



*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

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 3, 2023

10:00 AM

*\* We rise in body or spirit*

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### INTRODUCTION & EMBARKATION

*As we convene in this sacred space, let us embrace the concept that our individual voices, be they musical or spoken, form a collective harmonic tapestry. Whether you choose to sing, clap, or simply absorb the atmosphere, know that you are a vital part of this gathering.*

\*GATHERING MUSIC *One Bread, One Body* J. Foley

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Carol Tveit, liturgist

We are each born with a unique voice;  
finding it is our sacred quest.

**We are open,  
questing for our true voice in life's choir.**

The harmony we seek is when our voice  
aligns with the world's orchestra.

**We strive for such harmony, pledging to add our unique note  
to the symphony of existence.**

\*GATHERING MUSIC *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* Arr. C. Tomlin & L. Giglio

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### JOURNEY TO SELF-DISCOVERY

MEDITATION From "Gitanjali" by Rabindranath Tagore

1. Thou hast made me endless, such is thy pleasure. This frail vessel thou emptiest again and again, and fillest it ever with fresh life.

This little flute of a reed thou hast carried over hills and dales, and hast breathed through it melodies eternally new.

At the immortal touch of thy hands my little heart loses its limits in joy and gives birth to utterance ineffable.

Thy infinite gifts come to me only on these very small hands of mine. Ages pass, and still thou pourest, and still there is room to fill.

3. I know not how thou singest, my master! I ever listen in silent amazement.

The light of thy music illumines the world. The life breath of thy music runs from sky to sky. The holy stream of thy music breaks through all stony obstacles and rushes on.

My heart longs to join in thy song, but vainly struggles for a voice. I would speak, but speech breaks not into song, and I cry out baffled. Ah, thou hast made my heart captive in the endless meshes of thy music, my master!

#### SILENT PRAYERS

*In stillness, acknowledge your inner voice. Allow it to converse with the Divine in you.*

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF SELF-DISCOVERY

May you grasp the resonance of your own voice,  
And may it be your compass in the endless symphony of life.  
May you encounter your core song,  
And let it guide you in acts of kindness, love, and creativity.

-Adapted from Thich Nhat Hanh, *The Miracle of Mindfulness*.

#### \*RESPONSE IN HARMONY

*Alleluia*

Glory to God #589

#### \*EXCHANGE OF VIBRATIONS

*Share a sign of peace by learning "Peace be with you" in American Sign Language.  
Children may go to the narthex for a time together, or remain in their seats with family.*

### PROCLAMATION

#### PRAYER FOR CLARITY

#### SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians 12:12-27

#### SERMON

*Finding Your Voice: A Path to Harmony*

Huu Mai

#### ANTHEM

*Forever Dream*

H. Mai

### DEDICATION

#### INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*September's Change-for-Change contributions supports the Thank Offering, collected every year by Presbyterian Women's groups across the country. From your offering, grants are made to faith-inspired grassroots community groups in the range of \$5000-50,000. At least 40% of the grants directly support the health of women in low-income communities in the US and around the world. More information can be found at [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org). **Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20 (or any amount) to 73526 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today)** and 100% of your gift will support the 2023 Thank Offering, the September Change-for-Change recipient.*

To make a **financial pledge to NDPC for 2023**, go to the giving page on [ndpc.org](http://ndpc.org).

## COMMUNION

*Everyone who seeks to know God is welcome to receive Communion. The bread is gluten-free and the cup is grape juice.*

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*Sung responses:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest (x3).**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest (x3).**

**Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.  
Hosanna in the highest (x3).**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our [Divine Parent] in heaven, holy 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.**

*(sung) Amen.*

### SHARING THE ELEMENTS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION     *Come to the Table of Grace*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God, you are the giver of every good gift. You nourish us, and you join our lives into your endless life. Let us be your body, given in love, for the life of the world. Amen.**

\*CLOSING SONG

*Be Thou My Vision*

Glory to God #450

\*FINAL REFLECTION AND SENDING FORTH

### POSTLUDE

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### NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**Image of the Day: ?**

**Flowers** are given by Jan Cribbs.

**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.** There are a variety of quiet activities for children in the Children's Corner in the narthex that kids can take to their seats during worship. We offer nursery care for babies on Sundays from 9:45 – 11:15AM.

**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](mailto:worship@ndpc.org).

**Videos of worship services** are available at [ndpc.org](http://ndpc.org). Subscribe to our **sermon podcast** through any major podcasting service.

**CONTACT NDPC:** Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: [office@ndpc.org](mailto:office@ndpc.org)

**Revs. David Lewicki, Mary Anona Stoops, and Erin Reed Cooper** are available to meet to support your spiritual, mental, and physical health. Pastoral care is confidential and can be held in-person or virtually. Email [david@ndpc.org](mailto:david@ndpc.org), [maryanona@ndpc.org](mailto:maryanona@ndpc.org), and [erin@ndpc.org](mailto:erin@ndpc.org).

## NDPC STAFF

Rev. David Lewicki, *Pastor*

Rev. Mary Anona Stoops, *Pastor*

Rev. Dr. 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*