



Service of the Lord's Day, January 21, 2024

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

Gathered by Love

*Leader: For God alone our souls wait in silence.
Our hope is from God, our fortress.*

**All: God is our rock and our salvation.
God is our refuge and our deliverance.
Trust in God at all times, in all places.
Pour out your hearts to the One who hears.
All people are valuable in God's sight.
No one is more important than another.
Worship God, who is ready to speak to us.
Open your lives to God's steadfast love.
All power in the universe belongs to God.
Yet God depends on our faithful service.**

† HYMN #394

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Gathered by Love

**Sovereign God,
We reluctantly confess that we have installed our own gods in our lives.
They take our time.
They use our resources.
They exact from us care and devotion.
We do not like to hear that our way of life is endangered.
Yet we sometimes realize that innocent steps into self-indulgence
are really deliberate strides away from you.
We hear distant echoes of warning and judgment.
O God, we want to return to you before it is too late.
We repent of everything in our lives that cuts us off from you.
Hear our prayer.**

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

World Council of Churches

I believe in the God that accompanies me along every step of my path on this earth, many times walking behind me, watching me and suffering with my mistakes, other times walking beside me, talking to me and teaching me, and other times walking ahead of me, guiding and marking my pace.

I believe in the God of flesh and blood, Jesus Christ, who lived in my skin and tried on my shoes, who walked in my ways and knows of lights and shadows. The one who ate and starved, who had a home and suffered loneliness, who was praised and condemned, kissed and spat on, loved and hated. The one who went to parties and funerals, the one who laughed and cried.

I believe in the God of Spirit, who breathes freshly on me, who inspires me to be better, to do better, to love more. I believe in a God who makes life in body and spirit full of great possibilities!

Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Psalm 62:5-12](#)

[Mark 1:14-20](#)

p 526-527 OT

p 35 NT

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

SERMON

“A New Vision”

Rev. Nibs Stroupe

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 to the bell choir for their beautiful anthem, “Let There Be Peace on Earth,” last week!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Make a commitment to reduce your food waste by meal planning. Shop with a grocery list, and designate a shelf in your fridge for “eat me first” foods that need to be eaten ASAP. You could even try a pantry challenge to save money and use up odds and ends from your fridge, freezer, and shelves! Then celebrate all the food (and methane!) you kept out of the landfill!

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep from Singing

arr. Russell Robinson

My life goes on in endless song above earth's lamentations.
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm; While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth. How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear its music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

† **DOXOLOGY #607**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

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

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN #100**

My Soul Cries Out

Star of County Down

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

† **POSTLUDE**

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WORSHIP NOTES

We welcome Pastor Nibs Stroupe today as worship leader and preacher. Rev. Stroupe was ordained in 1975 and he and his spouse Caroline Leach were the first clergy couple in the Southern Presbyterian Church, beginning in Norfolk, Virginia. They were co-pastors of Oakhurst Presbyterian in Decatur for over 30 years before retiring. Rev. Stroupe co-authored with Dr. Catherine Meeks the award-winning book *Passionate for Justice: Ida B. Wells as Prophet for Our Time* and is author of 5 other books, including a memoir which will be published this year. In 2007, Rev. Stroupe was inducted into the Morehouse Martin Luther King Jr. College of Preachers. Nibs and Caroline have two children, David and Susan, and two granddaughters.

This week our congregation is worshiping in two locations. In addition to our service here this morning, a group of DHPers is in Montreat, NC at our congregational retreat. We are grateful to be worshiping with you in whatever way you join us!

Our bulletin image is entitled *A Fishing Net in Brandon Creek* and is taken by photographer Peter Church. It is printed with permission through the creative commons license and the original can be found here: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:A_fishing_net_in_Brandon_Creek_-_geograph.org.uk_-_921094.jpg

Our Call to Worship and Prayer of Brokenness come from Lavon Bayler's *Gathered by Love*. Bayler notes that each Sunday we are gathered by love to sit at the feet of Jesus. Then "we are sent back to our everyday world to share love, not as a sentimental feeling but in caring actions."

