



***Service of the Lord's Day, August 6, 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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

*Leader:* God has gathered us to this place.

**All:** where we hear stories about  
what is good and right and loving.

*God summons us to this place,*

where we can learn how to serve our God  
without reservation, or hesitation.

*God will feed us in this place*

nourishing this Christian community  
with holy word, holy meal, holy fellowship,

*God will send us from this place,*

to tell others of God's hopes and dreams,  
so they, too, can choose to follow God.

† HYMN #267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Madrid

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

### UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Lord, we confess that we have clenched our fists in anger,  
closed our hands in greed,  
and shoved our hands into our pockets instead of reaching out to others.

We confess that we have walked away from those who are in need,  
stood still when we should have acted,  
and dug our heels into the ground out of stubbornness and spite.

We confess that we have been too focused on ourselves,  
pretended not to see those around us who are hurting,  
and overlooked opportunities to serve you.

We confess that we confuse people when we say that we are Christians but then  
treat others poorly,  
use our words as weapons,  
and deny love to others who are different from us.

Gracious God, please walk beside us, guide us, catch us when we stumble.  
Strengthen us by your Spirit that we may truly be Christians,  
living lives that are true reflections of your love, grace, and mercy...

(time for silent reflection)

## POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A Declaration of Faith*

**Jesus, the long expected Savior,  
came into the world as a child,  
descended from David,  
conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of Mary, a virgin.  
He lived as a Jew among Jews.  
He announced to his people  
the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth.**

**In forming his people and sending them into the world  
Jesus called individuals to be disciples.  
They were to share the joy of his companionship,  
to understand and obey his teachings,  
and to follow him in life and death.**

**We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship.  
Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ  
is God's undeserved gift to each of us.  
It is also God's demand upon every one of us,  
never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.  
Forgiven by God and supported by siblings,  
we strive to become more faithful and effective  
in our daily practice of the Christian life.**

## ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Acts 11:19-30](#)

p 130-131 NT

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

#### SERMON

“Acts of the Church: Being Successful Christians” 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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## Dedicating our Gifts to Combating Racism

Over the last two years, there has been a growing list of book bans and books written by Black and Brown authors have been targeted repeatedly. According to PEN America, 1,648 books were banned between July 2021 and June 2022. Of those books, 40% included protagonists or prominent secondary characters of color and 21% focused on issues of race and racism. While proponents of these book bans argue that the goal is to protect “innocent children” from sensitive topics, these acts are the latest form of educational oppression and an attempt to silence and exclude the voices and contributions of Black and Brown individuals.

Banning books by Black authors or ones that center on the voices of Black and Brown children is yet another barrier that Black students are forced to overcome. This only further perpetuates racism and anti-Blackness and tells Black students that individuals who share their lived experiences are not valued.

To learn how you can defend the right to read, visit the American Library Association’s Unite Against Book Bans page at [uniteagainstbookbans.org](https://uniteagainstbookbans.org). Also, support authors of color, particularly authors of banned books, by buying or checking these books out from your local library. A list of banned and challenged books can be found at [www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/decade2019](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/decade2019).

### ANTHEM

#### *We Are Sowing*

Arr. Catherine A. Tibbitts

Meredith Starks, *mezzo soprano*

We are sowing, daily sowing countless seeds of good and ill,  
Scattered on the level lowland, Cast upon the windy hill;  
Seeds that sink in rich, brown furrows; Soft with heaven’s gracious rain;  
Seeds that rest upon the surface of the dry, unyielding plain.

Seeds that fall amid the stillness of the lonely mountain glen;  
Seeds cast out in crowded places; Trodden under foot of men;  
Seeds by idle hearts forgotten, flung at random on the air;  
Seeds by faithful souls remembered, sown in tears and love and prayer.

Seeds that lie unchanged, unquickened, lifeless on the teeming mold;  
Seeds that live and grow and flourish when the sower’s hand is cold.  
By a whisper we sow blessings; by a breath we scatter strife.  
In our words and thoughts and actions lie the seeds of death and life.

Thou who knowest all our weakness, leave us not to sow alone!  
Bid thine angels guard the furrows where the precious grain is sown,  
Till the fields are crown’d with glory, filled with mellow, ripened ears,  
Filled with fruit of life eternal from the seed we sowed in tears.

### † DOXOLOGY #503

#### *Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*

O Quanta Qualia

V1, 2

Lord, we have come at your own invitation, | chosen by you, to be counted your friends;  
yours is the strength that sustains dedication; | ours, a commitment we know never ends.

Here, at your table, confirm our intention; | give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;  
teach us to serve without pride or pretension, | Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.

## 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**

## **BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

† **HYMN #300**

*We Are One in the Spirit*

*They'll Know We are Christians*

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

† **POSTLUDE**

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**Worship Notes:** Prayer of confession is adapted from a prayer written by Katelyn Gordon and published on [liturgylink.net](http://liturgylink.net).

**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](mailto: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](mailto:prayerlist@dhpc.org)).*

### **prayers of condolence**

**Jennifer Middleton**, sister-in-law of **Charles and Cynthia Middleton**, died this week. Prayers are requested for her granddaughter Amanda and all of her family.

