



***Second Sunday of Lent, February 25, 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

## EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLE

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

*Sanctified Art*

*Leader: God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,*

**All: the courageous and the fearful,**

*the hungry and the hopeful,*

**the impatient and the reserved.**

*God welcomes the young and the old,*

**the poets and the prophets,**

*the faithful and the tired,*

**the curious and the convicted.**

*Wherever you are on your journey,*

*wherever your boat is at sea,*

**there is room for all to gather here.**

*This is God's house.*

**Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.**

## † HYMN #353

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

Solid Rock

Verses 1, 2, and 4

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

## UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

*Sanctified Art*

**Gracious God,**

**There are days that threaten to swallow us,**

**days when the storms of life feel too big.**

**In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,**

**spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.**

**Forgive us for doubting ourselves.**

**Forgive us for doubting you.**

**Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.**

**With hope in our hearts we pray.**

(time for silent reflection)

# POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Sanctified Art*

**I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage.  
I believe in a God who invites me to be brave.  
I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey.  
I believe in a God who knows my name.  
I believe in a God of love.  
I am not afraid.  
Amen.**

## ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Psalm 22:23-31](#)  
[Matthew 14:22-23](#)

p 501 OT  
p 16 NT

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

### SERMON

“Rescue Me From Danger”

Rev. Julie Ferguson

### SERMONIC REFLECTION

*O Divine, Redeemer*  
Indra Thomas, *soprano*

Charles Gounod

Ah! Turn me not away, Receive me tho' unworthy; Hear Thou my cry, Behold, Lord, my distress!  
Answer me from thy throne. Haste Thee, Lord to mine aid, Thy pity shew in my deep anguish!  
Let not the sword of vengeance smite me, Though righteous thine anger, O Lord!  
Shield me in danger, O regard me! On Thee, Lord, alone will I call.

O Divine Redeemer! O Divine Redeemer!  
I pray Thee, grant me pardon; And remember not, remember not my sins!  
Forgive me, O Divine Redeemer!

Night gathers round my soul; Fearful, I cry to Thee; Come to mine aid, O Lord!  
Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me! Hear my cry! Save me Lord in Thy mercy; Come and save me, O Lord.  
Save, in the day of retribution, From Death shield Thou me, O my God!  
O Divine Redeemer, have mercy! Help me, my Savior!

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**MINUTE FOR MISSION - Southern Center for Human Rights**

Anne Townsley





## 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 *Lift Off* by Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda. Inspired by Matthew 14:22-23, Peñaranda says, “In *Lift Off*, the elements are like main characters, inspiring whimsical fantasy. Cut-out layered clouds build into the horizon of the sea. The forceful wind tunnel blows over the sinking foot of a probably panicking Peter. This is a moving piece that is meant to tell a story in any direction it is turned.”

**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 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; and **Cindy Woodside**, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside.

## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

### **Sunday, February 25**

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

### **Monday, February 26**

- 1:00 PM – *Memorial Service for Joan Battaglin*

### **Wednesday, February 28**

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

### **Thursday, February 29**

- 7:00 PM – *Worship Team Meeting*

### **Sunday, March 3**

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
- 10:00 AM – *Contemplative Conversations Adult Sunday School Class*  
*Children's Sunday School*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship*
- 12:00 PM – *Sandwich Ministry*
- 12:30 PM – *Mission Team Meeting*

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **Today, February 25, After Worship**

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**

**Today, 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>.

## **WE LOVE OUR STAFF! THANK YOU OFFERING**

**Deadline to Give: Sunday, March 17**

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 the staff offering, you may contribute by check with the memo "Staff Appreciation" or online via the DHPC website. (Select “Staff Appreciation” as the fund.) Cash in a marked envelope may be placed in the clear offering boxes at either sanctuary doorway. Contact Personnel Elder Pete McGuire ([pjm2600@gmail.com](mailto:pjm2600@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## **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.)

## **YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED: PROTECT THE OKEFENOKEE!**

For five years environmentalist groups, including Georgia Interfaith Power and Light, have been fighting to stop strip mining near the Okefenokee Swamp. This fight has reached a critical stage! Earlier this month, Georgia's Environmental Protection Division (EPD) issued draft permits for Twin Pines, LLC to mine titanium along Trail Ridge—a vital barrier protecting this sacred place! Experts agree that mining in this location will threaten the swamp’s water levels, increase wildfire risks, harm wildlife, and release toxic contaminants. Advocates (you!) have just a few weeks to make as much noise as possible to stop this development. Please take a moment to call on Gov. Kemp and the EPD to deny these permits by sending them an email here: <http://tinyurl.com/SCLCswamp>

## **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.**

## 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  
Property and Administration: Betty Davis  
Worship: Bob Beard  
Clerk of the Session: Eric Dusenbury  
Treasurer: Linda Davis

*Elder Emerita:*  
Cecile McRae Hooks

### ***Druid Hills Presbyterian Church***

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