



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

September 7, 2025

11:00 AM

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

PREPARATION & ADORATION

GATHERING SONG

For the Beauty of the Earth

Glory to God #14

CHIMES & SILENT PRAYER

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come in awe of
the sculptor,
the architect,
the artist,
the designer,
the potter,
our God.

Claudia Brogan, liturgist

Let us worship the Creator of Heaven and Earth.

* OPENING SONG

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

Glory to God #5

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEDITATION

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table. So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners. They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human. We make men at it, we make women.

At this table we gossip, recall enemies and the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us as they put their arms around our children. They laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves and as we put ourselves back together once again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

Wars have begun and ended at this table. It is a place to hide in the shadow of terror. A place to celebrate the terrible victory.

We have given birth on this table, and have prepared our parents for burial here.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow. We pray of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table, while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

"Perhaps the World Ends Here" from *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky*
by Joy Harjo. © 1994

SILENCE

How is God speaking to you in these words?

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God saw everything that God had made, **and it was very good.**

God sees everything that God re-makes through the Spirit, **and it is very good.**

Everyone who is in Christ is a new creation. 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 are welcomed and encouraged to remain with their family; they may utilize our worship bags located in the Narthex or go out at any time to visit the Children's Corner in the narthex to find a quiet activity. In the 11AM service children 4yrs - 2nd grade are invited to leave with leaders for our child-centered Worship & Wonder time. They will return to the sanctuary for Communion.

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

On the Seventh Day: Gen. 1:1-2:4 in 3 voices,
Barbara Gifford, Fran Mohr, Jill Jacques

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Beginning

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

O Sifuni Mungu (All Creatures of our God and King) Words and Music by
Marty McCall, David Maddux, Mmunga Mwenebulongo and Asukulu Yunu Mukalay,
in English & Swahili; arr. Roger Emerson
NDPC Community Choir

REFRAIN

Viumbe vyote vya mungu wetu na mfalme wetu
All creatures of our God and King
Pazeni sauti ilinasi muimbe
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Watu wote, viumbe vyote, awaye yote, sifu Mungu
All people, all creatures, everybody praise God!
Imbeni! Sing!

All people (*watu wote*)
All creatures (*viuumbe vyote*)
Everybody (*awaye yote*)

Praise the Lord! (*sifu mungu*)

All creatures of our God and King (*O sifuni mungu*)
Lift up your voice and with us sing! (*O sifuni mungu*)
Thou burning sun with golden beam (*imbeni, imbeni*)
Thou silver moon with softer gleam! (*pazeni sauti imbeni*)

REFRAIN

Thou flowing water pure and clear (hm.hm.hm.hm)
Make music for thy God to hear! (hm.hm.hm.hm.)
Thou fire, so masterful and bright (Imbeni!)
That givest all both warmth and light. (Imbeni!)

REFRAIN

Let all things their Creator bless (O sifuni mungu)
And worship God in humbleness. (O sifuni mungu)

REFRAIN

Praise our Maker, praise the Son! (imbeni, imbeni)
And praise the Spirit, three in one! (pazeni sauti imbeni)

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL FOR OFFERING

Our Change-for-Change contributions in September supports local emergency food ministries: the Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry (DEAM) and the Toco Hills Community Alliance. The federal government's abandonment of food assistance is putting significant pressure on local food pantries. Give, volunteer, and make sure no person who is hungry is turned away.

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 your Spirit lead us to share these things freely. Amen.

* CLOSING SONG

Let All Things Now Living

Glory to God #37

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

J. Zundel, arr. J. Raney

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Today's Images in Worship: Meditation: *Vintage Table*, by Theen Moy, flickr (creative commons); *Creation*, by Jenean Hornbuckle (2000), based on a Cherokee creation story, Cotton canvas, oil paint; sermon: *Alleluia*, by Helen Siegl (1975), color woodcut.

Today's Flowers are given by Ginny Bowen.

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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*

Kristin Hicks, *Children, Youth, & Family Ministry*

Huu Mai, *Music Director*

Mahsheed Khawary, *Office Administrator*

Javier Sanchez, *Custodian*

Jerel Jefferson, *Music Fellow*

Carolyn Mielke, *Music Fellow*

Min-Jae Cho, *Ministry Fellow*

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