



Service of the Lord's Day, August 27, 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

Ellers

Healey Willan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come into God's presence with songs of thanksgiving.

All: We come into God's presence with hearts of praise.

The Lord, our God is One.

There is one body and one Spirit.

There is one hope into which we are called.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

There is one God, who is above all, through all, and in all.

People of God, let us join our hearts in worship!

† **HYMN #321**

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

**God of grace,
together we turn to you in prayer,
for it is you who unite us:
you are the one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit –
in whom we believe,
you alone empower us for good,
you send us out across the earth
in mission and service in the name of Christ.**

**We confess before you and all people:
We have been unworthy servants.
We have misused and abused the creation.
We have wounded one another by divisions everywhere.
We have often failed to take decisive action
against environmental destruction, poverty, racism,
caste-ism, war and genocide.
We are not only victims but also perpetrators of violence.**

**In all this and more, we have fallen short as disciples of Jesus Christ
who in his incarnation came to save us and teach us how to love.
Forgive us, God, and teach us to love and forgive one another.**

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

1 John 4:7-12

**Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.
God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.
In this is love, not that we loved God
but that he loved us and sent his Son
to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
if we love one another, God abides in us,
and his love is perfected in us.**

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Psalm 19:1-4](#)

p 498 OT

[Hebrews 11:1](#)

p 225 NT

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

SERMON

“The Mystery of God (*Can You Google It?*)”

Rev. Tina McCormick

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 for participating in the Paints and Chemical Recycling day last Sunday. We were able to divert nearly a TON(!) of potentially toxic waste from landfills, and instead recycle that material safely through CHaRM. Special thanks to Eric Dusenbury and the Mission Team for making that event possible. Thank you also to all of you who helped spread the word about this event. We had great turnout from the community! Look for (and spread the word about!) our next quarterly recycling event on October 22 - we will be collecting styrofoam, electronics, books, and paints/chemicals.

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Don't “wishecycle!” Wisheycling is the disposal of non-recyclable waste in a recycling bin in hopes of it being recycled. Tossing even one grocery bag or plastic wrapper into the recycling bin can jam processing machines or divert entire truckloads to the landfill.

Susan Rutherford, *voice & guitar*

Gracious Father, Son and Spirit, ever joined in bonds of love,
 May your church share in the union of our God, the three-in-one.
 May the love of God our Father, poured on us in Christ the Son
 In the union of His Spirit fill our hearts and make us one.

We are one in Christ our savior, in His death, we all have died.
 In His resurrection power, we in Him are made alive!
 So we all, as ransomed sinners, stand united in His love;
 Drawing near to God together, by His Spirit, through His Son.

Through His word, our gracious savior draws us to Himself in love,
 Builds us up into a Temple where, by grace, He dwells with us.
 On foundations of His promise, built on Him, our Cornerstone,
 May we stand as one forever, may His love in us be shown.

Lord, forgive our sad divisions. In your gospel, make us one,
 Bound together in Your Spirit, bought by Jesus' precious blood.
 Living worthy of our calling, let us cast all strife aside
 Ttil as one we see His glory as His perfect, holy bride.

† DOXOLOGY #607

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
 Praise Christ, all people here below;
 Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
 Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACONS

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 Marlene, Susan, and Anne as deacons, 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 ORDINATION AND 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 #301** *Let Us Build a House* Two Oaks

† **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

† **POSTLUDE** *Sing To The Lord* Lani Smith

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WORSHIP NOTES

Our guest preacher, Rev. Joy Fisher, is a graduate of Westminster College and Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. She has been a pastor in the presbytery for over 30 years, having served as a camp director, and pastoring the Hapeville and Midway churches before joining the presbytery staff in 2011. Joy is one of the Congregational Consultants, serving as the presbytery representative to 39 congregations, including Druid Hills. In her spare time she enjoys volunteering at Zoo Atlanta, kayaking, and cheering on Atlanta United. She and her husband, David, live in Tucker and have two grown children and two adorable grandchildren.

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 for our DHPC community

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.

Adam Ralls is awaiting surgery for spinal stenosis.

Charles Middleton is now under hospice care at home. Cards and letters can be sent to him at 609 Sibley Cir., McDonough, GA 30253-7483

Betty Davis has moved to rehab following a fall and a broken hip.

Helen Woodside had surgery on June 15 and is at home doing well.

Isaree Patterson had surgery. She thanks everyone for their prayers and all the concerns shown for her. She had a small setback last week, but hopes to continue her recovery and be back with us soon.

