



***Service of the Lord's Day, June 25, 2023***

***Welcome!***

*Druid Hills Presbyterian Church  
calls everyone into Christian community to  
explore God's purpose for our lives,  
celebrate God's work in the world,  
and serve the needs of our neighbors.*

Family of God, masks are no longer required, but are welcome. Thank you for being considerate of the needs of each person and exercising caution, especially if you are not well or may expose others.

Masks are available in the front and back of the sanctuary.

# GOD GATHERS US AROUND THE WORD

† *You are invited to stand when you see this symbol.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 8

*Leader: O Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

**All: When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars  
you have set in their courses,  
what are mere mortals  
that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?  
Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.**

*You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:  
all flocks and cattle, the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.*

**O Lord, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

## † HYMN #319

*People of Faith, Rise Up and Sing*

Smith

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

## UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

*Jesus' great commission calls us to "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

**But going is hard.**

*We feel safer right where we are.*

**We feel comfortable with the people we already know.**

*We are afraid the folks out there will make the church different,  
and we don't know if we like different.*

**We assume that if people wanted to know Christ, they'd just show up.**

*Jesus' great commission calls us to "Go."*

**But going is hard.**

*Due to our stalling, many of God's children have been left waiting*

*and wondering if God cares about them.*

**Many have been left to assume that God doesn't want them in God's house, when it is Christians and faith communities who have drawn the lines of exclusion. Many have sworn off church as a place disconnected with the world's hopes and needs, a place that doesn't care, or pay attention.**

**All the while, God is calling us to "Go",**

*to meet the wounded and left behind where they are,*

**to come alongside,**

*to share the good news*

*that the church may have gotten it wrong through the years,*

**but that God's love reaches beyond the church's limitations.**

*Going is hard, O God.*

**Help us to do hard things.** (time for silent reflection)

## **POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Confession of Belhar*

**We believe**

**that God has revealed Godself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**

*that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;*

**that God calls the church to follow him in this,**

**for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**  
*that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;*

**that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger,**

**helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**  
*that for God pure and undefiled religion*

*is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;*

**that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;**

*that the church must therefore stand by people in any form*

*of suffering and need, which implies, among other things,*

*that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;*

**that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged;**

**that in following Christ the church must**

**witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

## **ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD**

**(WE'RE ALL GOD'S) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 28:16-20](#)

p 34 NT

*This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### SERMON

“What’s Good?”

Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton

### † HYMN #697

*Take My Life*

Hendon

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

**INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS** — Consider supporting our ministries through an [online gift](#), or mail a check to Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, 1026 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30306. Offering and prayer/attendance cards may be placed in the stands at either end of the sanctuary.

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**Thank you** for your continued giving to DHPC. While summer may mean downtime and travel for many folks, the ministry of the church continues, as do the expenses such as utilities, mission efforts, and salaries. Thank you for keeping up with your pledges and remembering DHPC even as you come and go this summer.

**Earth Stewardship Invitation:** Pollinator Week is wrapping up today. Pollinators are animals such as birds, bats, bees, butterflies, beetles, and others that pollinate the plants that are responsible for one out of every three bites of food humans eat. They also sustain our ecosystems and produce our natural resources by helping plants reproduce. Climate change, as well as other human activities, have led to a dramatic loss of food and habitat for pollinators. Visit <https://pollinator.org> for information on what you can do to help pollinators recover.

### ANTHEM

*Is There Anybody Here?*

Roland M. Carter

Cynthia Harris, *mezzo soprano*

Is there anybody here who loves my Jesus? Anybody here who loves my Lord?  
I want to know if you love my Jesus. I want to know if you love my Lord.

When I was blind and could not see, King Jesus brought the light to me.  
And when every star refuse to shine, I know King Jesus will be mine.

O brethren this world is a wilderness of woe, so let us all to glory go.  
Yes, religion is like a blooming rose, and none but those who feel it know;  
None but the righteous shall see God.

If there’s anybody here who loves my Jesus? Say, “Amen” if you love my Lord.  
I want to know if you love my Jesus. I want to know if you love my Lord.

### † DOXOLOGY #648

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Thankful Hearts

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

...Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OF THE MERCERON FAMILY

The Lord is your protector;  
the Lord is your shade right beside you.  
The sun won't strike you during the day;  
neither will the moon at night.  
The Lord will protect you from all evil;  
God will protect your very life.  
The Lord will protect you on your journeys—  
whether going or coming—  
from now until forever from now.

## BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN #757

*Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

Kingsfold

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

† POSTLUDE

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## WORSHIP NOTES

**Children of all ages are welcome in the sanctuary during worship.** Being present is how children learn to worship, so we welcome their wiggles and whispers. However, parents of small children may also drop off their Pre-K and younger kiddos in our nursery. We also hope children will take advantage of the PrayGround, which is in the back of the sanctuary and offers room to move, color, and participate in worship in a kid friendly spot.

