



***Service of the Lord's Day
Transfiguration Sunday
Dedication of Solar Panels
February 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, 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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The prophet calls, "Arise, shine, for your light has come."

All: **And the teacher writes,**

"Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun."

The psalmist sings, "The Lord is my light and my salvation."

Jesus himself declares, "I am the light of the world."

The heavens proclaim, "Glory to god!"

And in every age, God's people say,

"From the rising of the sun to its setting,

the name of the Lord is to be praised!"

Let us worship God.

† HYMN

At the Dawn of Your Creation

Ode to Joy

At the dawn of your creation, God, you spoke, "Let there be light!"
You divided earth from heaven, you created day and night.
You made sunbeams dance with shadows, you created energy!
Peaceful evenings, bright tomorrows, all began with "Let there be..."

By your word, you formed creation: dry land, water, ocean breeze.
Soon there burst forth vegetation — plants with fruit, majestic trees.
Rain and snow and changing seasons, creatures filling land and sea —
God, your very good creation all began with "Let there be..."

When you made us as your children, sending us throughout your lands,
You commanded, "Have dominion — care for earth; it's in your hands."
Yet we hurt this world you've given; we harm earth and sky and sea.
We forget it's your creation — you, who once said "Let there be..."

At this solar dedication, may we hear your word anew:
May we care for your creation, knowing it's a trust from you.
Just as daily there's a dawning, bringing light to all we see,
So we daily hear your calling — you, who once said, "Let there be..."

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

**Creator God, you come into our lives in a blaze of splendor,
calling us to be stewards of this faith, of one another, and of the earth.**

We confess that

we have taken your creation for granted.

we have abused the earth.

**we have destroyed and depleted, poisoned and polluted
by taking too much – more than we need.**

**We have not fulfilled our calling to be good stewards of your earth,
its good resources, and all who live here.**

**We hear the groans of the creation, of all creatures, and you, our Creator,
And we cry out to you for both forgiveness and transformation.**

Come into our lives in a fresh blaze of splendor, O God.

Renew and reset our relationship with you, one another, and your creation.

Enlighten us and empower us that we may

repent of our destructive ways,

replenish what is depleted,

restore what is broken,

**raise our voices and tools for the good of the planet and all who dwell here,
and recommit to walking gently on the good earth**

All in the name of Christ...

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Declaration of Faith

We affirm that the universe exists

by the power of God's Word and Spirit.

God has chosen to give it reality

out of the love we have come to know in Christ.

We declare that the universe of matter, energy, and life

is God's good creation in all its parts.

Even though evil has emerged within God's creation,

we may work and play in it and explore it with wonder and joy.

God made human beings along with all the other creatures

and charged them to care for the earth

and all that lives on it.

We acknowledge we share in the interdependence

that binds together all God's creation.

Yet God gives us power to rule and tame,

to order and reshape the world.

We hold the earth in trust for future generations of living things.

The Lord forbids us to plunder, foul, and destroy the earth.

The Lord expects us to produce, to consume, to reproduce

in ways that make earth's goodness available to all people

and reflect God's love for all creatures.

The Lord bids us use our technical skills for beauty, order, health, and peace.

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

(WE'RE ALL GOD'S) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 17:1-9](#)

p 18-19 NT

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

SERMON

“Stewards of the Light”

Rev. Betsy Turner

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

DEDICATION OF SOLAR PANELS

Leader: With great joy and gratitude, All: we dedicate these solar panels to you.

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 all who have been involved in the solar panel project: Eric Dusenbury who dreamed, researched, and worked this idea into being; Property & Administration members including Howell Adams and Bill Armstrong, and staff members Mike Williams and Nate Baughman who helped shepherd the installation; the Session members over the past few years; Linda Davis, Vivian Hodo, and Betty McIntosh who helped with the paperwork and financial aspects; and the entire congregation for your enthusiastic support of the project. Thanks be to God for this church's tangible commitment to earth care!

Dedicating Our Gifts to Combating Racism

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>

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Get to know local, national, and global environmental justice advocates and organizations, such as Dream.Green and the NAACP's Environmental and Climate Justice Program. Support them however you can. Make a financial gift. Volunteer. Amplify voices and share resources on social media. Prioritize making sure these environmental issues don't get lost in the noise.

ANTHEM

Heavenly Light

arr. Peter J. Wilhousky

Sent from heaven, thy rays were given on great and small to shine.
O light Divine! May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light!
Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation!
All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar!
Oh shine from above, Divine Light of love! Show us the way unto our God, we pray!
Thou our beacon and guide shalt be! Light Divine, we praise Thee!

† **DOXOLOGY #339**

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.

