



Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 30, 2023

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

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee

L. A Warriner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather today thankful that God has welcomed us. We remember God's call for Abraham and Sarah to travel to a new land so all of the earth may be blessed.

**All: We give thanks that no matter where our journeys take us,
we never travel alone, as God always walks beside us.**

*Just as God has never forgotten our needs, we seek to respond faithfully
in our call to walk alongside those whose needs remain unmet.*

**We give thanks that through our hardest times,
God has heard our cry and responded with hospitality.**

*We hold dear the truth that whenever we share hospitality with others,
we more deeply see God's face and do God's will.*

**We gather this morning to seek the strength
to be family for those neighbors we already know,
as well as to those newcomers and the vulnerable
that we have yet to meet.**

**We give thanks that God has shown us what welcome means
and what love best looks like.**

† **HYMN #301**

Let Us Build a House
(Verses 1, 4, & 5)

Two Oaks

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Ever merciful God, you said "Let us make humankind in our own image." (Genesis 1:26)

**Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have only recognized
your image in those who look, think, and act like us.**

*You said "Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the
LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or
female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns." (Exodus 20:9-10)*

**Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have imagined ourselves
too important to rest and treated others as unworthy of time off.**

*You said "You shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your
harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien." (Leviticus 23:22)*

**Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have hoarded your blessings
and acted as if the poor, the homeless, and the refugee deserve their reality.**

You said "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:1)

Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have closed doors, hearts, and churches to those whom we judged too strange or different for warm welcomes.

You said "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (Galatians 5:22)

Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have hated, brooded, divided, hurried or been cruel, stingy, disloyal, harsh, and self-indulgent...

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Immigrants' Creed

**I believe in Almighty God,
Who guided the people in exile and exodus,
The God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
The God of every refugee, migrant, pilgrim, and church in diaspora.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,
Who was born away from his people and his home,
Who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger.
When he returned, he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,
the servant of a foreign power.
Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, unjustly condemned to death, and buried.
But on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The eternal immigrant among us,
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.
I believe in the Church, the secure home for foreigners and for all believers.
I believe in the communion of saints,
which embraces all God's people in our diversity.**

**I believe in the forgiveness of sins, that makes us all equal before God.
I believe in reconciliation, that heals our brokenness.
I believe in the resurrection of the dead,
when God will unite us all as one people.**

**I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be a foreigner,
but all will be citizens of the new kingdom
where God reigns forever and ever.**

Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Hebrews 13](#)

p 227-8 NT

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

SERMON

Mr. David Roth
Executive Director, Memorial Drive Ministries

† HYMN #344

Where Armies Scourge the Countryside

Pace Mio Dio

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 everyone who contributed to the Easter drive for Memorial Drive Ministries. Your contributions help provide a warm welcome to those newly arrived to our country.

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Don't be afraid to ask! Talk to your grocery store about possible eco-friendly changes. Chatting with store owners or managers really helps to start a conversation about what you'd like to see more of in the shop you frequent. Always be polite, but don't be afraid to ask for what you need!

ANTHEM

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
Meredith Starks, *soprano*

arr. Mark Hayes

Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love;
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord; And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light; And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek; So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand; To be loved, as to love, with all my soul.

Make me a channel of Your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving of ourselves that we receive; And in dying that we're born to eternal life;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

† DOXOLOGY #339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice

**Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

**Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.**

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 #346** *For the Healing of the Nations* St. Thomas (Wade)

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

† **POSTLUDE** *O Worship the King* arr. Don Wyrzten

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WORSHIP NOTES

Today's guest preacher is David Roth, the Executive Director of Memorial Drive Ministries. David has been involved with refugee services across the Southeast and is a graduate of Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He is passionate about seeing the Memorial Drive campus filled with dynamic worship, transformational relationships, and innovative community services. We are excited to have David here today!

Today's bulletin image is *The Trinity* by Andrei Rublev, which depicts the three angels visiting Abraham at Mambré. This is a faithful photographic reproduction of a two-dimensional, public domain work of art and can be found here: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Angelsatmamre-trinity-rublev-1410.jpg>.

Today's call to worship was inspired by resources provided for World Refugee Day by the Disciples of Christ. The **unison prayer of brokenness** comes from World Refugee Sunday resources from Faithward, which is associated with the Reformed Church in America.