**Assisted Listening Devices** are available from our ushers for any worshiper who needs hearing assistance.

**Interested in membership?** We are so grateful for the visitors (old and new) who add to our community each week. If you are interested in learning more about what it would look like to join, it's really easy; just talk with Pastor Betsy Turner ([bturner@dhpc.org](mailto:bturner@dhpc.org)). She'll answer questions you may have about DHPC or Presbyterianism, and walk you through meeting our leadership and making your spot in our family official. Just let us know if this feels like the right step for you or if you are curious to learn more.

## PRAYERS

*If you have a prayer request you'd like to share with the congregation, please contact our prayer list coordinator Anne Soileau ([prayerlist@dhpc.org](mailto:prayerlist@dhpc.org)).*

### prayers for our DHPC community

**Jon Houghton** is facing difficulties with a neighbor. He would appreciate prayers as this matter continues to be worked out through the legal process. The hearing has been rescheduled again, to July 26.

**Jane Boyd Lee** is doing better! She is getting good physical therapy for her back and tries to stay active. She welcomes phone calls, visits and correspondence.

**Miriam Herrera** is scheduled for hernia surgery on June 26. Plans are for her to spend several days at Piedmont after surgery. Prayers are requested.

**Wilma Ralls** is experiencing memory and physical issues. She is living with her brother Adam, and her younger sister is also helping with her care.

**Charles Middleton** is now under hospice care at home. Cards and letters can be sent to him at 609 Sibley Cir., McDonough, GA 30253-7483

**Betty Davis** moved to rehab following a fall and a broken hip. The plan is for her to be in rehab for 2-3 weeks.

**Gigi Muirheid** is continuing to recover well from hip replacement surgery.

**Jane Weir** is also continuing to recover well from hip replacement surgery.

**Maureen O'Harra**, mother of **Katie Vigilante**, fell the week before Pentecost but is now back in memory care at Holbrook.

**Helen Woodside** had surgery on June 15 and is at home doing well.

**Letia Henson** requests prayers for recovery after a minor car accident.

**Isaree Patterson** had surgery and is at home doing well.

### prayers for our family and friends

**Richard Odom**, Cynthia Middleton's brother; **Pamela McIntosh**, Betty McIntosh's daughter; **Don and Dottie Nye**, former DHPC building manager and his wife (sister of Ivey Lois Hubert); **Allie Day and her family**, friend of Jane Weir; **Sara Torres**, friend of Adam Ralls; **Rev. Brice Graves**, friend of Susan Hagood; **Kathy Moore**, friend of the Armstrongs; **Sam Steger**, friend of Susan Hagood; **Joan Smith**, sister of Linda and Betty Davis; **Lee Sewell and Nancy Bennett**, friends of May DeWees; **Jessica Matthews**, friend of Lauren Merceron; **Tracy and her mother, Charlotte**, friends of Susan Hagood; **Adella and Chuck Harter and their daughter Heather**, May DeWees' sister and her family; **Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **Indira Parekh**, friend of Anne Townsley; **Jack Hausmann**, father of Peter Hausmann; **Alison Scheuerman**, niece of Carol Wideman; **Margaret Boulware**, friend of Vivian Hodo; **Madelyn Magruder**, friend of Jane Martin; **Rob Sims**, brother-in-law of Renée Weese and Tina McCormick; **Kate Pierce**, sister of Marlene Slavich; **Devon Corbett and his mother, Melinda Corbett**, friends of Robert Welborn; **students and faculty of New College of Florida**, alma mater of Susan Rutherford; **Robin Kirkpatrick**, friend of Susan Rutherford, **Shannon Dodd and family**; friends of the Soileau Acton family; **Chelsea Walker**, daughter of Letia Henson; **Maggie and Phil Gasior**, friends of Anne Soileau; **Tom Stocks and Tim O'Farrell**, friends of Donna Durden; **Barbara Bybee**, cousin of Robert Welborn; **Ann Mertens**, friend of Carol and Ken Wideman; **Meghan Harter and newborn Joseph**, friends of Susan Hagood; and **Anne Dukes**, mother-in-law of Jane Weir's son.



## WEEKLY UPDATE

### Sunday, June 25

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*  
*Roundtable Adult Education Class*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Farewell Reception for Merceron Family*  
*Sandwich Ministry*

### Sunday, July 2

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*  
*Roundtable Adult Education Class*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*

### Monday, July 3

- All Day – *Church Office Closed for Independence Day*

### Tuesday, July 4

- All Day – *Church Office Closed for Independence Day*

### FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR THE MERCERON FAMILY

#### Today, Following Worship (Back of Sanctuary)

Join us after worship for a celebration of the Merceron family as they move away to Pennsylvania. We wish Lauren, Tyler, Grayson, and Kai traveling mercies and many blessings in their new home.

