



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

July 20, 2025
10:00 AM

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

PREPARATION & ADORATION

GATHERING SONG

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

-after Song of Songs
Anna Kershaw, liturgist

Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

Love comes to us with joy!

The world is filled with beauty.

**Flowers appear on the earth,
birdsong brightens the day.**

Crops yield their produce in abundance,
the air is filled with sweetness.

The summer of God's love is with us.

Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls.

Arise and sing for joy!

* OPENING SONG

Touch the Earth Lightly

Glory to God #713

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

From blossoms comes
this brown paper bag of peaches
we bought from the boy
at the bend in the road where we turned toward
signs painted *Peaches*.

From laden boughs, from hands,
from sweet fellowship in the bins,
comes nectar at the roadside, succulent
peaches we devour, dusty skin and all,
comes the familiar dust of summer, dust we eat.

O, to take what we love inside,
to carry within us an orchard, to eat
not only the skin, but the shade,
not only the sugar, but the days, to hold
the fruit in our hands, adore it, then bite into
the round jubilance of peach.

There are days we live
as if death were nowhere
in the background; from joy
to joy to joy, from wing to wing,
from blossom to blossom to
impossible blossom, to sweet impossible blossom.

- Li-Young Lee, "From Blossoms" from *Rose*. © 1986

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

REFLECTIONS ON THE MEDITATION

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, hear and receive the good news of God:
Life is good;
the past is over and gone;
the future is open.

In Jesus Christ, we are free to live in love, in forgiveness, and in the newness of life.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God #582

* 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 2nd grade and younger are invited to leave for a time of Worship & Wonder, followed by playtime on the playground. Parents should pick up children on the playground after worship. Children may also stay in worship. 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

Psalm 4 (The Message)

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. David Lewicki

Prayer for People Who Have Trouble Praying: The Serenity Prayer

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

May You Always
NDPC Summer Singers

by L. Markes & D. Charles

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Jesse Bowen

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

Your Change for Change gifts will provide school supplies for the children served by Initiative for Affordable Housing, the International Community School, and 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.



* CLOSING SONG

Come, Thou Fount Every Blessing

Glory to God #475

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Noble March

by Mark Hayes

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Today's Images in Worship: Meditation: *Peach*, by Peter Stenzel (flickr: creative commons); *Serenity*, by Sergio Gomez (Mexican American, 1971–), Acrylic on canvas.

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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*

Jerel Jefferson, *Music Fellow*

Carolyn Mielke, *Music Fellow*

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