



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 23rd, 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)

*What Wondrous Love
God Is Here Today*

Glory to God #215
Glory to God #411

* CALL TO WORSHIP

by Katherine Hawker; Charlotte Stone, liturgist

Come with your questions, come with your awe!

**For the God who broods over the chaos
meets us in this place.**

Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

**For the God who breathes new life into the dust
meets us in this place.**

Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

**For the God who dared to become human
meets us in this place.**

* OPENING SONG

Joyful Is the Dark

Glory to God #230

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

In the ancient days, when the first quiver of speech came to my lips, I ascended the holy mountain and spoke unto God, saying, "Master, I am thy slave. Thy hidden will is my law and I shall obey thee for ever more."

But God made no answer, and like a mighty tempest passed away.

And after a thousand years I ascended the holy mountain and again spoke unto God, saying, "Creator, I am thy creation. Out of clay hast thou fashioned me and to thee I owe mine all."

And God made no answer, but like a thousand swift wings passed away.

And after a thousand years I climbed the holy mountain and spoke unto God again, saying, "Father, I am thy son. In pity and love thou hast given me birth, and through love and worship I shall inherit thy kingdom."

And God made no answer, and like the mist that veils the distant hills he passed away.

And after a thousand years I climbed the sacred mountain and again spoke unto God, saying, "My God, my aim and my fulfillment; I am thy yesterday and thou art my tomorrow. I am thy root in the earth and thou art my flower in the sky, and together we grow before the face of the sun."

Then God leaned over me, and in my ears whispered words of sweetness, and even as the sea that enfoldeth a brook that runneth down to her, God enfolded me.

And when I descended to the valleys and the plains God was there also.

Kahlil Gibran

SILENCE

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

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Then God leaned over me, and in my ears whispered words of sweetness, and even as the sea that enfoldeth a brook that runneth down to her, God enfolded me.

And when I descended to the valleys and the plains God was there also.

*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

COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE AT THE PCUSA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Do you, the members of North Decatur Presbyterian Church, confirm the call of God to David as he is sent to the General Assembly? Will you support him in this ministry with your prayers?

We do and we will.

Children return to their seats to sit with their family.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 3:13-14: Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I am who I am."

Psalms 139:1: ¹ O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

1 John 4:8: ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

SERMON

What Do We Mean When We Say "God?"

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus
NDPC Summer Singers

Spiritual

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.

DEDICATION OF THE LISA WISE HOUSE

Gordon French

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

The Play of the Godhead

Glory to God #9

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Beautiful Savior

Silesian Folk Tune

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: *Late-summer orange jewelweed, blooming on the banks of Cecilia Creek, Decatur, GA*, photo by Thomas Cizauskas, flickr.com

Today's flowers were given by Martha Shepherd and Jim Radford in celebration of Anne Sayre's 90th birthday.

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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*