### SANDWICH MINISTRY

#### Today, Following Worship (Back of Sanctuary)

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the congregation is invited to assist in making sandwiches for our hungry neighbors who receive care at Intown Cares and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. Many hands make light work, so make plans to gather after worship in the rear of the sanctuary to help. Contact Anne Townsley ([anne.townsley314@gmail.com](mailto:anne.townsley314@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

#### Monday July 3rd and Tuesday July 4th

The church office will be closed for the Independence Day holiday. On this long weekend, as always, we pray to the God of all nations for our own country as well as for peace around the world.

### TV TIME! AT THE TABLE ON AIB

#### Tuesday, July 4, 8:00 PM

Our own interim pastor, Betsy Turner, was recently interviewed for the program *At the Table* on Atlanta Interfaith Broadcasting (AIB), discussing our new solar panels and DHPC's commitment to earth care / sustainability. The episode will premiere Tuesday, July 4th at 8 PM, on AIB, which can be viewed on channel 295 on Comcast and channel 6 on AT&T U-verse, as well as at their website [www.aibtv.com/aibeverywhere](http://www.aibtv.com/aibeverywhere)). It will replay throughout the month of July: Tuesdays at 8PM, Wednesdays at 9:30AM & 7:30PM, Thursdays at 12PM & 6:30PM, Fridays at 2PM, Saturdays at 10PM, and Sundays at 10AM. The segment will also be on AIB's Facebook page shortly after its premiere (<https://www.facebook.com/watchaibtv>) Check it out!

### SECURITY UPDATE

As a best practice to maintain campus security, we have reset the church door keycards and codes given out to members. If you have a physical key card, please dig it up and return to the church (to a staff member or in the offering boxes). From now on, plan to access the church during office hours (ordinarily 9-1 Monday-Thursday) or by appointment with staff or other card/code holder.

## PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

As DHPC goes through the steps to call our next installed pastor, updates will be shared here.

Where we are: Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been prayerfully reviewing candidates and narrowing down by conducting interviews, listening to sermons, and checking references. Thank you, congregation, for doing a great job praying for them and respecting the confidentiality of the process!

What comes next and what you can do: Once the PNC identifies their candidate, they will ask the Session to call a congregational meeting for you to receive their report, hear about the person, and vote on calling them as your pastor. Until then, keep praying for the PNC and all candidates, including the one who will be your new pastor.

## INTOWN CARES: MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

The Intown Cares Pantry works to reduce the impact of food insecurity for Atlantans living in DHPC's neighborhood and beyond. Whenever you can, grab a few extra items, especially this week: **Ramen noodles, shelf stable milk, pasta sauce, fruit cups, SPAM, canned fruit, instant oatmeal/grits, condiments, bottled water, tuna packets, canned poptop veggies, instant coffee, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, utensil packets, peanut butter & jelly, canned beans, canned soup (not condensed), cereal.**

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## FOUR WAYS TO SUPPORT DHPC

1. **Make a donation with your smartphone!**  
Text "DHPC \$\_\_\_ (the amount you want to give)" to 73256 to give using your text messaging. You will receive response with a link to the giving portal. Standard text message rates do apply.
2. **Give online** at [tinyurl.com/DHPCoffering](https://tinyurl.com/DHPCoffering). You may make a one-time gift or set up recurring payments.
3. **Mail a check to the church** at 1026 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE; Atlanta, GA 30306.
4. **In-person:** Drop your offering in one of the offering boxes near the doors.

### CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor: Rev. Betsy Turner, [bturner@dhpc.org](mailto:bturner@dhpc.org)  
Pastor for Engagement: Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton, [eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)  
Interim Director of Music, Paula Broughton, [pbroughton@dhpc.org](mailto:pbroughton@dhpc.org)  
Organist: Cliff Frierson, [cfrierson@dhpc.org](mailto:cfrierson@dhpc.org)  
Director, Handbell Choir: Denise Huewitt  
Facilities Manager: Mike Williams, [mwilliams@dhpc.org](mailto:mwilliams@dhpc.org)  
Communications and Hospitality Manager: Nate Baughman, [nbaughman@dhpc.org](mailto:nbaughman@dhpc.org)

### DEACONS

Susan Hagood, Marlene Slavich, Anne Soileau

### THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

Christian Education: Gigi Muirheid  
Finance: Betty McIntosh  
Mission: Anne Townsley  
Personnel: Pete McGuire  
Worship: Bob Beard  
Property and Administration: Betty Davis  
Clerk of the Session: Eric Dusenbury  
Treasurer: Linda Davis

*Elder Emerita:*  
Cecile McRae Hooks

### **Druid Hills Presbyterian Church**

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