



*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

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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 6, 2025

11:00 AM

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

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### PREPARATION & ADORATION

*We prepare for worship in song. Music makes us "one body"—breathing, moving, and vibrating together. During the gathering song, you may stand up, stay seated, listen with your eyes closed, or sing along.*

GATHERING SONG

*Come, Ye Sinners*

Glory to God #415

CHIMES & SILENT PRAYER

*We enter God's presence in silence.*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Sylvia Broome, Liturgist

O God,

we gather today, we come as we are:

**with eyes that do not always see,**

**with ears that do not always hear,**

**yet we want to see and hear as you would have us.**

Accept all we bring before you today—

our truths, our doubts, our weary, wondering spirits.

**We bring all that we have, and all that we are, to worship you.**

\* OPENING SONG

*Live into Hope*

Glory to God #772

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

If they wanted to, the crows outside your window could leave you with the nest and its screeching contents. How do birds know which branches can hold them? The African jacana lays her eggs on nests that float on water like lily pads. Her island of stems and leaves, a perpetual site of repair. How much it can hold without sinking is the wisdom of the female's body. She who knows precisely where to place the weight to keep from sending it tipping altogether into the lagoon. Who taught her how to make a raft in the deep? Every step a negotiation with the mirrored surface. Slender legs walking on water, all things mending.

-healing an abandonment wound; by Cole Arthur Riley, *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human* (New York, New York: Convergent Books, 2024), 148.

SILENCE

*Consider how God is speaking to you in these words.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Listen to the words of Jesus, words that we can trust:

*"Do not be afraid. You are forgiven. I love you. Come and follow me."*

**In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and free!**

**\*GRATEFUL RESPONSE**

*We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight*

Glory to God #817

**\* 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, either alone or with an adult.*

**PROCLAMATION**

**WORD IN WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN**

*Children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and below may leave to go to Worship & Wonder or remain in the pews.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 19:1-10

**EXPLORING THE WORD**

Tsz Nok Christopher Ng, Ministry Fellow

**DEDICATION**

**ANTHEM**

*Libera me*

Gabriel Fauré

NDPC Community Choir; Carolyn Mielke, guest conductor

Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna,  
in die illa tremenda, in die illa.  
Quando coeli movendi sunt,  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.  
Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.  
Tremens, tremens factus sum ego,  
et timeo, dum discussio venerit  
at que ventura ira.  
Dies illa, dies iræ,  
calamitatis et miseriæ.  
Dies illa, dies magna  
et amara valde.  
Requiem æternum donna eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis, luceat eis.  
Libera me, Domine, de morte æternum,  
in die illa tremenda, in die illa.  
Quando coeli movendi sunt,  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.  
Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.  
Libera me, Domine, de morte æterna.  
libera me, Domine.

Set me free, O Lord, from eternal death,  
from the thunderous day that is coming,  
when heaven and earth shall be shaken,  
when you shall come to judge the world with  
fire.  
Trembling, I am trembling with fear  
of the coming judgment  
and the wrath that is to come.  
The day is coming, the day of wrath,  
calamity and misery.  
The day is coming, that great day,  
the day of exceeding bitterness.  
Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,  
and shine eternal light upon them.  
Set me free, O Lord, from eternal death,  
from the thunderous day that is coming,  
when heaven and earth shall be shaken,  
when you shall come to judge the world with  
fire.  
Set me free, O Lord, from eternal death,  
set me free, O Lord.

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

David Roth, Executive Director, MDM

*Our Change-for-Change contributions in April support **Memorial Drive Ministries**.*

**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.



## 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 (x3).**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest (x3).**

**Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.  
Hosanna in the highest (x3).**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(use these or other words that are close to your heart)*

**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

*The ushers will invite you to come forward by row, beginning in the front. If you prefer to remain in your seat, an elder can bring Communion to you. To make this meal accessible to all, the bread is gluten-free and cup is grape juice. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, come forward to a pastor, placing your hands over your heart.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### \* CLOSING SONG

*For Everyone Born*

Glory to God #769

### \* BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Bist du bei mir*

Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel

## NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**Images of the Day:** "The castellers of Barcelona build a human tower in front of Barcelona's town hall during the city annual festival, La Mercè" photo by Matthias Oesterle, from National Geographic; "Zacchaeus," engraving by Willem van Swanenbergh (Dutch, 1611) from *Sinners of the Old and New Testament*

**Today's choral offering:** Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* is among the gentler settings of the Latin Requiem Mass, more akin to the one by Maurice Duruflé than those of Mozart or Verdi. The "Libera Me" section, however, does sound the alarm about divine judgment, yet woven into it is the tender plea for eternal light to shine upon all who rest from their labors.

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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! 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*  
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Huu Mai, *Music Director*  
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