



***First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 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**

*Jesus The Very Thought Of Thee*

Joyce Jones

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLE**

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Sanctified Art*

*Leader: Come in.  
Feel your feet on the floor.  
Settle your worries.  
Take a deep breath.  
Dust the cobwebs from your ears.  
Relax the tension in your jaw.*

**All: for Christ is here.  
God never stops seeking us.  
We have been found.  
Let us find God in return.  
Let us worship the God of deep waters.  
Amen.**

† **HYMN #435**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

In Babilone

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

**UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS**

*Sanctified Art*

**Loving God,  
You call us by name.  
You join us in the deep waters of life.  
You invite us to drop our nets and follow you,  
and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter.**

**Over and over again, we stand slack jawed and surprised  
to find you in our midst.**

**Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own.  
Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves.  
Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat.**

**Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you,  
for you are the Lord our God, and it is in your name that we pray.  
Amen.**

*(time for silent reflection)*

## POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Sanctified Art*

*I believe in a God of abundance—  
a God who sees possibilities where I cannot,  
and who holds onto hope when I am at the end of my rope.*

*I believe in a God who comforts—  
a God who says, “Do not be afraid;”  
a God who joins me in life’s deep waters.*

*I believe in a God who invites—  
a God who says, “Follow me,”  
and, “You will be fishers of people.”*

*I believe in a God who seeks after me relentlessly and persistently—  
a God of second chances and boundless mercy;  
a God who calls us by name.  
We believe.  
Help our unbelief.  
In Christ’s name we pray.  
Amen.*

## ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Psalm 25:1-10](#)

[Luke 5:1-11](#)

p 502 OT

p 62 NT

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

### SERMON

“Jesus Sought Me”

Rev. Julie Ferguson

### † HYMN #170

*You Walk Along Our Shoreline*

Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

## 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.** Thank you to the Christian Education team for organizing Valentine's goodies for our college students. Thank you to the Deacons for organizing Valentine's cards for DHPC's sick and homebound members, and to our elementary school kiddos for making those cards!

**Earth Stewardship Invitation:** *In recognition of Black History Month, February's earth care tips focus on the intersection of racial and environmental justice. Learn more about environmental justice here:*

<https://tinyurl.com/DHPCEnvJustice>.

**Offer help if you witness hostility.** Too many nature enthusiasts who identify as African American experience being treated with suspicion or hostility when enjoying the outdoors. These moments can be scary and create feelings of loneliness and insecurity. If you see someone being questioned, harassed, or threatened, one of the most important things you can do is to be supportive and look out for the other person's safety, known as being an active bystander. Learn more about tools you can use to intervene at <http://tinyurl.com/DHPCtoolkit>

## ANTHEM

Here I Am, Lord

arr. Ovid Young

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin; My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone; Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them; My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I will go Lord. Here I am.

## † DOXOLOGY #475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Nettleton

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing; | tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, | call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, | sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, | mount of God's unchanging love!**

## 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 #726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

Kelvingrove

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

*Agincourt Hymn*

arr. Charles Callahan

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## WORSHIP NOTES

**This Lent (Sunday, February 18 - Sunday, March 31)** DHPC will explore the Sanctified Art series "Wandering Heart." We will be "focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer... we often see ourselves." Join us over these weeks as we follow this disciple and his relationship with Jesus and ponder how this story can be comforting to us as our journey seems to wander rather than continue in a straight line. The liturgy throughout this series comes from Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

**Today's bulletin image** is *River of Grace* by Rev. Lisle Gwinn Garrity. Inspired by Luke 5:1-11, Gwinn Garrity says, "In this image, the bursting nets transform into a river of grace meandering through the composition of Peter's life. The river pours into Peter's hands, but he can't quite grasp the fullness of this gift and calling quite yet, and so most of it rushes right by. As you will see in my other pieces for this series, this river of grace will wander alongside Peter throughout his life. It's a visible reminder of the ways God's grace bends and turns and rushes to find each of our wandering hearts."

**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](mailto:prayerlist@dhpc.org)).*

### prayers of condolence

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Julie Taylor Rambo** and her family following the death of her brother, Edward "Lee" Leahman Taylor, III, on Tuesday, February 13. Notes of sympathy may be sent to Julie at 801 Montclair Place, Woodstock, GA 30189-5219

### prayers for our DHPC community

**Henry Benk** is at home dealing with age-related declines.

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

**May DeWees'** mobility is limited but she welcomes visitors. Please call before stopping by. If you would like to bring her something to eat, she requests that it is gluten free.

