



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 28th, 2024

11:00 AM

** We stand 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 SONGS

Thy Word
Sanctuary
NDPC Youth Band

M. Smith & A. Grant
J. Thompson & R. Scruggs

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Tveit, liturgist

The church is not a place; it is a people.

The church is not an arch above the treeline,
**It is a people proclaiming to the world that
we exist to participate in God's healing and
justice.**

The church is not walls built with stone,
**but each person, linked with another by the
Spirit:**

**all ages and genders and abilities—
a community joined by faith, hope, and love.**

The church is not a set of doors open on
Sunday,
**but day after day, moment by moment,
it is our hearts opening their doors
with the radical welcome of Christ.**

* OPENING SONG

Be Thou My Vision

Glory to God #450

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.*

CELEBRATION OF NDPC CONFIRMANDS

Prayer for Confirmands

Into your hands, Loving God, we have dedicated these young people.

In their baptism and in ours, you claim us as your own children.

Today, we stop and see the work that you have been doing in them all along.

**We see that you are a part of their expanding minds, their deepening spirits, and their
growing bodies.**

**We notice you have given them the gift of courage, that they are bravely claiming their faith
as their own.**

We notice you have given them compassion, that they look for places in your world that hurt and discover how they can offer your grace.

We notice you have given them wonder and curiosity, that they will continue to ask big questions and discover your Spirit alive in the world.

Today, Loving God, we notice that we are bound to them through you and in the courageous, compassionate, and mysterious love of Christ. Amen.

Introduction of Confirmands (& Sponsors)

Jack Bowen (Victoria Robinson)

Elsa Cayce (Kimberly Broerman)

Mary Louise Cromwell (Ellyn Cochran)

James Leonard (Scott Pieper)

Margaret Waltemath Lewicki (Corie Dunn)

Stella Love (Sallie Owens)

Ezra Morrison (Jordan Helms)

Walker Mosley (Pam Joyce)

Jackson Snyder (Tim Merritt)

Questions for the Confirmands

Have you witnessed this congregation's continued commitment to its baptismal vows, challenging you to be deep thinkers, coming alongside you in nurture and through their prayers?

I have.

As you have come to see yourself in this congregation and in the wider community, do you receive your identity as a beloved child of God.

I do.

Do you commit yourself to the ongoing journey of faith, covenanting to care for creation, to be compassionate toward others, and vow to be a life-long learner, growing in faith, love and self-awareness?

I do.

*Congregational response (unison)

We confirm that you are held by Christ and by us in God's love and grace.

We affirm that your presence builds up the body of Christ.

We welcome your insights and discoveries, and eagerly anticipate your contributions to our understanding.

We recognize you as a beloved child of God and encourage you to recognize all people as God's beloved.

*Affirmation of Faith

Presentation of Gifts

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Glory to God #700

* PASSING THE PEACE

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

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.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:33-37

SERMON

Yes and No

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

I Choose Love

Mark Miller

NDPC Community Choir; Emily Halbert, soloist

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*All gifts made to Change for Change in the month of January will support Presbyterians for a Better Georgia, a public policy advocacy partnership working on legislation at the Georgia state capital that will help end homelessness, increase affordable housing, and expand access to healthcare.. **Text NDPC C4C \$20 (or any amount) to 73256 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).***

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;

There are varieties of services, but the same Lord;

There are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

To each of us is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Today, we give thanks for the service of our outgoing elders: Henry Cayce (youth), Jack Kittle, Nancy Meinersmann, Erika Meyer, Lee Nichols, Brock Savage, James Waltemath Lewicki (youth), and Lin Wormley

The congregation of North Decatur Presbyterian Church has elected to the office of Elder: Jesse Bowen, Penny Cannon, Martin Cochran (youth), Barbara Gifford, Roberta Goldbaugh, Cindy Hays, Jordan Helms, and Tucker Schoeneberg (youth)

The Constitutional Questions

Do you trust in Jesus Christ, acknowledge the authority of Christ's love in the church and in the world, and through Christ believe in God who is 3-in-1: God, Christ, & Spirit?

I do.

Do you accept the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ, and God's word to you?

I do.

Do you receive and adopt the tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable interpretations of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by these confessions as you lead the people of God?

I do and will.

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the guidance of Scripture and our confessions?

I will.

Will you be governed by our church's rules,

Question for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these elders as ruling elders chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ?

We do.

and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend to others in the church, working with them, listening together for the ordering of God's word and Spirit?

I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will.

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and integrity of the church?

I do.

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

I will.

Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

The Prayer of Ordination and Installation and Laying on of Hands

All those who are ordained as ruling or teaching elders (pastors) may come forward to lay hands.

* CLOSING SONG *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* Glory to God #761

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Blessed Assurance* P. Knapp/Arr. J. Raney

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Image of the Day: *e eye love*, 1968, serigraph, Corita Kent.

Today's flowers are provided by Beth Scherr.

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. The nursery, located off the hallway just outside the sanctuary door, is open this morning during worship for kids 0-3. Kids can move around a bit in the narthex, where you can still listen to worship with your child, or there are child-friendly quiet activities that can be taken to your seat.

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, *Ministry Fellow*

