



*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

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

11:00 AM

*\* We stand in body or spirit*

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### PREPARATION & ADORATION

*The installation on the chancel – masses of stuff that literally obscure the communion table – makes visible the question we'll consider together in the season of Lent: What is blocking the way to what truly feeds us? Members of the congregation answered a call for contributions to the project – televisions, cell phones, clocks and other symbols of our day-to-day lives. These and other found objects are wired and piled together to create a tangled and chaotic collection of "too-muchness." Can we ever hope to get rid of the stuff to see clearly what matters? Thank you to the Many Hands visual arts team who engineered and constructed this surprising and thought-provoking installation.*

\*GATHERING SONGS

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me  
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

Glory to God #700  
J. Newton arr. C. Tomlin

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

by Ann Siddall  
Rick Neale, liturgist

Only the hungry search for bread.  
Only the thirsty look for water.  
This is a place for those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.

**Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it.  
Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.  
This is a place for those who ache and yearn for something more.**

So let us come here today with our hunger and thirst,  
our unsatisfied longings, our heart-felt yearnings,  
**and let the God of life satisfy our souls.**

\* OPENING SONG

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Glory to God #192

### 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.*

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE SEASON OF LENT

### MEDITATION

Such richness flowing  
through the branches of summer and into  
the body, carried inward on the five  
rivers! Disorder and astonishment  
rattle your thoughts and your heart  
cries for rest but don't  
succumb, there's nothing  
so sensible as sensual inundation. Joy  
is a taste before  
it's anything else, and the body  
can lounge for hours devouring  
the important moments. Listen,  
the only way  
to tempt happiness into your mind is by taking it  
into the body first, like small  
wild plums.

"The Plum Trees," by Mary Oliver  
from *American Primitive*, 1983.

### SILENCE

*In what does your body delight? What do you think is the difference between delight and indulgence?*

### \*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God of daily graces,  
**To you, I will turn for nourishment along the way.**  
I will remember the simple pleasures  
of being alive,  
of being together,  
of being placed among the creations of your hands.  
**There is no stretch of earth where delight cannot be found. Amen.**

### \*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Glory to God #422

### \* 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

### SONG

*The Light in Me*  
NDPC Children's Choir

Joanne LeDoux

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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Why spend money on what is not bread,  
and your labor on what does not satisfy?  
Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,  
and you will delight in the richest of fare.*

-Isaiah 55:2

*I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

- John 10:10b

## SERMON

*Our Bodies*

Rev. David Lewicki

## DEDICATION

## ANTHEM

*True Light*  
NDPC Community Choir; Emily Halbert, soloist

Keith Hampton

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

*All gifts made to Change for Change in the month of January will support NDPC's mission partners in Guatemala, CEDEPCA. The Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA) is an educational institution that contributes to the transformation of lives and contexts by providing training and accompaniment, and by offering spaces for reflection to women and men from diverse Christian traditions, communities and contexts. Learn more at [www.cedepca.org](http://www.cedepca.org). **Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20 (or any amount) to 73256 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).***

## \* CLOSING SONG

*God Is Calling through the Whisper*

Glory to God #410

## \* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

J. Zundel arr. J. Raney

## NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**Image of the Day:** Nicholas Palumbo, *Forgive*, 2015–16. Cut Bristol board on cardstock. Collection of Community Partners in Action, Hartford, Connecticut. Palumbo's work was created as a part of Community Partners in Action's arts programs for inmates in Connecticut prisons.

**Today's flowers** are provided by Carol Tveit.

**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](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*  
Didier Monga, *Ministry Fellow*