**Linda Davis** reports that her lifestyle has been hampered by the need to wear a medical walking boot while her broken ankle heals. The good news is that she did not have to have surgery and she is not in pain.

### prayers for our family and friends

**Richard Odom**, Cynthia Middleton's brother; **Sara Torres**, friend of Adam Ralls; **Kathy Moore**, friend of the Armstrongs; **Joan Smith**, sister of Linda and Betty Davis; **Sue Morgan**, friend of Betty and Linda Davis recently diagnosed with lung cancer; the family of **Chuck Harter**, brother-in-law of May DeWees; **Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **Joan Gravelly**, 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; **Connie Finn**, sister of Cliff Frierson; and **Cindy Woodside**, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside.

## WEEKLY UPDATE

### **Sunday, February 18**

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

### **Wednesday, February 21**

- 6:15 PM – *Handbell Practice*
- 7:30 PM – *Choir Practice*

### **Sunday, February 25**

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*  
*Roundtable Adult Education Class*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship*
- 12:00 PM – *Congregational Meeting*
- 2:30 PM – *Black History Month Composers' Showcase Pre-Show Talk*
- 3:00 PM – *Black History Month Composers' Showcase*

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Sunday, February 25, 12:00 PM**

A congregational meeting will be held in two weeks for the following purposes: 1) election of elders; 2) election of the congregational nominating committee; 3) election of the designated pastor nominating committee; 4) dissolution of Rev. René Meyer's relationship with DHPC; 5) presentation of the annual report, including the 2023 financial report and the 2024 budget; 6) hearing a motion requesting congregation expresses support for DHPC's application for the Lilly Endowment's Clergy Renewal Program grant on behalf of Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton, and 7) a meeting of the corporation. Please plan to stay for this meeting as we complete this important business of the church.

## **MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR JOAN BATTAGLIN**

**Monday, February 26, 1:00 PM**

A celebration of the life of Joan Battaglin will be held at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church on Monday, February 26 at 1:00 pm with a reception following immediately. All are welcome!

## **SPECIAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT**

**Sunday, February 25, 2:30 PM**

DHPC is hosting and co-presenting a Black History concert! The Metro Atlanta of Music Association (MAMA), a local chapter the National Association of Negro Musicians (NANM), will be performing a concert featuring music by African American composers. Music performed will be both instrumental and vocal featuring works composed for organ, voice, and violin. Prior to the concert, Morehouse College Professor of Music, Dr. Uzee Brown, Jr. will give a speech. Tickets are free for DHPC members. Others can purchase tickets here: <http://tinyurl.com/DHPCMAMATickets>.

## **LENTEN DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES**

Explore Lent more deeply by using one of these devotionals created by organizations DHPC supports: Presbyterian Hunger Program (<http://tinyurl.com/PMLEnt>) and Presbyterians for Earth Care (<http://tinyurl.com/PEGLEnt>). If you'd like to use the devotional that goes with our Lenten worship series, check out the Wandering Heart devotional (<http://tinyurl.com/LentDevo2024>) created by Sanctified Art.

## **EXCITING NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES**

**First Sunday of Each Month (Sept - May), 10AM; Church Parlor**

Beginning March 3 two new wonderful adult Sunday school classes will be offered to the DHPC community. The first class, **Contemplative Conversations**, is a lectio divina class, in which participants are invited to explore what God has to say to them in a particular Scripture passage. Susan Rutherford will lead this class. The second class, **Faith & the Front Page**, will meet for the first time on April 7. This class, led by Tina McCormick, is a time of discussing how our faith intersects with the headlines of today's world. The Christian Education team is excited about these new opportunities and they hope you are too! (Roundtable class will not meet on these days.)

## **SANDWICH MINISTRY**

**Sunday, March 3, Following Worship (Back of Sanctuary)**

On the first 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](mailto:anne.townsley314@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## 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 pop-top 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](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

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Julie Ferguson, [revjuliefeg@gmail.com](mailto:revjuliefeg@gmail.com)  
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, 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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