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 of condolence

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Bob and Marlene Slavich** and their family following the death of Marlene's sister, Katherine Pierce, on Thursday, January 4. Notes of sympathy can be sent to Marlene at 2926 Pangborn Rd., Decatur, GA 30033.

prayers for our DHPC community

Thomas Jones, DHPC's beloved security guard, continues to recover at home from his mid-December surgery. His recovery is going more slowly than expected and he welcomes prayers for continued improvement. Cards can be sent to Thomas at P.O. Box 55375, Atlanta, GA 30308.

Jack McFarland is at home recovering from pneumonia.

Henry Benk

Betty Davis is now happily home and grateful for continued prayers.

May DeWees is home now.

Linda Davis broke her ankle and asks for prayers of healing and recovery. Further testing will determine whether or not surgery will be needed.

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; **Kathy Moore**, friend of the Armstrongs; **Joan Smith**, sister of Linda and Betty Davis; the family of **Chuck Harter**, brother-in-law of May DeWees; **Carl and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **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; **Connie Finn**, sister of Cliff Frierson; and **Cindy Woodside**, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Friday, January 19 - Sunday, January 21

All Day – *Congregational Retreat at Montreat, NC*

Sunday, January 21

9:30 PM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*

Roundtable Adult Education Class

10:00 AM – *Community Recycling Day - Books and Styrofoam*

11:00 AM – *Worship*

Wednesday, January 24

6:15 PM – *Handbells Rehearsal*

7:30 PM – *Choir Practice*

Saturday, January 27

7:00 PM – *Hunchback of Notre Dame Screening with Live Organ Accompaniment*

Sunday, January 28

9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*

Roundtable Adult Education Class

11:00 AM – *Worship*

12:00 PM – *Sandwich Ministry*

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Sunday, January 28, 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. Please plan to gather after worship in the rear of the sanctuary to help. Contact Anne Townsley (anne.townsley314@gmail.com) with any questions.

MOVIE SCREENING WITH RESTORED ORGAN

Saturday, January 27, 7:00 PM

Invite your friends, neighbors, and family to come experience the classic 1923 *Hunchback of Notre Dame* with live organ accompaniment by concert organist Kerry Bunn. Bunn is the head voicer and tonal finisher of Schlueter Pipe Organ Company and also serves on the board of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society. We will be holding this screening of the Lon Chaney classic here in our sanctuary and can't wait to see you there!

FEBRUARY PC(USA) ONLINE BOOK STUDY

Monday, February 5, 12, 19, 26; 7:30PM

The PC(USA) is hosting a denomination-wide book study on Matthew Desmond's remarkable book, *Poverty, By America*. The Christian Education team is hopeful that DHPCers will participate in this study in lieu of a DHPC winter book study. To register, visit <http://tinyurl.com/PCUSABookStudy> and let Pastor Elizabeth know. Even if you can't participate, consider reading the book. It is fantastic!

GEORGIA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT SUMMIT

Saturday, February 3, 2024; Oak Grove United Methodist Church

GIPL invites you to attend their annual Green Team Summit where faithful environmentalists will gather for a time of fellowship and shared learning. Participants will learn practical insights for cultivating climate resilience in local communities and building a resilient democracy by advocating for environmentally just policies. Tickets are \$30 and lunch, coffee, and light snacks will be provided. (See Pastor Elizabeth for scholarships.) For more information visit <http://tinyurl.com/GIPLWorkshop>

PRESBYTERIANS FOR A BETTER GA ONLINE ADVOCACY TRAINING

Tuesday, February 6, 7:00 PM

Join Presbyterians for a Better Georgia (PBG) for their annual Advocacy Training. This online training will help participants understand the issues that are before the state legislature this session and learn how to effectively speak up to shape Georgia's policies. PBG focuses on advocating for policies that are consistent with the ministries of PC(USA) churches (mental health care services, affordable housing; and eradicating homelessness). Learn more and register at www.p4bg.org/events.

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.**

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 a 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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