



Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 10, 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

Kyrie

Lani Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLE

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sanctified Art

Leader: On our worst days,

All: God is good.

On our best days,

God is good.

When life is consistent,

God is good.

When life is rocky,

God is good.

Day and night, Monday through Sunday,

God is good. God is here. God is love.

Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

† **HYMN #435**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Sanctified Art

Holy God,

We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "*This should not happen!*"

We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.

We want to hold your world in our hands.

Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.

Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.

Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many.

Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.

With hope in our hearts we pray.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*I believe in a God of second chances,
a God who sees through my stubbornness
and holds my fear with tenderness.*

*I believe that this God of second chances
uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.
Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.*

*I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.
I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.
This change is holy and important work, although challenging.
When fear and scarcity plague me,
or when the impossible feels out of reach,
I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.*

*Thanks be to God for a love like that.
Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Matthew 16:21-23](#)

p 18 NT

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

SERMON

“I’m Fixed Upon It”

Rev. Julie Ferguson

† HYMN #775

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Walk With Me

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 Margaret Ross and Susan Rutherford for teaching last Sunday’s elementary and adult Sunday school classes. By all accounts, both classes were a great success!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Wash your clothes less frequently. A quarter of the carbon footprint of a garment comes from the way we care for it post-purchase. On top of that, 90% of our clothing is thrown away long before it needs to be, due to our culture of ‘fast fashion’ and outdated laundry habits. For example, blue jeans can be worn ten times before needing to be washed. Other ideas to consider: try zero waste laundry detergent, line dry your clothes, stop buying dryer sheets and use dryer balls, and use a Guppy Bag to stop microplastics.

ANTHEM

Beneath the Cross of Jesus
DHPC Handbell Choir
Denise Willingham Huewitt, director

Arr. Ron Mallory

† **DOXOLOGY #475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

**O to grace how great a debtor | daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, | bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, | prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; | seal it for thy courts above.**

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS (Bob Beard, William Edmisten, and Gigi Muirheid)

LITANY OF GIFTS

Leader: There are varieties of gifts,

All: but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,

but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit,

to be used for the common good.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

† **REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Leader: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,

do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

All: I do!

*Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior,
trusting in his grace and love?*

I do!

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

*Do we, the members of the church, accept Bob, William, and Gigi as ruling elders,
chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus
Christ?*

We do.

*Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to
follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?*

We do.

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

DECLARATION AND CHARGE

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 #724

O Jesus, I have Promised
vv. 1,3 and 4

Angel's Story

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

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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

Today's bulletin image, *Beseeking*, by Hannah Garrity was inspired by Matthew 16:21-23. The artist writes, "In this text, I feel Jesus speaking directly to me: 'You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things' (Matthew 16:23). This is exactly where frustration surfaces for me.... It is when I have set my eye on human things. So why am I so focused on human things? And the negative ones, at that? Because I'm human. Because these things matter. But not if I miss the grandeur of... the expansive love of God!"

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 **Ron and Mandy DeWees, husband and daughter of DHPC member May DeWees, following May's death.** May died at home on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. We give thanks for her life, faithful witness, and service to the church. Condolence notes can be sent to May's husband Ron and their daughter Mandy at 999 Rosedale Rd., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. May's memorial service will be at DHPC on Saturday, March 16 at 10:30 am with a reception to follow.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Coby and Bill Armstrong** following the death of **Coby's mother, Mildred "Mimi" Hagood Williams.** Notes of sympathy may be sent to Coby and Bill at 460 Shannon Green Circle, SW, Mableton, GA 30126-1634. Mimi's memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 am at Mayes Ward Dobbins Funeral Home (180 Church Street, NE, Marietta, GA).