### **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. Jon's court date has been postponed multiple times, but a just resolution is hoped for in the near future.

**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** hernia surgery went well. She came home on June 28 and is in good spirits.

**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.

**Gigi Muirheid** is continuing to recover well from hip replacement surgery.

**Jane Weir** reports that her recovery from hip replacement surgery continues to move along very well. She is grateful for the great care and support she has received from her DHPC friends.

**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**, will have a blockage in his kidney cleared on August 16, 2023 at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. 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; **Madelyn Magruder**, friend of Jane Martin; **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; **Maggie and Phil Gasior**, friends of Anne Soileau; **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 6

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*  
*Roundtable Adult Education Class*
- 10:00 AM – *DHPC Kids Get Crafty*  
*Deacon's (Free) Garage Sale*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Congregational Meeting*

## **Sunday, August 13**

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship Roundtable Adult Education Class*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship - In-Person and Livestream*
- 12:00 PM – *Serving Lunch at Mercy*

## **PASTORAL TRANSITION UPDATE AND TODAY'S CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **Following this worship service**

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

Where we are: The PNC has done their work and identified a candidate! At the congregational meeting today immediately following this service, you will 1. Receive a report from the Congregational Nominating Committee and vote on the deacon slate and 2. Receive a report from the Pastor Nominating Committee about their process and the person they found, and then you'll vote on the candidate and the terms of call (salary+benefits package).

What comes next and what you can do: Then, we will move forward with transition - saying goodbyes to Betsy Turner in a few weeks as she completes her time with us as Interim Pastor, enjoying a few weeks of guest preachers (and Pastor Elizabeth's able pastoral leadership), and then welcoming the new pastor a few weeks later in mid-September. Thank you for your prayers and patience throughout this process!

## **SERVING LUNCH AT MERCY COMMUNITY CHURCH**

### **Sunday, August 13, 12 PM**

DHPC volunteers will be preparing and serving lunch for our neighbors at Mercy Community Church on Sunday, July 9. If you would like to help prepare the meal, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/servingmercy>. If you have any questions, contact Eric Dusenbury (678.613.2886, [eric.dusenbury@gmail.com](mailto:eric.dusenbury@gmail.com)).

## **PAINT AND CHEMICALS RECYCLING DAY**

### **Sunday, August 20, 10 - 10:55 AM, 12 - 12:15 PM**

Wondering how to safely dispose of the old paint or chemicals you have around the house? The Mission Team is here to help! We'll be collecting house paint, paint thinner, wall paper stripper, sealer, wood stain, nail polish & remover, mineral spirits, pesticides, herbicides, ammonia, bleach, oven cleaner, pool chemicals, car oil, gasoline, tiki oil, brake fluid, and bug spray and delivering them to the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM).

Items for recycling should be dry and not leaking. A Mission Team representative will be in the front parking lot to collect recyclables. Contact Eric Dusenbury ([ericdusenbury@gmail.com](mailto:ericdusenbury@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## **DHPC TRIP TO THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **NEW DATE: Saturday, August 26, 11 AM - 2 PM (RSVP by August 9)**

The Mission Team invites you to participate in the rescheduled trip to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. This wonderful museum features iconic exhibitions sharing the papers and artifacts of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; the history of the civil rights movement in the United States; and stories from the struggle for human rights around the world today. Following exploration of the museum, participants are invited for optional lunch and conversation. The cost of the museum ticket is \$20 (65 and up: \$18). **If you would like to join us, RSVP to Pastor Elizabeth by August 9.**

## **RESTORED ORGAN INSTALLATION PROGRESS**

The pipes have started arriving! This week we welcomed 12 massive wooden Contra Bourdon pipes. Most of the returning restored pipes have been part of our organ for decades but some, including these, are new to us. They were installed this week against the back wall in the east chamber (to the congregation's right). They will produce the lowest tones, and the longest one is about the length of a pew! Installation of organ components will continue for several weeks but, since it is behind those gold façade pipes, the progress will be mostly invisible to the congregation. Watch and listen for updates as our four year pipe organ restoration project nears its completion.

## 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 a family and/or friend 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!

## SAVE THE DATE: FALL KICKOFF TAILGATE PARTY

**Sunday, September 10**

What better way to kick off our fall programs than with a tailgate party? But we can't do it without you! Do you have a truck tailgate or a grill you can bring? Are you a master griller who would be willing to show off your skills? If you are able to help, please let Anne Soileau ([katies.nana@hotmail.com](mailto:katies.nana@hotmail.com)) know.

## 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, rice (1-2lb bags), canned meats, utensil packets, peanut butter & jelly, canned beans, 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](http://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](mailto:bturner@dhpc.org)  
Pastor for Engagement: Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton, [eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)  
Interim Director of Music, Paula Broughton, [pbroughton@dhpc.org](mailto:pbroughton@dhpc.org)  
Organist: Cliff Frierson, [cfrierson@dhpc.org](mailto:cfrierson@dhpc.org)  
Director, Handbell Choir: Denise Huewitt  
Facilities Manager: Mike Williams, [mwilliams@dhpc.org](mailto:mwilliams@dhpc.org)  
Communications and Hospitality Manager: Nate Baughman, [nbaughman@dhpc.org](mailto: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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