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 #853**

We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP NOTES

In recognition of Black History Month, we will be intentionally using songs composed, written, and/or arranged by Black artists throughout February. Our doxology for each week will be “Lift Every Voice and Sing” often called “The Black National Anthem.” It was originally written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson, composed the music. It was first performed at the segregated elementary school in Jacksonville, Florida where James Weldon Johnson was principal.

Our opening hymn, “At the Dawn of Your Creation” was written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (carolynshymns.com), a prolific writer of topical hymns to familiar tunes. The hymn was originally used for the dedication of the 180 solar panels on the sanctuary of Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware, where Carolyn and her husband Bruce were co-pastors. The author has permitted free use of her hymns at this time, and a gift has been made to honor her work and generosity.

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).

Prayers of condolence

The condolences of the congregation are extended to the friends and family of Druid Hills affiliate member and elder emerita **Belle Miller McMaster** following Belle's death on Friday, January 27, 2023. A memorial service will be held at Monticello Presbyterian Church, February 25 at 1:00 p.m. Expressions of care can be sent to Belle's daughter Lisa Stork at P.O. Box 507, Monticello, GA 31063-0507.

Prayers for our DHPC community

Jon Houghton is facing difficulties with a neighbor. He would appreciate prayers as this matter continues to be worked out through the legal process.

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

Janie Boyter is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Marilyn Washburn has completed her cancer treatments and is grateful to all who have prayed for her.

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 continues to improve each day.

Susan Hagood reports that her lower arm and wrist are healing according to schedule and thanks everyone for their prayers.

Betty Davis' surgery on Wednesday, February 8 went well.

The Thweatt Family is moving to North Carolina in mid-February, and they would appreciate prayers for a safe, smooth move/transition.

Prayers 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; **Tracy and her mother, Charlotte**, friends of Susan Hagood; **Adella and Chuck Harter and their daughter Heather**, May DeWees' sister and her family; **Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **Indira Parekh**, friend of Anne Townsley; **Jack Hausmann**, father of Peter Hausmann; and **Alison Scheuerman**, niece of Carol Wideman.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, February 19

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 10:00 AM – *Preschool and Elementary Sunday School*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship and Solar Panel Dedication - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Solar Panel Dedication Solar-bration*
- 12:30 PM – *Standing Session Meeting*

Wednesday, February 22

- 7:30 PM – *Choir Rehearsal*

Sunday, February 26

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

JOIN US FOR A SOLAR-BRATION AFTER WORSHIP!

Today, Following Worship

This installation on our roof is part of DHPC's earth care commitment, and we rejoice that the project is finished! After our service, we will gather for lemonade and cookies and a celebration of this good work!

ONLINE LENTEN BOOK STUDY: *INTERRUPTING SILENCE* by WALTER BRUEGGEMANN

Monday, February 27 - Monday, April 3, 6:30PM - 7:30PM

The Christian Education Team invites you to participate in this year's online Lenten book study. We will be exploring Dr. Walter Brueggemann's book *Interrupting Silence: God's Command to Speak Out*. "*Interrupting Silence* illustrates that the Bible is filled with stories where marginalized people break repressive silence and speak against it. Likewise, readers are asked to consider situations in their lives where they need to interrupt silence and see how God wants them to act for justice." To participate in this study or for assistance getting the book, email Pastor Elizabeth (eacton@dhpc.org) by Thursday, February 24.

SUPPORT PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE'S EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

In the early hours of February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck near the Turkey-Syria border. This earthquake is estimated to have caused the death of over 40,000 people and will have long-lasting effects on more than 23 million people. PDA is making solidarity grants to partner organizations working to meet immediate needs such as distributing winterization items, food items, and medicines. To support the denomination's response to this disaster, visit <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/turkey-syria-earthquake>.

ARE YOU USING THE DHPC RECYCLING CENTER?

The Mission Team invites you to recommit to using the church's "hard to recycle materials" recycling station! Bring your used batteries, wine corks, contact lenses and lens packaging, dental products (toothpaste and floss containers/toothbrushes/electric toothbrush heads), and styrofoam egg cartons to the recycling stations and the Mission Team will see that they are properly recycled. The stations are located in the rear of the sanctuary and outside the Historical Room. Please do not bring items other than those listed above. (Note: Ink cartridges cannot be recycled at DHPC, but can be at most Costco, Target, or Staples locations. Check with your local store.)

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) continues to prayerfully review Personal Information Forms (“PIFs”) as they arrive and are beginning initial interviews.

What comes next and what you can do: After initial interviews and continuing to review candidates, the PNC will consider moving forward to further with those who seem like a potential fit. Please keep praying for PNC and all candidates, including the person who will discern a call here.

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, ensure/boost, tuna packets, canned veggies (poptop), canned soup, instant coffee, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, instant oatmeal/grits, plastic utensils bundled, salty snacks.**

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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: 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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