



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

March 29th, 2026

Palm Sunday

11:00 AM

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

We gather on the Plaza. For those with limited mobility, you may watch the parade from the sanctuary steps or listen from the pews. If you brought cut branches, you may lay them along the Medlock sidewalk toward the front door of the church.

GATHERING MUSIC We Are Marching in the Light of God

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John 12:12-19; Carter Broome, liturgist

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
our King!"**

(repeat call and response 3 times)

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

*THE PARADE!

The drums go first, then the whole congregation crowds around Jesus as we move together in joyous procession, heading toward the front door of the Sanctuary. Shout "Hosanna!" and other hopes for our world as we enter the sanctuary and find our seats.

*OPENING SONG

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Glory to God #197

Children 4 yrs. through 2nd grade are invited to leave now with leaders for our child-centered Worship & Wonder time; they may be picked up in the Worship & Wonder room after service. Children may also remain with their family; they may use 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.

MEDITATION

The hope I know
doesn't come with feathers.
It lives in flip-flops and, in cold weather,
a hooded sweatshirt, like a heavyweight
in training, or a monk who has taken
a half-hearted vow of perseverance.
It only has half a heart, the hope I know.
The other half it flings to every stalking hurt.
It wears a poker face, quietly reciting
the laws of probability, and gladly
takes a back seat to faith and love,
it's that many times removed
from when it had youth on its side
and beauty. Half the world wishes
to stay as it is, half to become
whatever it can dream,
while the hope I know struggles
to keep its eyes open and its mind
from combing an unpeopled beach.
Congregations sway and croon,
constituents vote across their party line,
rescue parties wait for a break
in the weather. And who goes to sleep
with a prayer on the lips or half a smile
knows some kind of hope.
Though not the hope I know,
which slinks from dream to dream
without ID or ally, traveling best at night,
keeping to the back roads and the shadows,
approaching the radiant city
without ever quite arriving.

-Thomas Centolella, "The Hope I Know" from *Almost Human*. ©2017

REFLECTION ON THE MEDITATION

*What is the hope for your life and for the life of the world that you bring to God today?
Or, what hope have you stopped hoping for?*

SUNG RESPONSE

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

Glory to God #775

PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 12:20-26

SERMON

Rev. David Lewicki

DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Agnus Dei

-from Requiem, by John Rutter

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
One that is born of a woman
hath but a short time to live,
and is full of misery,
and cometh up, and is cut down like a flower;
and fleeth as it were a shadow. *(Job 14:1-2)*
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
In the midst of life, we are in death.
Of whom may we seek for succor?
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem.
I am the resurrection and the life,
saith the Lord:
All who believe in me, though they were dead,
yet shall they live:
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me
shall never die. *(John 11:25)*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the
world, grant them rest.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the
world, grant them rest.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the
world, grant them rest.

Latin text: Missa pro defunctis
English text: Burial Service,
1662 Book of Common Prayer

INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS

*Your Change-for-Change contributions in March support **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People (32%), and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%). All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.*

*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.*



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LITURGY OF ANOINTING

If you desire, come forward to the chancel area and kneel or stand to receive an anointing on your forehead and a blessing by a worship leader.

You are invited to depart in silence or remain seated in your pew in prayer and meditation.

POSTLUDE

Organ Sonata No. 2, II. Adagio

Gustav Merkel

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

April 2nd at 6:30PM - Maundy Thursday worship at NDPC with foot washing and a shared meal; RSVP on Realm or use the link in the Communicator e-newsletter.

April 3rd at 9AM - Good Friday Stations of the Cross Pilgrimage from Ebster Recreation Center in Decatur to NDPC.

April 3rd, noon - 3PM - Good Friday silent prayer in the Sanctuary.

April 5th, 7AM: Sunrise Service at Decatur Cemetery (30 min)

8:45 & 11AM - Easter Sunday worship; 9:45AM intergenerational fellowship

NOTES ON WORSHIP TODAY:

Today's Images in Worship: *Christ on the Palm Donkey*, Germany, ca. 1520–30. *Tyrone*, by Steve McKenzie, flickr: creative commons. *Christ on the Palm Donkey*, Germany, ca. 1530.

Today's flowers are provided by the Worship Committee.

Music & Lyrics are printed/streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-719269 and CCLI #21115205 & 21115212; CCS PERFORMmusic & 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 become a member of 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; children may also remain with their families. The presence of children in worship at NDPC is a gift, never a disruption. Questions? Email kristin@ndpc.org.

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*

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