



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 the 4th, 2025

11:00 AM

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

PREPARATION & ADORATION

GATHERING ACTIVITY

Yoda or Proverbs?

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Tucker Schoeneberg & Jack Roberts

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...

There was a great struggle

Between the powers of light and the powers of darkness,

Between the power of the evil Empire, and the power of an invisible, luminous Force.

Into that struggle came a hero

Who wrestled with the temptation to turn to the dark side

But discovered another way:

the way of friendship, courage, self-sacrifice

And the hero saved the galaxy.

But this story is not so long ago

And not so far away.

It is our story, too.

The Force is still with us.

We seek it together, today.

Let us worship God!

* OPENING SONG

Come! Live in the Light!

Glory to God #749

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tucker Schoeneberg

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

RECOGNITION OF 2025 GRADUATES

Rev. David Lewicki & Elder Jesse Bowen

High School: Henry Cayce (Paideia), James Waltemath Lewicki (Decatur), Avery Reagan (St. Pius),

Ellie Rutledge (Decatur), Addison Snyder (The School of the Arts, Central Gwinnett HS)

Graduate School: Evan Cass, University of Alabama, PhD (Geography)

MEDITATION

Kieva Morrison, James Leonard, Donovan Biagioni

Follow them, stop, turn around

Go the other way.

Left, right,

Mine, yours.

We become lost,
Unsteady.
Take a deep breath,
Pray.
You will not always be lost.
You are right here,
In your time,
In your place.

1. North

Star, guidance as we look up
To the brightest white
Hoping it leads you to where you want to go,
Hoping that it knows where you should be.
We find our peace here in the white,
Gather our strength, our breath, and learn
how to be.

2. East

The sun rises,
Red,
Morning heat on our face even on the coldest
morning.
The sun creates life,
Energy,
Nourishment.
Gather strength, pull it in
Be right where you are.

3. South

Butterfly flits
Spreads yellow beauty.
We have come to this moment in time
Step by step,

We don't always listen to directions,
We let the current carry us,
Push us,
Force us along the path.
We stumble,
Get up and keep moving.

4. West

Sunsets, brings
Darkness,
Brings black. We find solitude,
Time to take in breath and
Pray.
Even in darkness you
Can be found.
Call out even in a whisper
Or whimper,
You will be heard.

To find,
To be found,
To be understood,
To be seen,
Heard, felt.
You are,
Breath.
You are,
Memory.
You are,
Touch.
You are,
Right here

- *Directions To You* by Rainy Dawn Ortiz

SILENCE

Consider how God is speaking to you in these words.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Margaret Waltemath Lewicki

Jesus says, "I am with you always, even unto the end of the age."
Even when we lose our way, God finds us and holds us in love.

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

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

We Are Marching in the Light of God

Glory to God #853

* PASSING THE PEACE

Spencer Henschen, Martin Cochran

*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

Jack Bowen, Katie Condon, Cora Anne Morgan

Children should return to the pews to sit with their adult.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 27:1-7
Ezra Morrison

EXPLORING THE WORD

Henry Cayce
James Waltemath Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

We Are the World
NDPC Youth Band & Children's Choir

M. Jackson & L. Richie

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

Mary Louise Cromwell

*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.



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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, we are so happy to eat at your table. Thank you for filling us with good things: love, laughter, courage, friendship. May the Force of your Spirit be with us all. Amen.

* CLOSING SONG

Here I Am, Lord

Glory to God #69

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Star Wars (Main Title)

J. Williams

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Images of the Day: *Daughters of Zelophehad*, by Iris Wexler (oil on canvas, 2008). Meditation: 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 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. 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.

Videos of previous worship services are available at 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, maryanona@ndpc.org, or 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*

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