



Epiphany Sunday, January 8, 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, all worshippers are required to mask.
Thank you for your protection of our community's many vulnerable members.

GOD GATHERS US AROUND THE WORD

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

PRELUDE

Away in a Manger

arr. Wilbur Held

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*One: Calling all seekers, all dreamers, all believers...
 Calling all glass-half-full optimists and lighthouse keepers...*

Many: Calling all star-chasers and bedtime prayer speakers...
*Bring your questions, your hope,
 our faith, and our fear
 into this space.
 God is here. Let us worship together.*

† **HYMN #151**

We Three Kings

Kings of Orient

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

**God of starlight,
we know that faith isn't a vending machine.
Good news can't be bought or manufactured.
It does not arrive with a push of a button.
Instead, in this noisy world, we have to look for you in our midst.
 We have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did.
 We have to believe that love really can change the world.
 We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights.
Forgive us for forgetting that.
Forgive us for being inattentive
 to your real presence in our midst,
 your holy and challenging call on our lives,
 and the blessedness and need of your children all around us.
Forgive us for seeking and serving you with only part of our hearts.**

**We long to be more like the Magi.
Set us free from all that holds us back,
 that we may we walk your way every single day.**

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that faith is active,
found on long walks,
and in long talks,
in future days,
and down memory lane.
We believe that those who seek
will find, although it may not be what they expected.
We believe that God finds us first.
We believe that God drops breadcrumbs along our way
in the shape of people,
invitations,
and even starlight.
We believe that being a seeker—
of God, of justice, of community—
is a holy thing.
So we strive to live with an open spirit,
with soft hearts,
and with room to grow.
May it be so.
This we believe. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 2:1-12](#)

p 2 NT

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

SERMON

From Generation to Generation:
We Keep Seeking

Rev. Betsy Turner

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. A huge thank you to all of the musicians, ushers, video team, and staff for making our Christmas Eve service so wonderful! It was such a beautiful way for us to have one final in-person service for 2022 and we are so grateful for everyone who helped and joined us in worship.

Earth Stewardship Invitation: As we kick off the new year, take a moment to commit to one or more practices that will help care for God's good creation. Some suggestions: eat less meat, reduce plastic use, carry a reusable cup, decrease shower lengths, consume less/buy nothing for a week (or longer!), go outside more (aim for 30 minutes a day), and/or reduce paper towel usage. What will you commit to this year?

ANTHEM

What Child is This

arr. Jason W. Krug

DHPC Bell Choir

Denise W. Huewitt, Director

† **DOXOLOGY #150**

As With Gladness Men of Old

Dix

Verses 1 and 3

As with gladness men of old / did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, / leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we / evermore be led to thee.

As they offered gifts most rare / at thy manger, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, / pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, / Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

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

All communion bread is gluten free

COMMUNION MUSIC

Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night

arr. Mark Hayes

Paula Grissom Broughton, piano

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN**

Always Seeking

Regent Square

(to the tune of Angels from the Realms of Glory)

As the wise men scanned the heavens / There they saw Christ's natal star
Then began the long procession / Seeking him in country far
Always seeking, moving onward / Following where God may lead

When they reached King Herod's palace / Asking where to find the child
Herod schemed in all his malice / This new king himself to find
Always seeking, moving onward / Following where God may lead

Fleeing from the wrath of Herod / Joseph led his family
Seeking in the desert arid / Safety there as refugees
Always seeking, moving onward / Following where God may lead

Seeking signs or seeking power / Seeking safety, seeking home
Day by day and hour by hour / We press on toward the unknown
Always seeking, moving onward / Following where God may lead

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

God Rest You Merry

Wilbur Held

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WORSHIP NOTES

Today we conclude our series “From Generation to Generation,” which through the seasons of Advent and Christmas has invited us to explore the human stories around Christ’s birth. “Like a tapestry woven throughout time, the Christmas story weaves us in—to remember how God has shown up in the past, to continue the work of collective liberation, to behold the presence of God in flesh and bone.” This season and beyond, “may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won’t let you go.” All materials copyright *A Sanctified Art LLC sanctifiedart.org*.

- **Words for worship** are adapted from resources written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed.
- **Bulletin art** is “The Golden Pilgrimage” by Carmelle Beaugelin who invites us, through this canvas collage on handmade reclaimed paper to “Imagine the whispers in the town of Bethlehem... the relatives of Mary and Joseph, the members of the community, and those learned in the ways of the stars. The piece reflects on the community that supports the journey, and the “bonds that tie a community together when love and acceptance flow like the healing frankincense and myrrh of the gift-bearers.”

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). 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).

pray for our DHPC community

Jon Houghton is facing difficulties with a neighbor. He would appreciate prayers as this matter goes to court on February 1 (The hearing was postponed from the January 4 date.). Jon would appreciate the support of any DHPC community members who are able to attend the hearing at the DeKalb County Courthouse, 556 N McDonough Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030.

Louisa Moffitt had surgery to remove part of her lung and an adenocarcinoma on Aug 31st. Her prognosis is good, as it was caught very early.

