

Service of the Lord's Day, November 5, 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 Variation on a Theme of Corelli Arron David Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

(from *Touch Holiness*)

Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

All: We need not look up to find God, we need only look around:

Within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

We need not listen for distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to

the music of life,

The words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

OPENING HYMN

Hymn of Praise

arr. John Carter

based on the hymn "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Awake, awake! Awake my heart for night is passing! Awake my heart, awake and pray! Awake my heart and come rejoicing. The dove of dawn is on the wing to welcome in the day.

When morning gilds the sky, our hearts awaking cry: May Jesus Christ be praised! In all our work and prayer, we ask his loving care: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Awake my heart the dove of dawn is flying; On silent wings she rises with the sun. Be still my heart and hear her sweet voice crying; The song she sings has only just begun.

The night becomes as day, when from the heart we say: May Jesus Christ be praised! The pow'rs of darkness fear, when this sweet chant they hear: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Awake, awake! Awake my heart awake and sing!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this th'eternal song, through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

So often, God of wholeness, we are a torn people.

We set ourselves apart based on differences, distinctions, judgments, and opinions.

We tear ourselves from within as we strive for independence and unique individuality.

We do not recognize our common longings for peace, for healing and deep meaning within life. Emerging from the heart of the Christ, you come to us in reassuring love. The power of your Spirit blesses our living with hope and feeds us in joy. In the unity of that Spirit, we draw together to sing and pray as your own dear renewed children.

Refresh us now as we open who we are to who we may yet become.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 9:14-29

p 44-45 NT

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

SERMON

"I Believe, Help My Unbelief"

Rev. Dr. Renée A. Meyer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Bruce Prewer, Worship-blogspot

Despite many unanswered questions, I believe.

I believe in the living God, the joy of the universe, who is the pulse and purpose of all things seen and unseen, who from the dust of earth calls up living beings to be children of eternity, who through countless ages has provided for us many liberators and tirelessly seeks to bring victory out of defeat and life out of decay.

I believe in Jesus the Christ, God's true Son, who is bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, who took upon himself the healing of the human race, who was betrayed, crucified, dead and buried in a borrowed tomb, who on the third day was found to be gloriously alive, meeting with those who trust him and serve him to the end of the world.

I believe in the Holy Spirit of God, within and among all who cherish Christ and his way, who brings hope out of despair, love out of apathy, and joy out of sorrow, who unceasingly regenerates and reforms the Church that it may always be the contemporary body of the risen Christ, loving the world through prayer, word and deed

Despite unanswered questions, yes, I believe.

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Center for Gun Violence Solutions

Anne Townsley

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS — Consider supporting our ministries through an <u>online gift</u>, 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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Dedicating our Gifts to Combating Racism

This month's celebration of Thanksgiving coincides with Native American History Month. As we come together to spend time with family and friends, the occasion can serve as a reminder of the importance of honoring the impacts that the rich and diverse cultures of indigenous communities have had on our lives.

A Google search will yield many opportunities to learn more, including places to visit and activities to share. For example, the area that became Atlanta was originally inhabited by Creek and Cherokee peoples. The space where Peachtree Creek flows into the Chattahoochee was originally a Native village named Pakanahuili, a Creek word meaning "Standing Peach Tree." The area is now a park in Buckhead called Standing Peachtree.

This Thanksgiving may our celebrations emphasize gratitude not only for the bountiful harvest but also for the enduring resilience and contributions of Native Americans. May we learn more so we can fully appreciate the cultures and sacrifices of the people who lived here for thousands of years before us.

ANTHEM

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

Walter L. Pelz

Let all the world in every corner sing: "My God and King!" The heavens are not too high, His praise may thither fly; The earth is not too low, God's praises there may grow.

Let all the world in every corner sing: "My God and King!" The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out; But more, more than all, the heart must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in every corner sing: "My God and King!"

† 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.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE COMMUNION MUSIC

All communion bread is gluten free

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN 641**

When in Our Music God is Glorified arr. Harriet Ziegenhals

ENGELBERG

When in our music God is glorified | And adoration leaves no room for pride, It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found | A new dimension in the world of sound, As worship moved us to a more profound: Alleluia!

