



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

November 26, 2023

11:00 AM

** We rise in body or spirit*

PREPARATION & ADORATION

As we gather for worship, we do so as a whole community in song. Singing brings us together—makes us “one body”—breathing and moving and vibrating together. Feel free to stand up or sit down, listen with your eyes closed or sing at the top of your lungs.

GATHERING MUSIC

*Come! Live in the Light!
Draw the Circle Wide*

Glory to God #759
Mark Miller

RECEIVING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

-by Sylvia Keesmaat and Brian Walsh,
inspired by Colossians 1
Carol Tveit, liturgist

In the face of a culture of death
a world of killing fields
a world of the walking dead

Christ is at the head of the resurrection parade
transforming our tears of betrayal into tears of joy
giving us dancing shoes for the resurrection party

And this glittering joker
who has danced in the dragon's jaws of death
now dances with a dance

that is full of nothing less than the fullness of God

this is the dance of the new creation

this is the dance of life out of death

and in this dance all that was broken

all that was estranged

all that was alienated

all that was dislocated and disconnected

is reconciled

comes home

is healed

and is made whole

* OPENING SONG

We Are One in Christ Jesus

Glory to God #322

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECONCILIATION

MEDITATION

The central fact in religious experience is the awareness of meeting God. The descriptive words are varied: sometimes it is called an encounter; sometimes, a confrontation; and sometimes, a sense of Presence. What is insisted upon, however, ...[is that] the individual is seen as being exposed to direct knowledge of ultimate meaning... in which all that the individual is, becomes clear as immediate and often distinct revelation. You are face to face with something which is so much more, and so much more inclusive, than all of your awareness of yourself that for you, *in the moment*, there are no questions. Without asking, somehow you know.

The mind apprehends the whole—the experience is beyond or inclusive of the discursive.... The individual in the experience seems to come into possession of what you have known as being true all along. The thing that is new is the *realization*. And this is of profound importance.

Howard Thurman, *The Creative Encounter: An Interpretation of Religion and the Social Witness*

SILENCE

Spend time in the silence. Don't force anything. Just be open to reality as it appears to you now.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, hear and trust the good news:

Life is good; the former things are past; the future is open.

In Jesus Christ, we are free to live in love, in mercy, and in the newness of life.

Praise be to God! Amen.

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Praise, I Will Praise You, God

Glory to God #628

*PASSING THE PEACE

Share a sign of peace by learning "Peace be with you" in American Sign Language.

Children are invited to come forward and find a rug or pillow and sit by the baptismal font.

PROCLAMATION

WORD IN WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

*Children (Pre-K – 3rd grade) are invited to go to Worship & Wonder in the 2nd floor Education Hall.
Parents/guardians can meet kids there right after worship.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 1:15-21

SERMON

Oneness

David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name
Huu Mai, piano and voice

Tom Fettke

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. Amen.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*All gifts made to Change for Change in the month of October will support the Decatur
Emergency Assistance Ministry (DEAM), Decatur's main food pantry. You may make a financial
donation or bring the most needed pantry items throughout November. **Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20
(or any amount) to 73526 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).***

* CLOSING SONG

O for a World

Glory to God #372

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Carl G. Glaser

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Image of the Day: Pietro di Puccio da Orvieto, “Universe Supported by God with the Signs of the Planets,” 1389–91. Fresco, north gallery, Camposanto Monumentale, Pisa, Italy.

Today’s 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. 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.

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

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, maryanona@ndpc.org, and 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*

Didier Monga wa Shakapanga, *Ministry Fellow*