



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](http://www.ndpc.org)

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 27, 2024

11:00 AM

*An \* means we rise together in body or spirit; **bold text** words are spoken in unison.*

*A special note about worship today: this is the day we dedicate our Gratitude Campaign pledges in worship. Everyone can participate, whether you plan to make a pledge to NDPC or not. In the pews this morning are cut-out hands and hearts, and markers. You are invited, at any time during the service, to write down—on a hand, a heart, or one of each—your answers to these questions:*

What gifts has God given you that you plan to share with the church in 2025?  
What is it about this congregation that makes your heart happy and make you feel alive?  
What do you do for others that brings you joy?

### PREPARATION & ADORATION

*As we prepare for worship, we do so in song. Music makes us “one body”—breathing, moving, and vibrating together. Feel free to stand up or stay seated, listen with your eyes closed, or sing along.*

GATHERING MUSIC

NDPC Community Drumming Circle

CHIMES

SILENT PRAYER

*We enter God's presence in silence.*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

God we find you here,  
we find you there,  
**we find you everywhere.**  
Not limited in scope,  
nor choosy nor fickle.  
**You are unconditionally loving,**  
**forever merciful,**  
**and tireless in compassionate caring**  
**for everyone in the world.**  
And so we worship you,  
**in this moment and all moments,**  
for you have revealed yourself to us  
**and we are privileged to be your people.**

Jan Cribbs, liturgist

#### \* OPENING SONG

*I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say*

Glory to God #400

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Visitors are invited to leave your name and contact information by signing the Welcome Pad.*

## MEDITATION

Here, where the noises of the busy town,  
The ocean's plunge and roar can enter not,  
We stand and gaze around with tearful awe,  
And muse upon the consecrated spot.

No signs of life are here: the very prayers  
Inscribed around are in a language dead;  
The light of the "perpetual lamp" is spent  
That an undying radiance was to shed.

What prayers were in this temple offered up,  
Wrung from sad hearts that knew no joy on earth,  
By these lone exiles of a thousand years,  
From the fair sunrise land that gave them birth!

How as we gaze, in this new world of light,  
Upon this relic of the days of old,  
The present vanishes, and tropic bloom  
And Eastern towns and temples we behold.

Again we see the patriarch with his flocks,  
The purple seas, the hot blue sky o'erhead,  
The slaves of Egypt,—omens, mysteries,—  
Dark fleeing hosts by flaming angels led.

A wondrous light upon a sky-kissed mount,  
A man who reads Jehovah's written law,  
'Midst blinding glory and effulgence rare,  
Unto a people prone with reverent awe.

The pride of luxury's barbaric pomp,  
In the rich court of royal Solomon—  
Alas! we wake: one scene alone remains,—  
The exiles by the streams of Babylon.

Our softened voices send us back again  
But mournful echoes through the empty hall:  
Our footsteps have a strange unnatural sound,  
And with unwonted gentleness they fall.

The weary ones, the sad, the suffering,  
All found their comfort in the holy place,  
And children's gladness and men's gratitude  
Took voice and mingled in the chant of praise.

The funeral and the marriage, now, alas!  
We know not which is sadder to recall;  
For youth and happiness have followed age,  
And green grass lieth gently over all.

Nathless the sacred shrine is holy yet,  
With its lone floors where reverent feet once trod.  
Take off your shoes as by the burning bush,  
Before the mystery of death and God.

- "In the Jewish Synagogue at Newport," by Emma Lazarus (1871)

## SILENCE

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

## RESPONDING TO THE MEDITATION

### \*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

**God, you make your home in our hearts.  
There, you establish mercy, justice, and peace,  
so that wherever we go, you are with us.  
Wherever we are, we are home!**

### \*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

*Na'ap Mache (We are Marching)*

Glory to God #853

*Sung in Kreyol in solidarity with our friends in Haiti.*

### \* 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 the Beloveds of God who are seated near you. Children are invited to come forward to sit in front of the baptismal font, with or without their adult.*

## PROCLAMATION

### WORD IN WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN

*Children in 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 your kids there right after worship. Children may also remain in worship.*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Spirit of the Living God*

### SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27-30

### REFLECTING ON THE STORY

Rev. David Lewicki

## DEDICATION

### 2025 GRATITUDE CAMPAIGN

*Please write your own answer to these questions on a cut-out hand or heart and put them in the plate.*

What gifts has God given you that you plan to share with the church in 2025?  
What is it about this congregation that makes your heart happy and make you feel alive?  
What do you do for others that brings you joy?

### SONG

*We Lift Our Voices*

Glory To God #710

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**O Love Divine, how wonderful is your dwelling place.  
For this place that is our worship space, we thank you.  
For all the gifts of your people in this place—  
the love, the work, the talent, the energy, the passion, the faith,  
we praise you.  
Accept every gift as we bring them today.  
Bless them, use them, multiply them,  
for the nurturing of the Beloved Community  
here and throughout your world. Amen.**

### ANTHEM

*Hear My Prayer*  
NDPC Community Choir

Moses Hogan

O Lord please hear my prayer, in the mornin' when I rise.  
It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.  
O Lord please hear my prayer. Keep me safe within your arms.  
It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.  
When my work on earth is done, and you come to take me home,  
just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear you say, "Well done."  
Done with sin and sorrow. Have mercy, mercy. Amen.

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

Elder Matt Eby

**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 October support NDPC's Haiti Eco-Village School partnership, so give generously. Text 'NDPC C4C' \$20 (or any amount) to 73256 (or leave an offering in the plate on your way out today).*

* CLOSING SONG	<i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending</i>	Glory to God #716
* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	<i>Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565</i>	J. S. Bach

## NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**Images of the Day:** Meditation: Touro Synagogue interior, Touro, Rhode Island  
**Today's flowers** are given by Dee Raeside.

**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! It takes courage to show up at a new church. Please introduce yourself to those around you as you are comfortable. If you share your email address in the red Welcome Pads, we will send you the weekly NDPC e-newsletter. You can learn more about NDPC's programs at [www.ndpc.org](http://www.ndpc.org). We come from many different backgrounds, traditions, and cultures to worship. Feel free to use language and pronouns for God and for yourself that are authentic to you. After worship, the pastors would love to meet you in person.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**Children are welcome in worship at NDPC.** The nursery, located off the hallway just outside the sanctuary door, is open for kids 0-3. Kids are free to move around in the narthex, where you can listen to worship with your child, and there are child-friendly quiet activities in the Children's Corner that can be taken back to your seat. The presence of children in worship is a gift, never a disruption.

**Would a large print hymnal, magnifying glass, or hearing assist device help you worship?** Ask an usher and they will gladly assist you. Let us know how we can make worship accessible for you.

**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 previous worship services** are available at [ndpc.org](http://ndpc.org). **Subscribe to our sermon podcast** through any major podcasting service.

**Revs. David Lewicki, Mary Anona Stoops, and Erin Reed Cooper** are available to meet for pastoral care. 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), or [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*

Jerel Jefferson, *Music Fellow*

Carolyn Mielke, *Music Fellow*

Christopher Ng, *Ministry Fellow*

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