



*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](http://www.ndpc.org)

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

July 27, 2025  
10:00 AM

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

### PREPARATION & ADORATION

#### GATHERING SONG

*Sweet Hour of Prayer* W. Bradbury, Words by W. Walford  
NDPC Summer Singers

#### CHIMES & SILENT PRAYER

*We enter God's presence in silence. God bids us "welcome."*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

-by Thom Shuman  
Barbara Gifford, liturgist

Day by day, God leads us:

**to the deep, deep pools of peace,  
to the green, lush fields of grace.**

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**to pour out ourselves in service,  
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**the community we could be,  
the family we are called to become.**

#### \* OPENING SONG

*There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

Glory to God #470

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

#### MEDITATION

The old pond--  
a frog jumps in,  
sound of water.

-Basho, translated by Robert Hass

All the time I pray to Buddha  
I keep on  
killing mosquitoes.

-Issa, translated by Robert Hass

In Kyoto,  
hearing the cuckoo,  
I long for Kyoto.

-Basho, translated by Jane Hirshfield

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:  
God loves you, and there is nothing you can do about it!  
**In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and free!**

\*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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 23

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. David Lewicki

*Prayer for People Who Have Trouble Praying: The Merton Prayer*

My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you  
does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.  
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always though  
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

### DEDICATION

ANTHEM

*Hear My Prayer*  
NDPC Summer Singers

Moses Hogan

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

*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.



*We are excited to begin receiving volunteers for our 2025-26 Children, Youth, and Family ministry programs, including Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders. Please use the QR code to link to a volunteer interest form. This is one way you fulfill your baptismal promise to raise our young people in the Christian faith. Thank you!*



\* CLOSING SONG

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Glory to God #1

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

## NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

**Today's Images in Worship:** Meditation: *various images* (flickr: creative commons); *Woodland 3*, by xylophilist, flickr 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](http://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](mailto: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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](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 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](mailto:david@ndpc.org) or [maryanona@ndpc.org](mailto: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*

**CONTACT NDPC:** Office Phone: 404-636-1429; Office Email: [office@ndpc.org](mailto:office@ndpc.org)