



Third Sunday of Lent, March 3, 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

What Wondrous Love

Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sanctified Art - Inspired by Psalm 19

Leader: If you ask the sky who God is,

All: the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the sun who God is,

the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the moon who God is,

the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God."

Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship Holy God.

† **HYMN #20**

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Royal Oak

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Sanctified Art

Holy God,

Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.

Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith.

Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—

trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves,

we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you.

Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Jesus asked the disciples, “But what about you? Who do you say that I am?”
Friends, what do we say?*

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,
the voice of truth spoken over us,
and love without walls.**

**Jesus is justice for the weary,
healing for the hurt,
and welcome for the stranger.**

**Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—
with me on the mountain
and beside me in the valley.**

**Jesus is a star in the night,
and the love that knows my name.**

Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

**Like Peter, we say,
“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God.”**

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 16:13-20](#)

p 18 NT

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

SERMON

“Who Do You Say That I Am?”

Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton

† HYMN #839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Assurance

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.

...

Dedicating Our Gifts to Combating Racism

“No one is born racist or antiracist; these result from the choices we make. Being antiracist results from a conscious decision to make frequent, consistent, equitable choices daily. These choices require ongoing self-awareness and self-reflection as we move through life. In the absence of making antiracist choices, we (un)consciously uphold aspects of white supremacy, white-dominant culture, and unequal institutions and society. Being racist or antiracist is not about who you are; it is about what you do.” from Talking About Race, Being Antiracist, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture

<http://tinyurl.com/DHPCAntiracist>

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you.
Your peace you give me in times of the storm. You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life.
I lift my hands in total praise to you. Amen.

† **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!**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All communion bread is gluten free

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN #515**

I Come with Joy
Verses 1-3, 5

Dove of Peace

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

.....

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, *Who Do You Say That I Am*, by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman was inspired by Matthew 16:13-20. The artist writes, “I wanted to create a kaleidoscope of perception, imaging the ways Jesus is perceived in the context of this passage, like light broken down into a myriad of shapes and colors. In the gold rays of light Jesus’ form is obscured by the metallic shine of God’s glory. In the gray and earth-tone rays he is seen in monochrome. Each of the earth-tone rays holds a pattern on Jesus’ clothing which represents a misunderstanding of who Jesus is. Starting on the left, honey, locusts, and baptismal waters misidentify him as John the Baptist. Within the next ray to the right, ravens, an empty chair, rain, and fires from the heavens misidentify him as Elijah. On the right, scales of justice and plants being uprooted and planted misidentify him as Jeremiah.”

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 **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. Memorial service details have not yet been decided, but will be communicated when they are known.

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.

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; 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, 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*

Tuesday, March 5

- 3:00 PM – *Property and Administration Meeting*

Wednesday, March 6

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

Sunday, March 10

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

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Today, 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) with any questions.

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.

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 PM; 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!

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>

RISE AGAINST HUNGER UPDATE

DHPC's Rise Against Hunger meals are heading to Madagascar! These meals will address some of the food security challenges that children, families, and communities in Madagascar face. In particular, the meals DHPC made will be sent to organizations that support educational programs by providing meals to children at schools and early childhood development centers.

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.

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. 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

1026 Ponce de Leon Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30306 | 404.875.7591 | www.dhpc.org
Music is used by permission and reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710585
and CCLI #11358326 (copyright license) and #11358326 (streaming license)