



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

June 16th, 2024

10:00 AM

* *We rise in body or spirit*

PREPARATION & ADORATION

As we prepare for worship, we do so in song. Singing makes us “one body”—breathing, moving, and vibrating as one. Feel free to stand up or sit down, listen with your eyes closed, or sing along.

GATHERING MUSIC (~9:55 AM) *Like a Mother Who Has Borne us* (v. 1-4)
Draw the Circle Wide

Glory to God #44

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 23 (Robert Alter, trans.)
Sylvia Broome, liturgist

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

**In grass meadows You makes me lie down,
by quiet waters guide me.**

My life You bring back.

**You lead me on pathways of justice
for Your name's sake.**

Though I walk in the vale of death's shadow,
I fear no harm,
for You are with me.

**Your rod and Your staff—
it is they that console me.**

You set out a table before me
in the face of my foes.

**You moisten my head with oil,
my cup overflows.**

Let but goodness and kindness pursue me
all the days of my life.

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
for many long days.**

* OPENING SONG

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (v. 1-3)

Glory to God #803

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.

MEDITATION

My son lives on the streets.
We don't see each other much.
Like a mother who puts white lilies
on the headstone of a dead child,
I put money into his bank account,
clothes into E-Z Access storage
and pretend he's far away—
at a boarding school, or in a foreign country.
Nights, I dream fairy tales about him.
I dream he becomes a prince,
scholar or warrior who rescues me
from sorrow, the way he rescued me
when he was a child and said,
"Mommy, don't cry," and brought tea
into the room of his father's acrimony—
brave, standing tall in the forest
fire of his father's scorn. I wake
to the empty sound of wind in the trees.
He says he wants to live with me.
I say I can't live with him—
boy whose words crash like branches in a rain storm.
Nothing can hold him in,
the walls of a house too thin.
Back home, I had seen
the "study-hard-so-you-don't-become-like-them"
street bums on Mamo Street,
and he's like *them*.
These days, in order to catch a glimpse of him,
I circle the city. One day,
I see him on his bike.
People give him wide berth,
the same way birds avoid power lines,
oncoming cars or trees.
I park on a side street.
Wild-eyed, he flies the block
as if in a holding pattern.
Not of my body, not of my hopes,
he homes in on what can't be given or taken away.

Juliet S. Kono, "Homeless" from *Tsunami Years*. Copyright © 1995

SILENCE

Selah: pause and reflect on how God is meeting you in these words.

RESPONDING TO THE MEDITATION

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

**Together, we are learning the unforced rhythms of grace.
In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and free!**

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Glory to God

Glory to God #582

* PASSING THE PEACE

Share a sign of peace by learning "Peace be with you" in American Sign Language; or, if you choose, shake hands or offer a warm embrace to those Beloveds of God who are seated near you. 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 return to their seats to sit with their family.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

-Luke 9:57-58

You have stirred in us the desire to praise you, for you have made us for yourself and our heart is restless until it comes to rest in you.

-*Confessions*, Augustine, Chap. 1

SERMON

Housing is Holy

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place
NDPC Summer Singers

Mark A. Miller

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

Change-for-Change contributions in June support Decatur Cooperative Ministries (DCM). DCM's mission is to support families facing homelessness settle into safe, stable homes and build healthy lives. All families enrolled in DCM programs receive intensive case management and comprehensive support services designed to identify and overcome the factors that led them into crisis. NDPC partners with DCM through our transitional homes located next to the church as well as by supporting the Hagar's House family shelter. Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20 (or any amount) to 73256 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).

* CLOSING SONG

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (v. 1-3)

Glory to God #837

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Exsultate, jubilate "Alleluja"
Alejandra Sandoval, soprano

W. A. Mozart

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Local fiber artist Anne Earle, a friend to many at NDPC, was commissioned by the Worship Committee to craft a visual invitation to ponder the green and growing time of God's creation, known on the liturgical calendar as Ordinary Time. Anne's cheerful work and flowing composition was created with detailed hand-stitching, colorful adornments, and vibrant and varied green fabrics, including pieces that were made by members of our church community earlier this year.

You are invited to come to the chancel after worship today to take a moment to look at Anne's craftsmanship on both the front and back of the communion table piece. You'll see the signatures of the workshop participants and a thoughtfully made image that represents NDPC's place at its literal intersection with the neighborhood.

Image of the Day: *Homeless Jesus*, sculpture, by Timothy Schmalz

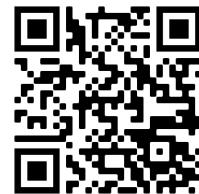
Today's flowers were given by Tom and Linda Purves in honor of the ordination of Rev. Allison Arsenault and with gratitude to North Decatur Presbyterian Church

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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*