



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

August 10, 2025

10:00 AM

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

PREPARATION & ADORATION

GATHERING SONG

O God, You Search Me

Glory to God #29

CHIMES & SILENT PRAYER

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

-by
Glenda Clay, liturgist

Come sons and daughters, mothers and fathers,
Come sisters and brothers and aunts!

Come grandmas and grandpas, uncles and nephews,
Come nieces and neighbors and friends!

Come queer and straight, those with too much and those with too little,
Come honored and scorned and ignored!

Christ calls us here
To be part of one divine body.
We worship God together!

* OPENING SONG

We Are One in the Spirit

Glory to God #300

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

We, this people, on a small and lonely planet
Traveling through casual space
Past aloof stars, across the way of indifferent suns
To a destination where all signs tell us
It is possible and imperative that we learn
A brave and startling truth

And when we come to it
To the day of peacemaking
When we release our fingers
From fists of hostility
And allow the pure air to cool our palms

When we come to it
When the curtain falls on the minstrel show of hate
And faces sooted with scorn are scrubbed clean
When battlefields and coliseum
No longer rake our unique and particular sons and daughters
Up with the bruised and bloody grass
To lie in identical plots in foreign soil

When the rapacious storming of the churches
The screaming racket in the temples have ceased
When the pennants are waving gaily
When the banners of the world tremble
Stoutly in the good, clean breeze

When we come to it
When we let the rifles fall from our shoulders
And children dress their dolls in flags of truce
When land mines of death have been removed
And the aged can walk into evenings of peace
When religious ritual is not perfumed
By the incense of burning flesh
And childhood dreams are not kicked awake
By nightmares of abuse

When we come to it
Then we will confess that not the Pyramids
With their stones set in mysterious perfection
Nor the Gardens of Babylon
Hanging as eternal beauty
In our collective memory
Not the Grand Canyon
Kindled into delicious color
By Western sunsets

Nor the Danube, flowing its blue soul into Europe
Not the sacred peak of Mount Fuji
Stretching to the Rising Sun
Neither Father Amazon nor Mother Mississippi who,
without favor,

Nurture all creatures in the depths and on the shores
These are not the only wonders of the world
When we come to it
We, this people, on this minuscule and kithless globe
Who reach daily for the bomb, the blade and the dagger
Yet who petition in the dark for tokens of peace
We, this people on this mote of matter
In whose mouths abide cankerous words
Which challenge our very existence
Yet out of those same mouths
Come songs of such exquisite sweetness
That the heart falters in its labor
And the body is quieted into awe

We, this people, on this small and drifting planet
Whose hands can strike with such abandon
That in a twinkling, life is sapped from the living
Yet those same hands can touch with such healing,
irresistible tenderness

That the haughty neck is happy to bow
And the proud back is glad to bend
Out of such chaos, of such contradiction
We learn that we are neither devils nor divines

When we come to it
We, this people, on this wayward, floating body
Created on this earth, of this earth
Have the power to fashion for this earth
A climate where every man and every woman
Can live freely without sanctimonious piety
Without crippling fear

When we come to it
We must confess that we are the possible
We are the miraculous, the true wonder of this world
That is when, and only when
We come to it.

-A *Brave and Startling Truth*, by Maya Angelou (1995)

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends, hear and receive the good news for today: desire first and foremost God's kin-dom and God's righteousness; and everything you need will be yours.

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

*GRATEFUL RESPONSE

Seek Ye First

Glory to God #175

* PASSING THE PEACE

Share a sign of peace with the Beloveds of God who are seated near you. Children 2nd grade and younger are invited to leave for Worship & Wonder, followed by playtime. Parents can pick up children on the playground after worship. Children may also stay in worship. There are worship activities in the Narthex that they can bring back to their seat, or enjoy worship in the Narthex with an adult.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (CEB)

12 Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. **13** We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink. **14** Certainly the body isn't one part but many. **15** If the foot says, “I'm not part of the body because I'm not a hand,” does that mean it's not part of the body? **16** If the ear says, “I'm not part of the body because I'm not an eye,” does that mean it's not part of the body? **17** If the whole body were an eye, what would happen to the hearing? And if the whole body were an ear, what would happen to the sense of smell? **18** But as it is, God has placed each one of the parts in the body just like he wanted. **19** If all were one and the same body part, what would happen to the body? **20** But as it is, there are many parts but one body. **21** So the eye can't say to the hand, “I don't need you,” or in turn, the head can't say to the feet, “I don't need you.” **22** Instead, the parts of the body that people think are the weakest are the most necessary. **23** The parts of the body that we think are less honorable are the ones we honor the most. The private parts of our body that aren't presentable are the ones that are given the most dignity. **24** The parts of our body that are presentable don't need this. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the part with less honor **25** so that there won't be division in the body and so the parts might have mutual concern for each other. **26** If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part gets the glory, all the parts celebrate with it. **27** You are the body of Christ and parts of each other.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Individualism

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

There's a Spirit of Love in This Place
NDPC Summer Singers

Mark Miller

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

(use these or the words that are closest 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).*

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

Your Change for Change gifts support NDPC's partnerships with organizations that provide support to immigrants and refugees: El Refugio, Casa Alterna, and PCUSA immigrant church partners.

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 receive 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 nurture our young people in the Christian faith. Thank you!



* CLOSING SONG

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Glory to God #837

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Go Tell the World

Robert Howell

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Today's Images in Worship: Meditation: "Earthrise," the first image of Earth captured by humans from space, taken aboard Apollo 8 on December 24, 1968, by lunar module pilot Bill Anders; Image of the Day: College Avenue Mural, Decatur, GA, by Mariana Lorenzo; October 2022

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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 – 2nd 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*
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