



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

February 26th, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

11:00 AM

** We stand in body or spirit*

About the Art: Salt of the earth, light of the world. The table construction at the front of the sanctuary provides a direct visual of these two important metaphors in Jesus' teachings. A subtler reference to the theme is displayed in the narthex on the central pillar of the liturgical calendar. This dimensional collage includes paper stained with a technique that involves sprinkling wet watercolor with coarse salt and brushing the salt away when it's dried. Other paper tiles evoke golden light, some with literal gold leaf reflecting ambient illumination.

PREPARATION & ADORATION

PRELUDE *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* arr. Anthony Giamanco
Copyright 2021 Anthony Giamanco (Cavatina Music)

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

-Wild Goose Publishing
Anna Kershaw, Liturgist

I	I
I am	I am
I am giving	I am giving
I am giving you	I am giving you
I am giving you me	I am giving you me
I am giving you me, Lord	I am giving you me, my Beloveds
	I am giving you me
	In the beauty of the earth
	And the ugliness of a wooden cross
	In the fullness of the four seasons
	And the emptiness of a tomb
	In warmth for those who are weak
	And the rejection of the mighty
	In the companionship of one another
	And the solitude of a place apart
	God, may the love you have for me
	Be in them
	So that I may also
	Be in them
	And they in us.

* GATHERING SONG *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy (v. 1, 2, 3)* Glory to God #415

MEDITATION

*Each of the images represents one of Jesus' Beatitudes: "Blessed are..."
Do you agree with Jesus, that the people depicted in these images is "blessed?"
What does blessed mean? Happy? Favored by God? God is present with?
How do you understand what it means for you to be blessed?*

SILENT PRAYERS

* ASSURANCE OF GRACE -Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you,
and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy,
and my burden is light."
**When our lives are joined with yours, Christ,
we are forgiven, loved, and free.**

* RESPONSE *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler (v. 1, 4)* Glory to God #183

* PASSING THE PEACE

*Share a sign of peace by learning "Peace be with you" in American Sign Language.
Children may come to the baptismal font for the children's message, with or without a parent.*

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:1-16

WORD IN WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

SERMON *A Different World* David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM *Help Us to Help Each Other, Lord* S. Drummond Wolff
NDPC Community Choir ©1966 Concordia Publishing House

*Help us to help each other, Lord,
each other's cross to bear.
Let each our friendly aid afford
And feel our neighbor's care.
Up into Thee, our Living Head,
Let us in all things grow,
Till Thou hast made us free indeed
And spotless here below.*

*Touched by the loadstone of Thy love,
Let all our hearts agree
And ever toward each other move,
And ever move toward Thee. Amen, Amen.*

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

*All non-pledge gifts made in February will support NDPC's partner in Guatemala, CEDEPCA (The Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America). CEDEPCA is an educational institution that transforms lives and communities by providing training and accompaniment, and by offering spaces for reflection to women and men from diverse Christian traditions and contexts. Text **'NDPC C4C \$20 (or any amount)' to 73256** to give to our Change for Change offering. Gifts may also be put in the offering plate with an usher after worship.*

*To make a pledge payment to NDPC, please give through automatic bank payment or send a check by mail. **To make a new pledge for 2023**, go to the "Give" page on ndpc.org.*

* CLOSING SONG *When the Lord Redeems the Very Least (v. 1, 2, 4)* Glory to God #852

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. Anthony Giamanco

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NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

More on this season's art: the Many Hands group crafts collaborative liturgical artwork with intention and care. The construction process was sticky because of the glue we used, prompting us to muse about the “stickiness” of Lent; the thoughts, habits and mindsets that stick with us even as we yearn to fast from them to make more space for God. We agreed that the variety and uniqueness of each tile evoked our own uniqueness as Lenten seekers, and when we noticed that the tiles suggested fish scales, our imaginations turned quickly to the disciples called by Jesus to leave their catching of fish – and their roles in producing fish paste! – to live fully into God's way.

Image of the Day: Haywood Street Fresco, The Beatitudes, Haywood Street Congregation, Asheville, NC

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*

Huu Mai, *Music Director*

Mahsheed Khawary, *Office Administrator*

Javier Sanchez, *Custodian*

Victoria Robinson, *Ministry Fellow*

Emily Halbert, *Graduate Music Assistant*