



Service of the Lord's Day, April 28, 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

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.

All: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

*In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior
nourishes everyone.*

Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.

Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

† HYMN #631

In the Presence of Your People

Celebration

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Gracious God,

Our hearts are restless.

We pursue success, knowing it will never be enough.

We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty.

**We turn toward toward worldly things looking for peace,
knowing the world cannot provide it.**

Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you.

**May our wandering hearts cease their vain searching
and settle in the rest that comes from you alone.**

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Iona Creed

**We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God
who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.**

**We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond a safe place:
into action, into vulnerability
and onto the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change
and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks,
live powerfully
and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Acts 8:26-40](#)

p 127 NT

[1 John 4:7-21](#)

p 241 NT

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

SERMON

Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton

† HYMN #295

Go to the World!

Sine Nomine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Center for Hard to Recycle Materials

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 the deacons, and especially Susan Rutherford, who have overseen the return of cookies and lemonade. Be sure to grab a cookie after worship and say thanks to Susan between bites!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Find simple changes that you can stick with. Opt for a digital receipt instead of a paper one. Bring your own reusable fork to a restaurant that uses single-use plastic utensils. Ask your local barista to fill up your coffee mug instead of a paper cup. And encourage your friends and family to do the same! Though these steps are small, they have the potential to create big change.

ANTHEM

Faithful Over a Few Things

Glenn Burleigh

You must be faithful over a few things | To be ruler over many things
Be thou faithful, unto death | And God will give you the crown of life

If you have a song to sing, faithfully sing that song | If you have the love to show, show it the whole day long
If you have a kind word to say, you gotta say it each and every day
If you have a prayer to pray, pray on in Jesus name

Be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding, in the work of God
Know that your labor is not in vain, you shall receive a just reward
Be thou faithful, and God will give you a crown of life.
Well done, good and faithful servant, well done!.

† **DOXOLOGY #35**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; | join me in glad adoration!

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 #697**

Take My Life

Hendon

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and His blessing of the marriage of Mary Palmer and Bob McFarland on April 27, 1927.

Thank you to our guest organist, Dr. Michael Collier, for providing the music for today's worship service.

Today's call to worship is reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014. **The prayer of brokenness** was written by Rev. Tara Bulger for the *Presbyterian Outlook*.

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THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

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Mission: Anne Townsley
Personnel: Pete McGuire
Property and Administration: William Edmister
Worship: Bob Beard
Clerk of the Session: Eric Dusenbury
Treasurer: Linda Davis

Elder Emerita:
Cecile McRae Hooks