



Service of the Lord's Day, November 19, 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

Union Seminary
(Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether)

Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Ever-present God, around us, within us,

All: We come to praise and worship you.

God of eternity, God of the here and now,

We come seeking to serve you.

God of the big picture, whose loving purpose embraces the whole world,

We come to strengthen our commitment.

God of the smallest detail, closer to us than breathing,

We come to increase our discernment

God whose grace is sufficient for all our needs,

We come to worship you.

† HYMN #409

God is Here!

Abbot's Leigh

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Based on Psalm 146:5-10

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the Lord their God,

who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them.

Loving God, we confess that we have often turned away from you,

the Creator of all things;

we have forgotten to truly care for your creation.

God keeps faith forever;

God executes justice for the oppressed.

We have been content as long as our own needs—

and those of our families and friends—have been met.

God gives food to the hungry.

We have filled our shelves and pantries,

not knowing who grows our food or what their lives are like.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

We have bought products without thinking

about the working conditions of the people who make them.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

We wear clothes made in sweatshops;

we accept the fact that millions go to bed hungry every night.

The Lord loves the righteous;

the Lord watches over the strangers;

We have turned away the needy at the gate.

The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

We have been distracted by our own concerns,

and so we have failed to hear your people

who are calling for justice, for peace, for someone to care.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

Forgive us, Lord, when we fail to catch a vision of your reign;

may we work for your kingdom “on earth as it is in heaven,”

so that all generations will know your love, your justice,

and your peace.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

[Exodus 31:1-14](#)

p 77-78 OT

NEW TESTAMENT READING

[Matthew 6:19-21](#)

p 6 NT

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

SERMON

“Does this Item Spark Joy”

Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

† **HYMN #753**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

Verses 1 - 3

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in Creator, Father-Mother Spirit,

who called the world and all that is in it into being;

who spoke the creative-forming word, and all came forth;

who created people and set them free to live in love and humility

to the will of supreme love, and in community with all.

*We believe in Creator, Son and Brother,
who because of love for all creation beyond our understanding,
entered the world to share our humanity;
to set before us the paths of life and death,
and walk them with us;
to be rejected and die,
but finally to conquer death and in new life,
draw the world to himself for all time.*

**We believe in Creator, In-dwelling Spirit,
who calls us into community,
that we may, through faith and that community of oneness,
experience uplifting and sustaining grace;
that we may fulfill our human responsibility to reach out to our neighbor,
whomever that may be;
that we may rejoice in the constant nature of creation
and the wondrous joy of life itself.**

*We believe in Creator,
whose word teaches us that all things grow together, the Circle of Life;
that the paths of life and death, good and evil, too often come together;
that choices are not clearly defined,
but that we confidently and responsibly tread the path we choose
and only the true One can be our judge.*

**We believe in Creator,
who is present and working in this world through all Creation. Amen.**

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.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP: Betty McIntosh

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. Thanks to our Tech Team for expanding our social media platforms to include YouTube. You may now stream the worship service on this platform and share it with your friends!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Before the coldest days arrive, check the air pressure in your car tires in order to make sure that they are properly inflated. Cooler temperatures lower tire pressure, which, in turn, lowers fuel efficiency. Inflating your tires just takes a few minutes, and it is well worth your time!

ANTHEM

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Carl F. Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with Thy free Spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God!

† **DOXOLOGY #607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN #643** *Now Thank We All Our God* Nun Danket Alle Gott

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

† **POSTLUDE** *Postlude* Théodore Dubois

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WORSHIP NOTES

The call to worship was inspired by Norman Shanks' work published in *Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies* (2017). **The unison prayer of brokenness** was written by Rev. Bruce and Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. **The affirmation of faith** comes from liturgy written by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's American Indian and Alaska Native Ministries for Native American Sunday in the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by John McFarland and his family to the glory of God and with thanksgiving for the 60th anniversary of the marriage of Jack and Alma McFarland.

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 one of our pastors. They'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).

prayers for our DHPC community

Thomas Jones, DHPC's beloved security guard, has tested positive for stage 2 prostate cancer. Thomas had a PET scan on November 17 to see if the cancer has spread beyond his prostate. At this point he says he doesn't need anything but DHPC's prayers.

Jane Boyd Lee is doing better! She no longer needs physical therapy and is trying to stay active. She welcomes phone calls, visits, and correspondence.

Adam Ralls is awaiting surgery for spinal stenosis. Adam received an epidural for pain on Monday, which has worked remarkably well.

Betty Davis spent a few days in the hospital to clear up an infection. She is now happily home and grateful for continued prayers.

Santana Herrera has received positive news but is still undergoing medical tests to get to the root of his medical issues.

May DeWees is home now after an admission to Piedmont Hospital late Sunday, November 5. She appreciates our prayers.

prayers for our family and friends

Richard Odom, Cynthia Middleton's brother; **Brenda Robbins and Alan Baggett**, friends of Betty McIntosh; **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; **Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **Adella and Chuck Harter and their daughter Heather**, May DeWees' sister and her family; **Tracy and her mother, Charlotte**, friends of Susan Hagood; **Joan Gravely**, friend of Vivian Hodo; **Shannon Dodd and family**, friends of the Soileau Acton family; **Chelsea Walker**, daughter of Letia Henson; **Tim O'Farrell**, friend 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; **Connie Finn**, sister of Cliff Frierson; **Cindy Woodside**, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside; and **Rhea Hannah**, dear friend and former member of DHPC.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, November 19

9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class

11:00 AM – *Worship*

12:00 PM – *Sandwich Ministry*

Monday, November 20 - Friday, November 24

All Day – *Church Office Closed for Holidays*

Sunday, November 26

9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class

11:00 AM – *Worship*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Monday, November 20 - Friday, November 24

While Pastors Renée and Elizabeth are out of the office, coverage will be available through DHPC community member and Presbyterian pastor Rev. Tina McCormick will be on call for pastoral emergencies. Tina can be reached at 404-395-8882 or tmccormick325@gmail.com.