Nancy U. Merl's three-month-old grandson, **Edison Andrew Merl**, had a stent put in on August 16, 2023 at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. The procedure went well, but further surgery may be required in the next year. Please keep him in your prayers and thanks.

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; **Olivia Carlisle, Carlin and Tony La Spisa**, friends of May DeWees; **Adella and Chuck Harter and their daughter Heather**, May DeWees' sister and her family; **Tracy and her mother, Charlotte**, friends of Susan Hagood; **Indira Parekh**, friend of Anne Townsley; **Margaret Boulware**, friend of Vivian Hodo; **Kate Pierce**, sister of Marlene Slavich; **Gwen Davies**, friend of Susan Rutherford; **Shannon Dodd and family**; friends of the Soileau Acton family; **Chelsea Walker**, daughter of Letia Henson; **Tim O'Farrell and Brent Yountz**, friends of Donna Durden; **Barbara Bybee**, cousin of Robert Welborn; **Ann Mertens**, friend of Carol and Ken Wideman; **Meghan Harter and newborn Joseph**, friends of Susan Hagood; **Anne Dukes**, mother-in-law of Jane Weir's son; **Connie Finn**, sister of Cliff Frierson; and **Peyton Kirby**, nephew of Robert Welborn.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, August 27

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 11:00 AM – *Worship with Ordination and Installation of Deacons*
With Guest Preacher Rev. Joy Fisher
- 12:00 PM – *Sandwich Ministry*

Sunday, September 3

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship*
- 12:00 PM – *Farewell Reception for Rev. Betsy Turner*

Monday, September 4

- All Day – *Church Office Closed for Labor Day*

PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE: NEW PASTOR ON THE WAY!

As DHPC goes through the steps to call our next installed pastor, updates will be shared here.

Where we are and what comes next: Rev. Betsy Turner's time as DHPC's interim has ended. (We will celebrate with her on September 3.) Rev. Elizabeth Acton will be acting as Head of Staff through September 10 and we will enjoy a series of guest preachers. DHPC's new pastor, Rev. Dr. Renee A. Meyer, starts in the office on September 11, and in the pulpit on September 17. Be praying for her and her husband as they say goodbye to her current congregation and move to the Atlanta area!

LET'S CELEBRATE BETSY!

September 3, Following Worship

Though Covid spoiled our initial plans for a farewell for (and from) Rev. Betsy Turner, we won't let her get away without a celebration. Betsy will return to lead us in worship one more time on Sunday, September 3, and DHPCers will have a chance to express their gratitude to her. Plan to join us for worship on the 3rd and stay for a reception celebrating Betsy's ministry.

SANDWICH MINISTRY

Today, 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 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.

THE RETURN OF SINGING AND RINGING

Wednesday, September 6, 6:15 PM for Bells, 7:30 PM for Choir

Weekly choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm. Bell Ensemble will rehearse beforehand at 6:15 pm. Please join and invite family and/or friends to sing with us. You do not have to be a member of DHPC to sing in the choir, just willing to make joyful noise! All are welcome!

FALL KICKOFF TAILGATE PARTY

Sunday, September 17; Following Worship

What better way to kick off our fall programs and celebrate the arrival of DHPC's new minister than with a tailgate party? However, the Deacons can't pull off the fun without your help! DHPC will provide the fried chicken and drinks, but they're depending on you for the sides (and the tailgates)! If you have a truck or SUV that can add to our ambiance, contact Marlene Slavich (mpslavich@yahoo.com). If you would like to contribute to the side dishes, contact Susan Hagood (shagoodrd@msn.com). (Pull out your old DHPC cookbook and pick a favorite from there!) Online and paper registration will be available on September 3 and September 11.

HAWAII WILDFIRE: HOW TO HELP

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is working with the Presbytery of the Pacific following the deadly fires in Lahaina on the Hawaiian island of Maui. In addition to providing financial support to aid the meeting of immediate needs, PDA is responding to the Red Cross' request that PDA be on standby to provide a team of spiritual care providers who could be embedded with the Red Cross for their ongoing response on Maui. Thanks to your generous support of the mission budget, the Mission Team has already sent a gift of \$500 to PDA for this effort. To add your support to this work, visit pda.pcusa.org/situation/hawaii-wildfires.

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, tuna packets, canned poptop veggies, instant coffee, canned meats, peanut butter & jelly, canned soup (not condensed), cereal.**

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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

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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