So has the Church, in liturgy and song | In faith and love, through centuries of wrong, Borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night | When utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! | Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

 $Trumpet\ Tune\ in\ F\ Major$

David German

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WORSHIP NOTES

Today's bulletin image is from Renaissance Master Raphael's *The Transfiguration*. Raphael took an unusual depiction of the transfiguration and included the next part of the Gospels, the healing of a possessed boy (seen as our cover image) as the lower part of his painting. The full image can be found here: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Transfiguration Raphael.jpg

DHPC's Restored Pipe Organ Debuts Today! Today we arrive at the destination of our 6-year journey to restore our sanctuary's pipe organ. The Organ Restoration Task Force (Bill Armstrong, Howell Adams, Karin Dusenbury, Chris Escobar, Cliff Frierson, and Ken Wideman) planned and coordinated the complex project starting in February 2018. We now celebrate the return of our organ with all of its original components repaired and restored, plus the addition of 9 new ranks (unique voices) and 293 new pipes that were unaffordable to the church in the 1940s. This restoration was successful due to the generosity of many financial donors, such as you, who gave us the opportunity to accomplish the restoration without incurring a debt. The thorough and meticulous work of A. E. Schlueter Pipe Organ Company has delivered our beautiful pipe organ that should not require another restoration during our lifetime.

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 (<u>prayerlist@dhpc.org</u>).

prayers of condolences

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Toya Harris**, **DHPC's dedicated nursery worker**, and her family. Toya's father, William Stephens, died on Tuesday, October 24, following an extended illness. His funeral was held on November 4 at Faith Apostolic Church in Tennille, GA.

prayers for our DHPC community

Thomas Jones, DHPC's beloved security guard, has tested positive for stage 2 prostate cancer. Thomas will have 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.

Betty Davis has returned home from rehab after breaking her hip.

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

prayers for our family and friends

Richard Odom, Cynthia Middleton's brother; Brenda Robbins and Alan Baggett, friends of Betty McIntosh; Don and Dottie Nye, former DHPC building manager and his wife (sister of Ivey Lois Hubert); 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; Kate Pierce, sister of Marlene Slavich; Gwen Davies, friend of Susan Rutherford; Shannon Dodd and family, friends of the Soileau Acton family; Chelsea Walker, daughter of Letia Henson; Tim O'Farrell and Brent Yountz, 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; Connie Finn, sister of Cliff Frierson; Cindy Woodside, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside; and Chris, Nicole, Olivia, Aiden, and Amelia Escobar following the sudden death of Chris' uncle Dan Fittro following a fall.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, November 5

9:30 AM - Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship

Roundtable Adult Education Class

10:00 AM - Children's Sunday School

11:00 AM - *Worship*

12:00 PM - Called Session Meeting

12:15 PM - Mission Team Meeting

Monday, November 6

7:30 PM - Fall Online Book Study

Wednesday, November 8

6:15 PM - Handbells Rehearsal

Sunday, November 12

9:30 AM - Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship

Roundtable Adult Education Class

11:00 AM - Worship

3:00 PM - Organ Concert

LOVE OFFERING FOR DHPC SECURITY GUARD THOMAS JONES

Thomas Jones, DHPC's dedicated and hardworking security guard, is having surgery in November 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 "Pastoral Fund" as the fund from the dropdown menu once you enter the giving portal. Please make your gift by November 30.

DEACON TRANSITION UNDERWAY

Over the last year, DHPCers have heard from their deacons from time to time and, hopefully, that has been a meaningful ministry for each of you. It is now time for us to roll out new deacon assignments, which is being done to allow for new caring relationships to be formed. Soon, you will hear from your new deacon. (If you don't, let Pastor Elizabeth know so we can make sure our lists are correct!) Your deacons, Susan Hagood, Susan Rutherford, Marlene Slavich, and Anne Soileau, are grateful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful congregation in times of sorrow and joy!

FREE ORGAN CONCERT FOR DHPC FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, & WIDER COMMUNITY! Sunday, November 12, 3PM

We are pleased to unveil our newly restored pipe organ to the wider community in a free concert featuring internationally renowned organist (and father of DHPC's own Nicole Escobar) Maestro Hector Olivera. Maestro Olivero will present a program of classical and popular pieces that will also feature his famous on-the-spot improvisations. A reception will follow in the church parlor. Grab a friend and come hear some wonderful music that is sure to be a highlight of the season!

MAKING LUNCH FOR MERCY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday, November 12, 12 PM

DHPC volunteers will be preparing lunch for our neighbors at Mercy Community Church on Sunday, November 12. If you would like to help prepare the meal, please visit https://tinyurl.com/servingmercy. If you have any questions, contact Eric Dusenbury (678.613.2886, eric.dusenbury@gmail.com).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN DAY AND NIGHT CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 14, 10:30 AM and 7:15 PM

All women are invited to attend our Presbyterian Women (PW) Day and/or Night Circle meetings for Bible Study, prayer, and fellowship. At this time, we are continuing to meet virtually on Zoom. For more information about PW, talk with Moderator Carol Wideman or Vice Moderator Coby Armstrong.

SAVE THE DATE: DHPC ADVENT EVENT!

Sunday, December 3, Following Worship

Make plans to join in some congregational fun after worship on the first Sunday of Advent! We'll eat, decorate, and craft together. Stay tuned for more details!

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

THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

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

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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