



Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2023



seeking:
Who sinned?

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

Prelude & Fugue in E-Minor

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Scripture is full of questions...

All: Where are you?

Am I my brother's keeper?

Whom shall I send?

Who do you say that I am?

Who sinned?

How many times shall I forgive?

If God is for us, who can be against us?

*Scripture is full of questions,
so just like those in our scriptures,*

may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.

† **HYMN #450**

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Who here has sinned?

It is a good question, O God, and the answer is:

I have.

I have sinned.

I put my head in the sand.

I ignore people in need.

I make false assumptions and fail to be kind.

I am in need of your gracious forgiveness.

Who here has sinned?

We all have.

We are in need of God's gracious forgiveness:

for what we have done and what we have left undone,

for what we have said and what we have left unsaid.

So, individually and together we pray,

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Sanctified Art

**We believe in a merciful God,
a God who does not keep score,
a God who wants good for us.
We believe in a creative God,
a God who would heal with mud,
a God capable of seeing what we cannot.
We believe in a saving God,
a God who heals,
a God who greets our questions with patience,
a God who sends us out with hope in our step.
What wondrous love is this. Amen.**

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[John 9:1-41](#)

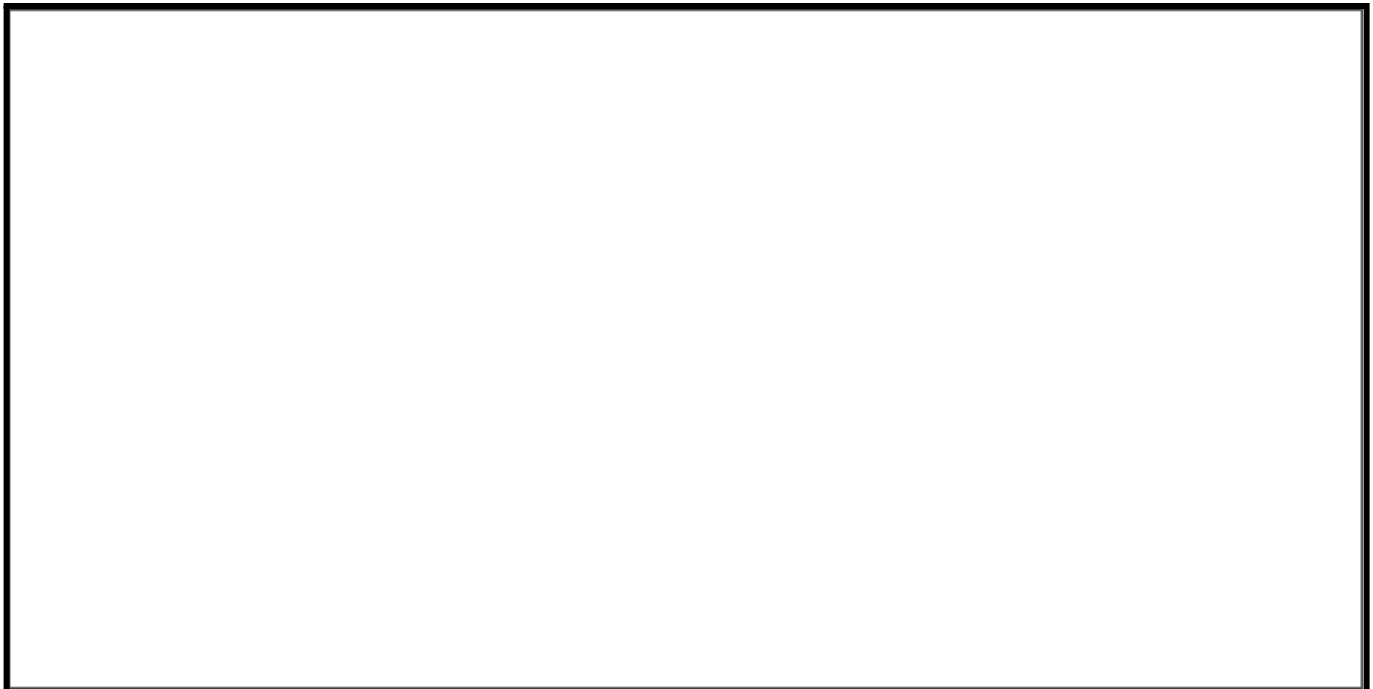
p 102-3 NT

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

SERMON

“Who Sinned?”

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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Thanks to the tireless efforts of the Mission Team's leadership and the participation of the whole congregation, DHPC has been re-certified as an Earth Care congregation. "Started in 2010 by the PC(USA), the goal of this program is to inspire churches to care for God's earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all aspects of their church life. The Earth Care Congregation certification honors churches that make that commitment and encourages others to follow their example." We are one of 305 churches in our denomination that received this certification for choosing to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God's earth this year.