ADVENT EVENT: LUNCH, COOKIE BAR, HANGING OF THE GREENS, MISSION, & CRAFTS

Sunday, December 3, Following Worship

All are invited to join in on the fun of DHPC's annual Advent Event! The festivities will take place following worship and will include lunch, a cookie bar (see below), church decorating, crafts, a mission opportunity, and a whole lot of fun. The cost of lunch is \$5/person with a \$15 maximum for 3 or more. (If cost is prohibitive, talk to Pastor Elizabeth.) To pay for your meal in advance, visit www.dhpc.org and click "Give Online" in the top right corner. Once at the payment portal, select "Congregational Lunch" as the fund. Please put your name in the memo line. Please RSVP by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/DHPCAdventEvent23>. We can't wait to see you! All are welcome! Bring a friend!

ADVENT EVENT: HOMEMADE COOKIE BAR

Sunday, December 3, Following Worship

This year's Advent Event will have feature a return of last year's celebrated cookie bar. DHPC's baker extraordinaires will provide a wealth of tasty goodies! Bakers are asked to bake 1 to 2 dozen of a favorite cookie to share with the congregation. Advent Event guests will then get to enjoy some delicious homemade cookies and maybe even get to take some home! To assure that we have a variety of cookies, please let DHPC Deacon Susan Hagood (shagoodrd@msn.com) know by Wednesday, November 29 what type of cookie you will bring.

DISHWASHING HELP NEEDED!

Sunday, December 3 after Advent Lunch

We are looking for a small team of dishwashers for after the Advent lunch. If you are interested in helping, email Eric Dusenbury at ericdusenbury@gmail.com or call him at 678-613-2886.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: DHPC TABLE AT VA-HI'S WINTERFEST KIDS' CORNER

Saturday, December 9, 11am - 5pm

DHPC will once again be spreading holiday cheer for all to hear at Virginia-Highland's Winterfest! DHPC is the presenting sponsor of the Winterfest Kids Corner, which will feature activities like bounce houses, face painting, elf performances, crafts, and more. (DHPC volunteers are not responsible for running these activities!) This is an amazing opportunity for DHPCers to reach out to our neighbors to share the good news about our fantastic church that is doing such great work in the VaHi community and beyond. Volunteers are needed to staff the DHPC table. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Pastor Elizabeth (eacton@dhpc.org).

LOVE OFFERING FOR DHPC SECURITY GUARD THOMAS JONES

Thomas Jones, DHPC's dedicated and hardworking security guard, is having surgery as part of his prostate cancer treatment. Thomas will be out of work for about a month following the operation and, thus, will have a reduced income. The Session approved a congregational love offering to assist Thomas during this time. If you would like to contribute to this gift for Thomas, you may place a check (with "TJ Gift" in the memo line) in either of the clear boxes at the sanctuary doors or [give online](#). To give online, select "Pastor's Fund" as the fund from the dropdown menu once you enter the giving portal. Please make your gift by November 30.

OFFICIAL CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

Sundays, December 3 and December 10, Before and After Worship

Yahoo! We had enough people wanting to participate in DHPC's congregational retreat that we are a go! Please look at your calendar one last time to see if you are able to join us in the mountains of NC January 19 - 21 for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and faithful connection to God, nature, and one another.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Today, Following Worship (Back of Sanctuary)

On the fourth Sunday of the 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 make sandwiches. Contact Anne Townsley (anne.townsley314@gmail.com) with any questions.

PRESBYTERIANS FOR A BETTER GEORGIA (PBG) LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Tuesday, November 28, 7-8PM; Zoom

The upcoming PBG legislative forum will introduce participants to key legislators and advocates who support the mission of PBG. Participants will also learn about pending issues for the coming legislative session and get a forecast of likely bills and their authors. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/DHPCLegislative> to receive updates and the Zoom link.

NORTH DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Saturday, December 2, 10AM - 3PM; 611 Medlock Rd, Decatur, GA 30033

For holiday gift-giving that makes a difference join DHPC's friends, North Decatur Presbyterian Church, as they host their annual Alternative Gift Market. Featured vendors sell fair trade, sustainable, and reasonably priced holiday gifts that create positive change for refugees and disenfranchised populations. Purchase unique items from around the world, as well as one-of-a-kind local products from emerging entrepreneurs. Donation gifts will also be available from both local and international charities. Learn more at www.ndpc.org/agm.

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 & pasta sauce, fruit cups, SPAM, canned fruit, instant oatmeal/grits, bottled water, utensil packets, tuna packets, canned poptop veggies, instant coffee, canned meats, peanut butter, jelly, 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. 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

Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Renée A. Meyer, rmeyer@dhpc.org
Pastor for Engagement: Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton, eacton@dhpc.org
Interim Director of Music, Paula Broughton, pbroughton@dhpc.org
Organist: Cliff Frierson, cfrierson@dhpc.org
Director, Handbell Choir: Denise Huewitt
Facilities Manager: Mike Williams, mwilliams@dhpc.org
Communications and Hospitality Manager: Nate Baughman, nbaughman@dhpc.org

DEACONS

Susan Hagood, Marlene Slavich, Anne Soileau, Susan Rutherford

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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