us, Holy Spirit! Come over these waters.

Let these waters be dewdrops of mercy.

Let these waters carry us to your righteousness and justice.

Let these waters heal us with the life-giving power of Jesus.

Let a taste of these waters make us thirst for the age to come.

Most Holy God, Divine Parent of us all!

Glory to you!

Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!

Glory to you!

Spirit of holiness, Spirit over the water,

Glory to you!

Eternal God, One in Three and Three in One!

All glory is yours, now and forever. Amen.

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE #623

African American spiritual

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

**I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul. (Sung twice)**

I've got joy like a fountain...
I've got love like an ocean...

* 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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 3:13-17

SERMON

Beloved

Rev. Samantha Hudson

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Deep River
David Champion, bass

arr. H. T. Hurleigh

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 December will support Presbyterians for a Better Georgia's policy advocacy at the state capitol to end homelessness, increase affordable housing, and expand access to healthcare. Text **NDPC C4C \$20 (or any amount) to 73256** to give to give to Change for Change. For 2023 pledges, please give through automatic bank payment or send a check by mail.*

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

* CLOSING SONG

Let All Things Now Living (v. 1, 2)

Glory to God #37

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May your life be a river.
May you flow with the purpose
of the One who created
and called you,
who directs your course
and turns you ever
toward home.

May your way shimmer
with the light of Christ
who goes with you

who bears you up
who calls you by name.

May you move
with the grace of the Spirit
who brooded over
the face of the waters
at the beginning
and who will gather you in
at the end.

~ written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>

POSTLUDE

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

arr. Joel Raney

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NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Image of the Day: Hiroshi Senju (Japanese, 1958–), *Waterfall*, 2016. Acrylic and fluorescent pigments on Japanese mulberry paper, 51 × 64 in. Photo courtesy of Sundaram Tagore Gallery. **Flowers** are given by the Worship Committee.

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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*

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Victoria Robinson, *Ministry Fellow*

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