



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 17, 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

-by Bruce Prewer; Sylvia Broome, liturgist

Truth is a living Reality,
not captured in theory or a creed,
but revealed to those who love;
the truth of Jesus,
the Spirit of truth,
the truth of God.

Because I believe I trust,
not blindly but open eyed and bold
as a child climbing into a mother's lap;
the truth of Jesus,
the Spirit of truth,
the truth of God.

Because I believe I serve,
not as a slave that serves a tyrant
but like farmers reaping a harvest;
the truth of Jesus,
the Spirit of truth,
the truth of God.

* OPENING SONG

God of Grace and God of Glory

Glory to God #307

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

We made it from the ground-up corn in the old back pasture.
Pinched a scent of night jasmine billowing off the fence,
popped it right in.
That frog song wanting nothing but echo?
We used that.
Stirred it widely. Noticed the clouds while stirring.
Called upon our ancient great aunts and their long slow eyes
of summer. Dropped in their names.
Added a mint leaf now and then
to hearten the broth. Added a note of cheer and worry.
Orange butterfly between the claps of thunder?
Perfect. And once we had it,
had smelled and tasted the fragrant syrup,
placing the pan on a back burner for keeping,
the sorrow lifted in small ways.
We boiled down the lies in another pan till they disappeared.
We washed that pan.

-Naomi Shihab Nye, "Truth Serum" from *You and Yours*. © 2005

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

RESPONDING TO THE MEDITATION

*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

John 18:33-38

33 Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Judeans?' 34 Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' 35 Pilate replied, 'I am not a Judean, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' 36 Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the leaders. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' 37 Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' 38 Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Truth

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Let My Heart and Soul Praise the Lord
NDPC Summer Singers

G. F. Handel,
arr. Jane McFadden

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. Amen.

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

Standing on the Promises

Glory to God #838

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Little Rondo

Richard Blake

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Today's Images in Worship: TBD

Music & Lyrics are printed/streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-719269 and CCLI #21115205 & 21115212; CCS PERFORMANCE & WORSHIPcast License #14957

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*

Kristin Hicks, *Children, Youth, & Families*

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