Thanks be to God for this ministry of stewardship and Earth care - and keep up the good work!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Wash your clothes less frequently. Twenty-five percent 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 detergent, line dry your clothes, and use dryer balls instead of dryer sheets.

ANTHEM

Open Thou Mine Eyes

John Rutter

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see; Incline my heart and I shall desire;
Order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments.
O Lord God, be thou to me a God and beside thee let there be none else,
No other, naught else with thee.

Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments
In truth of spirit; In reverence of body; In blessings of lips; In private and in public.

† DOXOLOGY #544

Bless the Lord, My Soul

Bless the Lord (Taizé)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life. (x2)

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 #840

It Is Well With My Soul

Ville Du Havre

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION



WORSHIP NOTES

Our Lenten series “Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith” explores stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking - exchanges filled with exploration and questions. As we engage in the spiritual practice of seeking this season, you’re invited to ask questions... to be curious, open, and nimble... to soften assumptions, and to expand perspectives. The creators of the series offer this wisdom for this season of seeking: “Our questions won’t necessarily lead to answers, but they can help us find clarity and a new perspective. Ultimately, we pray they lead to a new beginning, a restoration, a wider grace. to be drawn more deeply into the fullness of life, into the heart of God.” All materials copyright *A Sanctified Art LLC sanctifiedart.org*.

- **Bulletin art** is “Insight,” a silk painting with digital drawing and collage by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity, who writes of the piece: “In this image, hands expressing denial and exclusion press in on the man. In the background, I wrote a barrage of questions I imagine emerging from the crowd [and] contemporary statements I’ve heard spoken in situations when we think a tidy rationale will comfort us. ...Surrounded by remnants of narrow vision, the man has new insight. He looks beyond the words, beyond the crowd, beyond the accusations driving him out of town.”
- **Words for worship** are adapted from resources written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed.

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 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.

Janie Boyter is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

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. His outpatient surgery on Wednesday, March 8 went well.

Betty Davis is undergoing further treatment.

Joan Battaglin is home from her hospital stay for an infection and is doing well and regaining her strength.

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; **Margaret Boulware**, friend of Vivian Hodo; **Madelyn Magruder**, friend of Jane Martin; and **Rob Sims**, brother-in-law of Renée Weese and Tina McCormick.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, March 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 - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Stated Session Meeting*

Monday, March 20

- 6:30 PM – *Online Lenten Book Study*

Wednesday, March 22

- 7:30 PM – *Choir Rehearsal*

Sunday, March 26

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

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Next Sunday, March 26, Following Worship (Back of Sanctuary)

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the congregation is invited to assist in making sandwiches for our hungry neighbors who receive care at Intown Collaborative Ministries and Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. Many hands make light work, so make plans to gather after worship in the rear of the sanctuary to help make sandwiches. Contact Anne Townsley (anne.townsley314@gmail.com) with any questions.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN TO HOST CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH

Next Sunday, March 26, Following Sandwich Ministry; Parlor

For their 2023 March Mission Project DHPC's Presbyterian Women have chosen to support This Child Here (ThisChildHere.org) an organization that works with the vulnerable youth of Ukraine. The congregation is invited to a reception and complimentary lunch next Sunday to hear from former DHPC interim Rev. Robert Gamble, founder of This Child Here, about how the charity has expanded to meet the needs of families displaced by the ongoing war. Make plans to join us in the Parlor after Sandwich Ministry!

DHPC ONCE AGAIN NAMED AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION

DHPC has been re-certified as an Earth Care Congregation for the fourth 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.

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 arrive and conducting interviews.

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

DHPC RECYCLING CENTER

Recycle your used batteries, wine corks, contact lenses and lens packaging, dental products (toothpaste and floss containers/toothbrushes/electric toothbrush heads), and styrofoam egg cartons at the church recycling stations, located in the rear of the sanctuary and outside the Historical Room. Please do not bring items other than those listed above.

PHOENIX FLIES TOUR

Friday, March 24th at 4 pm and Sunday, March 26th at 3 PM

The Atlanta Preservation Society is hosting a tour of our church led by members Cliff Frierson and Howell Adams. Join them to learn all about the creation, preservation and future of our World War II era church. Free tickets are available at <https://tinyurl.com/DHPCchurchtour23>.

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: **Ramen noodles, shelf stable milk, pasta, pasta sauce, fruit cups, SPAM, canned fruit, instant oatmeal/grits, peanut butter, tuna packets, canned veggies (poptop), canned soup, instant coffee, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, canned starchy vegetables, mac and cheese bowls, jelly.**

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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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