



**NORTH
DECATUR
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

May 11, 2025
11:00 AM

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

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

Rejoice!
NDPC Handbell Choir

Cynthia Dobrinski

CHIMES

SILENT PRAYER

We enter God's presence in silence.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24
Katie Condon, liturgist

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it,

**2 for God has founded it on the seas
and established it on the rivers.**

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in God's holy place?

**4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.**

5 They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

**6 Such is the company of those who seek God,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

* OPENING SONG

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

Glory to God #44

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

After arguing, gasping up at the Great Blue
Heron's flap into the cypresses, we hush into mosses
and fallen needles auburn as wood doves.

All around us the forbidden Water
District's lily pads flex their mirrored hides.

Now another clatters back from his wide hunter's glide,
brings in his wings' ungainly myth,
folds his fishermen legs and straightens the tremendous
S-beard of his neck.

His pterodactyl face, almost all beak,
focuses in a yellow twinge that wells into an eye;
a black stripe streaks into his crest's flung jot.

You hate how distracted I get, my incomprehensible flights.
But you comprehend this pair of herons
sitting down on their extravagances to feed their chicks.

And now you're shrieking at their clucks, their gullyng barks.
For a heron parent has tilted his or her face
formally as a watering can toward a vase
fluffed by what we're certain is
(*Look, Mommy, look*
look look!)
two smaller beaks and an opening.

“Trespassing with Tweens” by Danielle Chapman
(*Boxed Juice, 2024, by Unbounded Edition Press.*).

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; **we hide from our Creator.**

Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

-From *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1983); PCUSA Book of Confessions

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Siyahamba

Glory to God #853

* 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 (Pre-K – 3rd grade) are invited to go to Worship & Wonder in the 2nd floor Education Hall. They can be picked up there by a parent after worship.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

?

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

May It Be
NDPC Community Choir

N. & R. Ryan arr. M. Brymer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Jordan Helms

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

*Our Change-for-Change contributions in May supports the **National Alliance on Mental Illness**. The Peace & Justice Committee has supported NAMI and participated in the annual walkathon for many years. Our church has many members in the Mental Health profession and by donating to NAMI we indirectly acknowledge their magnanimous service. Our church also has many members who receive mental health care; we pray for patients and families experiencing mental health challenges. For more information please visit namiga.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.



* CLOSING SONG

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Glory to God #451

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hymn of Promise

Natalie Sleeth

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Images of the Day: *Herons feeding*, Flickr: creative commons. *Jug pouring*: creative commons.

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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 you've joined us! It takes courage to show up at a new church. Introduce yourself to those around you as you feel comfortable. If you share your email address in the red Welcome Pad, we will send you the weekly NDPC e-newsletter. Learn more about NDPC at www.ndpc.org. We come from different backgrounds, traditions, and cultures to worship, so please 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. Ready to join NDPC? Email engagement@ndpc.org.

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. For PreK – 3rd grade, Worship & Wonder is our child-centered worship; kids go to W&W right after the children's message and are picked up by parents in the W&W room (2nd floor, Ed. Building) after worship. Kids who stay with their adult for worship 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 enjoyed there or 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 volunteer to serve as an usher or liturgist, donate flowers, or share comments about worship, email worship@ndpc.org.

Videos of previous worship services are available at ndpc.org. **Subscribe to our sermon podcast** through any major podcasting service.

Revs. David Lewicki and Mary Anona Stoops are available to meet for pastoral care. Pastoral care is confidential and can be held in-person or virtually. Email david@ndpc.org or maryanona@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 Mielle, *Music Fellow*

CONTACT NDPC: Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: office@ndpc.org