



*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)

*We welcome all.*

---

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Palm Sunday

11:00 AM

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

---

*We gather on the Plaza. If your mobility is limited, watch the parade from the top of the sanctuary stairs or listen from the pews. If you brought cut branches today, you can lay them beside the Medlock sidewalk up to the front door of the church, or carry them in the parade.*

\*GATHERING MUSIC

NDPC Drumming Circle

\*WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*PASSING THE PEACE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dramatic Reading

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

**Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

\*THE PARADE!

*The drummers, then Jesus and our children, then the whole congregation, move in joyous procession, dancing toward the front door of the Sanctuary shouting "Hosanna!" (which means, "save us."). We pause at the front door of the sanctuary and greet Jesus of Nazareth as we enter. Remain standing as you gather in the pews.*

*Children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger can go straight to the back of the sanctuary for Worship & Wonder.*

\*SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:39-44

The whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

**"Blessed is the one**

**who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Peace in heaven,**

**and glory in the highest heaven!"**

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these people were silent, the stones would shout out."  
(be seated)

As Jesus came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

REFLECTION

*Weeping*

Rev. David Lewicki

*Image: Jabalia refugee camp, Gaza; by Mahmoud Issa, Reuters.*

SONG

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Glory to God #197

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:45-46

Then Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there, and he said, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.”

REFLECTION

*Anger*

*Images: Creative Commons.*

SONG

*What Wondrous Love*

Glory to God #215

SCRIPTURE

Luke 20:9-18

<sup>9</sup> He began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and leased it to tenants and went away for a long time. <sup>10</sup> When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants in order that they might give him his share of the produce of the vineyard, but the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>11</sup> Next he sent another slave; that one also they beat and insulted and sent away empty-handed. <sup>12</sup> And he sent still a third; this one also they wounded and threw out. <sup>13</sup> Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ <sup>14</sup> But when the tenants saw him, they discussed it among themselves and said, ‘This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance may be ours.’ <sup>15</sup> So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? <sup>16</sup> He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Heaven forbid!” <sup>17</sup> But he looked at them and said, “What then does this text mean:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone’?”<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>18</sup> “Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” <sup>19</sup> When the scribes and chief priests realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to lay hands on him at that very hour, but they feared the people.

REFLECTION

*Change*

ANTHEM

*Rockin' Jerusalem*

André J. Thomas

I hear rockin' in the land,  
Rockin' in the land and ringin' dem bells!  
I know, Oh my Lord, there's rockin' in the land,  
rockin' in the land and ringin' dem bells!

(Words repeat and intermix...)  
I know archangels ring dem bells.  
Oh, I hear dem ringin'

for they are rockin' Jerusalem, rockin'  
Jerusalem,  
in Jerusalem ringin' dem bells!  
Oh Mary, Oh Martha, ring dem bells!  
I hear archangels a-ringin' dem bells!  
Church gettin' higher, higher,  
Jerusalem ringin' dem bells!

Don't you hear the bells a-ringin'?  
Don't you hear dem ringin' dem bells!  
Chrch gettin' higher, higher, Jerusalem  
Ring dem bells!

Rockin' in the land, rockin' in the land,  
Rockin' Jerusalem ringin' dem bells!  
I hear rockin' in the land and ringin' dem bells!

#### SCRIPTURE

Luke 20:20-26

**20** So they watched him and sent spies who pretended to be honest, in order to trap him by what he said and then to hand him over to the jurisdiction and authority of the governor. **21** So they asked him, “Teacher, we know that you are right in what you say and teach, and you show deference to no one but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. **22** Is it lawful for us to pay tribute to Caesar or not?” **23** But he perceived their craftiness and said to them, **24** “Show me a denarius. Whose head and whose title does it bear?” They said, “Caesar’s.” **25** He said to them, “Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” **26** And they were not able in the presence of the people to trap him by what he said, and being amazed by his answer they became silent.

#### REFLECTIVE OFFERING

*April Change-for-Change contributions support Memorial Drive Ministries, Inc. (MDM). Located only five miles from North Decatur, MDM provides safe, affordable, and welcoming space for numerous nonprofits, worshipping communities, and community groups that serve the diverse, predominantly refugee population in the greater-Clarkston area. Learn more about Memorial Drive Ministries and its onsite partners at [mdmATL.org](http://mdmATL.org)*

**To give by text**, text ‘NDPC C4C’ \$20 (or any amount) to 73256. You may also **use the QR Code**. Scan the code, enter the amount of your gift, and in the dropdown menu called “Fund,” find “Change for Change.” **To give cash**, leave an offering in the plate on your way out today. Thank you for supporting the healing of the world in the name of God.



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

Rev. Mary Anona Stoops

**Our [Divine Parent] in heaven, holy is your name, your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### LITURGY OF ANOINTING

*If you desire, come forward to the chancel area and kneel or stand to receive an anointing on your forehead and a blessing by a worship leader.*

*You are invited to depart in silence or remain seated in your pew in prayer and meditation.*

#### POSTLUDE

*On the Nature of Daylight*

Max Richter

\*\*\*

#### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

**April 17 at 6:30PM** - Maundy Thursday worship at NDPC with foot washing, Communion, and a shared meal; RSVP on Realm or use the link in the Communicator e-newsletter.

**April 18 at 9:30AM** - Good Friday Stations of the Cross Pilgrimage from Memorial Drive Ministries (Clarkston, GA) to NDPC.

**April 18, noon - 6PM** - Good Friday self-guided worship; 9 stations will lead you through the Good Friday story, using sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste; drop by any time

**April 20, 6:45AM:** Ecumenical Sunrise Service at Decatur Cemetery (30 min)

**8:45 & 11AM** - Easter Sunday worship; 9:45AM intergenerational fellowship

## NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**About the Artwork:** The silhouettes flanking the sanctuary this season were designed with the help of NDPC community members whose bodies were traced and cut from recyclable cardboard, common stuff of our everyday lives. They call us to consider all manner of God's embodiment in the world and ponder the ways each of us uniquely created to use our hearts and hands, heads and feet to embody God's call.

On the vertical banner in the narthex, a collection of words of focus that were gathered from the congregation on Epiphany Sunday are displayed. These intentions foreground the liturgical calendar that guides us through the church year. In this season of Lent, the banner reminds of the direction where our inner compass asks us to set our face toward Love.

**Images of the Day:** *Nathan Simpson (Australian, 1973–), Jesus Entering Jerusalem, 1999. Oil on canvas.*

**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*  
Huu Mai, *Music Director*  
Mahsheed Khawary, *Office Administrator*

Javier Sanchez, *Custodian*  
Jerel Jefferson, *Music Fellow*  
Carolyn Mielke, *Music Fellow*  
Christopher Ng, *Ministry Fellow*

**CONTACT NDPC:** Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: [office@ndpc.org](mailto:office@ndpc.org)