



**NORTH
DECATUR
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

We welcome all.

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 4th, 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

NDPC Community Drumming Circle

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

Sarah Erickson, liturgist

Rejoice, folks, Jesus is in our midst.

Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.

Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and even fish to spare.

**Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food
that does not satisfy.**

Sing for joy, people of God;

God gathers up the pieces of our lives,

And nothing--*nothing and no one*--is lost.

Thanks be to God!

* OPENING SONG

The Feast Is Ready

Glory to God #505

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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MEDITATION

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table. So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners. They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human. We make men at it, we make women.

At this table we gossip, recall enemies and the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us as they put their arms around our children. They laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves and as we put ourselves back together once again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

Wars have begun and ended at this table. It is a place to hide in the shadow of terror. A place to celebrate the terrible victory.

We have given birth on this table, and have prepared our parents for burial here.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow. We pray of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table, while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

"Perhaps the World Ends Here," by Joy Harjo
from *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky*, 1994.

SILENCE

Are there tables that have been important in your life? What do you remember about the table?

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Listen! Hear the Good News!

There is a seat at the Welcome Table for you!

God's grace is wider than our wildest imaginings.

God's grace embraces us--as we are and where we are.

God's grace draws us out to be the people we were created to be:

Those who make room at the table for one more.

In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and free! Amen.

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

Glory to God #770

* 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 READINGS

1 Cor. 11:23-36

SERMON

Communion

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

My Lord, What a Morning
NDPC Community Choir

Spiritual/arr. Jay Althouse

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. **Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20 (or any amount) to 73526 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).***

COMMUNION

Everyone who seeks to know God is welcome to receive Communion.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest!**

GREAT THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS

This table is a map for the traveler, a safe arrival for the lost
This table welcomes refugees
This table is a balm in Gilead for sin-sick soul
This table is food for everyone who is hungry, drink for everyone who is thirsty
This table is a kiss for the untouchable
This table is a light for those lost in the dark night of the soul
This table is a carnival of delight for the body
This table is the promise of new life beyond our grief
This table is a rush of joy
This table is an embrace that shelters children in the midst of crossing bullets
This table is a shout of "glory" and "alleluia" from a weary world
This table is holding hands with the one we love without fear or shame
This table is a prison door unlocked
This table is a job that feeds the household
This table is education for every child
This table is healthcare for every body
This table is shelter for every head to lay down at night
This table is a place where our young see visions and our elders dream dreams
This table is perfect love casting out all fear
This table is every tear wiped away
This table is all things made new.

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.

(sung) **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hosanna in the highest (x3).

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION

Come to the Table of Grace

Glory to God #507

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God, in you there is always enough and there is always more. Thank you for this taste of what is and what is yet to come. Send us out in your Spirit to live and work and dance and sing for your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our friend, our Savior. Amen.

* CLOSING SONG

I Come with Joy

Glory to God #515

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual arr. M. Hayes

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Image of the Day: Painting by Pablo Sanaguano (Ecuadorian, 1964–), 2021

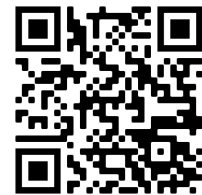
Today's flowers are provided by Marcia Morley.

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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. 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*

