



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

We welcome all.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 25, 2025
10:00 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

Be Thou My Vision

Glory to God #450

CHIMES

SILENT PRAYER

We enter God's presence in silence. God bids us “welcome.”

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 90, abridged (The Message)
Marie Hodgman Schoeneberg, liturgist

God, it seems you've been our home forever;
long before the mountains were born,
Long before you brought earth itself to birth,
from “once upon a time” to “kingdom come”—**you are God.**
So don't return us to mud, saying,
“*Back to where you came from!*”
Be patient with us! **You've got all the time in the world—whether**
a thousand years or a day, it's all the same to you.
Oh! Teach us to live well!
Teach us to live wisely and well!

* OPENING SONG

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

Glory to God #24

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

With the drawing of this Love and the voice of this
Calling

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.
Through the unknown, unremembered gate
When the last of earth left to discover
Is that which was the beginning;
At the source of the longest river
The voice of the hidden waterfall
And the children in the apple-tree
Not known, because not looked for
But heard, half-heard, in the stillness
Between two waves of the sea.
Quick now, here, now, always—
A condition of complete simplicity
(Costing not less than everything)
And all shall be well and
All manner of thing shall be well
When the tongues of flame are in-folded
Into the crowned knot of fire
And the fire and the rose are one.

Little Gidding, from Four Quartets, by T.S. Eliot

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

SHARING REFLECTIONS ON THE MEDITATION

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

**Glory be to God, and to Christ,
and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen**

*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 remain in worship today. There are quiet worship activities in the Narthex that they can bring back to their seats, or enjoy worship in the Narthex with an adult.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:9-15

⁹ What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰ I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. ¹¹ He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³ moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. ¹⁴ I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor anything taken from it; God has done this so that all should stand in awe before God. ¹⁵ That which is already has been, that which is to be already is, and God seeks out what has gone by.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

The Road Home
NDPC Community Choir

Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road
I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost
So long ago?
All these years I have
wandered,
Oh, when will I know
There's a way, there's a road
That will lead me home?

After wind, after rain,
When the dark is done,
As I wake from a dream
In the gold of day,
Through the air there's a
calling
From far away,
There's a voice I can hear
That will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me,
Come away, is the call,
With the love in your heart
As the only song;
There is no such beauty
As where you belong:
Rise up, follow me,
I will lead you home.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Mary Anona Stoops

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

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

Glory to God #327

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Processional in C

Hal Hopson

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Images of the Day: Meditation: *An observer contemplates "The Fire and the Rose Are One," a painting by Makoto Fujimura*, photo by Liam Zieg (source: Pepperdine Graphic, Feb. 13, 2024). *Clock of the Académie Française*, André Kertész, photograph (1929).

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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 passing of the peace and are picked up by parents on the playground 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*
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