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.

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 of condolence

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Jane and Jere Martin** following the death of Jane's sister, **Anna Lawrence**, on Wednesday, April 26 in Montgomery, AL.

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. His next court date is May 3 via Zoom.

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 on March 31 was 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 surgery on April 20 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; **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; **Joan Smith**, sister of Linda and Betty Davis; **Lee Sewell and Nancy Bennett**, friends of May DeWees; **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; **Alison Scheuerman**, niece of Carol Wideman; **Margaret Boulware**, friend of Vivian Hodo; **Madelyn Magruder**, friend of Jane Martin; **Rob Sims**, brother-in-law of Renée Weese and Tina McCormick; **Kate Pierce**, sister of Marlene Slavich; **Devon Corbett and his mother, Melinda Corbett**, friends of Robert Welborn; **Juan Romero**, brother of Santana Herrera; **students and faculty of New College of Florida**, alma mater of Susan Rutherford; **Robin Kirkpatrick**, friend of Susan Rutherford, and **Shannon Dodd and family**; friends of the Soileau Acton family.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, April 30

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

11:00 AM – *Worship with Guest Preacher Memorial Drive Ministries Director David Roth
- In-Person and Livestream*

Tuesday, May 2

4:00 PM – *Online P&A Meeting*

Wednesday, May 3

6:15 PM – *Handbells Rehearsal*

7:30 PM – *Choir Rehearsal*

Sunday, May 7

- 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*

PINE LOG WILDLIFE AREA AND OKEFENOKEE SWAMP ADVOCACY NEEDED

This Sunday following worship you will have the opportunity to make your voice heard on behalf of Georgia's threatened lands. To be informed about this advocacy opportunity brought to you by the Mission Team, please read these info sheets about the [Pine Log Wildlife Management Area](#) and the [Okefenokee Swamp](#). Then, on Sunday, take the time to write a postcard to the governor. Thanks for caring for God's precious creation!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN DAY AND NIGHT CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 9, 10:30 AM and 7:15 PM; Zoom

All women are invited to attend our Presbyterian Women (PW) meetings for Bible Study, prayer, and fellowship, which continues to meet on Zoom. This month we will be accepting donations for the PW 2023 Birthday Offering which will go to Making Miracles Group Home in Tallahassee, FL and to the Berhane Yesus Elementary School Kindergarten School Construction in Dembi Dollo, Ethiopia. We also are still accepting donations to the 2022-2023 Mission Project which is Robert Gamble's foundation This Child Here. For more information on the PW, talk with Moderator Carol Wideman or Vice Moderator Coby Armstrong.

DHPC SPONSORED VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND'S PORCHFEST KIDS' CORNER

Saturday, May 20, 10am - 4pm; John Howell Park

The Session is so excited to share with you that DHPC is the presenting sponsor of this year's Porchfest Kids Corner. The Kids Corner, which will be located at John Howell Park (corner of Barnett St. and Virginia Ave.) will feature arts and crafts, games, bounce houses, music, face painting, and more. This is an amazing opportunity for DHPCers to reach out to our neighbors to share the good news about our fantastic church that is doing such great work in the VaHi community and beyond. Volunteers are needed to staff the DHPC table. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Pastor Elizabeth (eacton@dhpc.org) or sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/DHPCVaHiFest>

CONGREGATIONAL BBQ AND SUMMER CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 21, Following Worship

Join us in celebrating the approaching arrival of summer with a BBQ on the front lawn. The Deacons have been working hard planning this congregational fellowship event and hope you will gather under the tents to enjoy your DHPC friends, tasty food, lawn games, door prizes, and more! The cost of the meal is \$15 with a \$30 family maximum. (All are invited to join us, whether you are able to pay or not!) Lunch registration and online payment will be available beginning Friday, May 5. Contact Anne Soileau (katies.nana@hotmail.com), Chair of the Deacon Board, with any questions.

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.

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 sauce, fruit cups, SPAM, canned fruit, instant oatmeal/grits, condiments, bottled water, cereal, tuna packets, canned veggies (poptop), canned soup, instant coffee, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, utensil packets, peanut butter & jelly, canned beans.**

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

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

1026 Ponce de Leon Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30306 | 404.875.7591 | www.dhpc.org

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