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.

prayers for our family and friends

Richard Odom, Cynthia Middleton's brother; **Sara Torres**, friend of Adam Ralls; **Kathy Moore**, friend of the Armstrongs; **Sue Morgan**, friend of Betty and Linda Davis recently diagnosed with lung cancer; **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, March 10

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 11:00 AM – *Worship with Elder Installation*

Tuesday, March 12

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

Wednesday, March 13

- 7:30 PM – *Choir Practice*

Sunday, March 17

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

DHPC LENTEN DRIVE FOR MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES

Through Sunday, March 31

For this year's Lenten drive, the Mission team invites you to donate items to Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM), which will support their work welcoming new refugees. MDM is requesting spiral bound or composition notebooks, packs of pens, feminine hygiene products, and small stuffed animals. All items must be new and unopened. Donations may be left outside of the historical room (across from the Parlor). For more information, contact Anne Townsley or Pastor Elizabeth. Thank you for your support!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY

Palm and Passion Sunday Worship; Sunday March, 24, 11 AM

During worship we will journey from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem toward the solemnity of his passion. This year, as an effort toward sustainability, we are asking you to bring your own branch of a native plant - a dogwood, azalea, magnolia, pine, or whatever is growing in your yard. As those who greeted Jesus used the plants native to them, we will use what is available to us - this brings us into the story in a new way, along with reducing waste and carbon emissions!

Maundy Thursday Lunch and Worship; Thursday, March 28, 11:30 AM; Parlor

Maundy Thursday marks the day of the Last Supper and Jesus' arrest prior to his trial and crucifixion. To mark this significant day, you are invited to a simple sandwich lunch at noon followed by a worship service with communion. The cost of lunch is \$5. (Please bring cash or check.) We look forward to worshipping with you.

Easter Morning Breakfast and Egg Hunt; Sunday, March 31, 10:00 AM

Join us for a time of fellowship and fun on Easter morning. The Deacons are hosting a breakfast catered by The Flying Biscuit, the CE Team is organizing an egg hunt, and the Mission Team will have mission kits ready for assembly for Mercy Community Church. We will also be flowering the cross! Bring flowers or greenery to add to the cross. Please RSVP for the (free!) breakfast here:

<http://tinyurl.com/DHPCeasterBreakfast>

Easter Worship, 11 AM

After a morning of fun and food, continue your Easter celebration in worship. On this sacred day we will witness to the hope found in Christ's resurrection through scripture, prayer, special music, and communion. Join us!

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) with any questions.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Tuesday, March 12, 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. For more information about the PW, talk with Moderator Carol Wideman or Vice Moderator Coby Armstrong.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT

The Presbyterian Women are working on their 2024 mission project with Mission Haven. Founded in 1951 on the Columbia Theological Seminary campus, Mission Haven runs a clothes closet, 3 houses, and 6 apartments for visiting mission co-workers of the PC(USA) and is run by PW members from all over the Southeast. DHPC's PW has set up a bulletin board with information about Mission Haven in the hallway near the St. Charles exit. Donation envelopes are available there as well. Questions? Reach out to PW Moderator Carol Wideman or Vice Moderator Coby Armstrong.

DHPC ONCE AGAIN NAMED AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION

Great news! DHPC has been re-certified as an Earth Care Congregation for the fifth year in a row! The Presbyterian Church uses this program to recognize congregations that commit to earth care in the areas of worship, education, facilities, and outreach. Certification is obtained by taking actions such as having environmentally focused services or sermons, outdoor classes for youth, replacing incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, and having church-sponsored recycling days and nature hikes.

NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT DAY OF COLLABORATION

Saturday, April 6, 8:30am - 4pm; Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta

New Sanctuary Movement and the UU Congregation of Atlanta invites you to attend their daylong conference entitled "Welcoming Asylum Seekers: Creating Communities of Care." Attendees will work together to find ways to better serve the overwhelming and growing needs of asylum seekers in our area. If you are interested, please contact Susan Hagood (shagoodrd@msn.com).

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. Plastic grocery bags are also needed.**

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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

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Julie Ferguson, revjulieferg@gmail.com
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
Property and Administration: William Edmisten
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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