Janie Boyter is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Marilyn Washburn has completed regular radiation and will have boost treatments over the next week. Then she will ring the bell on proton therapy. She is grateful for ongoing prayers.

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's last CAT scan was again clean! Miriam is grateful for all the prayers!

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 has ongoing chronic health issues, but is doing reasonably well at this time.

Sylvia Goodson, longtime member of DHPC, recently fell and is currently in a rehab facility in Decatur. She asks for our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Donna Durden is recovering from Covid.

Belle Miller McMaster has moved to The Retreat Nursing Home in Monticello. She appreciates our prayers and cards. Her mailing address is P.O. Box 508, Monticello, GA 31064-0508

Susan Hagood is awaiting surgery after breaking her wrist and arm on December 28

Lisa Carter is facing some personal concerns

pray 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, **Marjorie Hogeman**, Paula Thweatt's mother, **Doris Thweatt**, Kenyon Thweatt's mother, **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, **Anna Lawrence**, sister of Jane Martin, **Joan Smith**, sister of Linda and Betty Davis, **Lee Sewell and Nancy Bennett**, friends of May DeWees, **Blue Kidd**, Anne Townsley's son, **Jessica Matthews**, friend of Lauren Merceron, **the family of Tasha Bushnell**, Jane Weir's niece, **Tracy**, friend of Susan Hagood, **Martha and James Welborn, Sr.**, aunt and uncle of Robert Welborn, **Barbara Bybee**, cousin of Robert Welborn, **Bo Soule**, brother of Letia Henson, **Adella and Chuck Harter and their daughter Heather**, May DeWees' sister and her family, **Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees, the family of Letia Henson's cousin **Bruce Gibson** who died on December 10 in Meridan, MS, **Bonnie Jean Shields**, close friend of Letia Henson, **Maria and Bob Collins**, friends of Susan Hagood, **Indira Parekh**, friend of Anne Townsley.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, January 8

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Congregational Meeting*

Tuesday, January 10

- 10:30 AM – *Online Presbyterian Women - Day Circle*
- 7:15 PM – *Online Presbyterian Women - Evening Circle*

Wednesday, January 11

- 7:30 PM – *Choir Rehearsal*

Sunday, January 15

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 10:00 AM – *Preschool and Elementary Sunday School*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*

Monday, January 16

- All Day – *Church Office Closed for MLK Holiday*

WE LOVE OUR STAFF! THANK YOU OFFERING

The Personnel Ministry Team is excited to provide the congregation an opportunity to say “thank you” for the creativity and energy that those who work for DHPC pour into caring for our congregation every day. To give to this staff offering, you may mark your check with the memo “Staff Appreciation,” select “Staff Appreciation” when you give online via the DHPC website, or place cash in a marked envelope placed in the offering bins or given directly to Linda Davis, church Treasurer. Please make your offering by Monday, February 6. Contact the Personnel Team (personnel@dhpc.org) with any questions.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP TODAY

The Nominating Committee has worked very hard to prepare a slate of elders for 2023-2024, and a Congregational Meeting has been called for after church today to receive and vote on the slate.

JOY OFFERING: THANK YOU!

Thank you for your contributions to the Christmas Joy Offering, a denominational special offering that provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. You gave \$755 to support this important ministry! Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN DAY AND NIGHT CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 10, 10:30 AM and 7:15 PM; Zoom

All women are invited to attend our Presbyterian Women (PW) Day and/or Night Circle meetings for Bible Study, prayer, and fellowship. Because of the ongoing pandemic, we will still be meeting virtually on Zoom. The Day Circle will be meeting at 10:30 AM and the Night Circle at 7:15 PM. We continue our Horizons Bible Study on “Celebrating Sabbath,” led by Gigi Muirheid at the Day Circle and Marion Reeves at the Night Circle. For more information on the PW, talk with Moderator Carol Wideman or Vice Moderator Coby Armstrong.

PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE

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

Where we are: The word is out that DHPC is looking for a new pastor, and candidates are interested and excited about considering a call to this wonderful church. The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is prayerfully reviewing Personal Information Forms (“PIFs”) as they come in.

What comes next and what you can do: PNC will do further research on candidates who seem like a possible fit, then move into initial interviews. The process is confidential, but they are open to your feedback and appreciate your prayers. Please keep praying for PNC and all candidates, including the one who will discern a call to DHPC.

INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES: MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

The ICM 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 at the grocery, especially this week: **Cereal, ramen noodles, shelf stable milk, pasta, pasta sauce, fruit cups, SPAM, canned fruit, tuna packets, canned veggies (poptop), canned soup, instant coffee, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, canned or dry beans, plastic utensils bundled.**

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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

Interim Pastor: Rev. Betsy Turner, bturner@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, Robert Welborn

THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

Christian Education: Gigi Muirheid
Finance: Betty McIntosh
Mission: Eric Dusenbury
Personnel: Missie Grawart
Worship: Bob Beard
Property and Administration: Betty Davis
Clerk of the Session: Vivian Hodo
Treasurer: Linda Davis

Elders Emeritae:

Cecile McRae Hooks, Belle Miller McMaster

Druid Hills Presbyterian Church

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