



Service of the Lord's Day, September 24, 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

I Love To Tell The Story

Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader: In the prayers and the praise,
in the words and the wonder:*

All: we are given enough joy to live each day.

*In the justice for the oppressed,
in the unexpected generosity for the lost:*

**we are given enough compassion
to use in service each day.**

*In the promises made to all,
in the mercy offered to each:*

we are given enough grace to share each day.

† **HYMN #462**

I Love to Tell the Story

Hankey

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

It seems we cannot decide, Cloud of Glory. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, (at least, for those who need it – but surely, not us).

Forgive us, Presence of Peace.

Instead of grumblers,

may we be ambassadors of grace.

Instead of continual complaining,

may we carry compassion to the hurting.

Instead of whiners,

**may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.**

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kingdom. God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life.

God has kept the covenant. We have been forgiven, we have been made new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Luke 7:1-10](#)

p 65 NT

[John 3:14-16](#)

p 94 NT

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

SERMON

“The Story of Helen, Gladys, and Verleen”

Rev. Dr. Renée A. Meyer

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

World Council of Churches

I believe in the God

**that accompanies me along every step of my path on this earth,
many times walking behind me,
watching me and suffering with my mistakes,
other times walking beside me,
talking to me and teaching me,
and other times walking ahead of me,
guiding and marking my pace.**

I believe in the God of flesh and blood, Jesus Christ,

**who lived in my skin and tried on my shoes,
who walked in my ways and knows of lights and shadows.
The one who ate and starved,
who had a home and suffered loneliness,
who was praised and condemned,
kissed and spat on,
loved and hated.
The one who went to parties and funerals,
the one who laughed and cried.**

I believe in the God of Spirit, who breathes freshly on me,

who inspires me to be better, to do better, to love more.

I believe in a God who makes life in body and spirit

full of great possibilities! Amen.

† HYMN #754

Help Us Accept Each Other

Baronita

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.

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.

...

Thank you. Thank you to all of you, especially the deacons, who helped pull off a lovely, busy weekend last week. The reception honoring Charles Middleton was truly lovely and the tailgate lunch was tasty and fun! Thank you to all who set-up, cleaned, brought food, served, decorated, and so much more!

Earth Stewardship Invitation: Fall is a great time to plant trees and shrubs which are good for the environment. Their root systems will develop throughout the winter months and reduce their water consumption needs come spring. Have fun digging in the dirt!

ANTHEM

Oceans

Matt Crocker

Soloist: Meredith Stark, soprano

You call me out upon the waters | The great unknown where feet may fail;
And there I find You in the mystery | In oceans deep my faith will stand.

And I will call upon Your Name, | And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise. | My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters | Your sovereign hand will be my guide;
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me | You've never failed and You won't start now.

So I will call upon Your Name, | And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise. | My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders | Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me; | Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger | In the presence of my Saviour.

† 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.**

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN #757

Today We All are Called to Be Disciples

Kingsfold

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go now to share the love of God.

We will share it with childish abandon.

Go now to share the grace of Jesus.

We will offer this gift, fresh every morning, to all we meet.
Go now to share the generosity of the Holy Spirit.
We will hold nothing back as we embrace each person this week.

† **POSTLUDE**

“*RICHMOND*”

arr. Alan Viner

.....

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's bulletin image is *Jesús y el centurión (El Veronés)* by Paolo Veronese and is used through the wikimedia commons license, with the original source here:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jes%C3%BAs_y_el_centuri%C3%B3n_\(El_Veron%C3%A9s\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jes%C3%BAs_y_el_centuri%C3%B3n_(El_Veron%C3%A9s).jpg)

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.

Betty Davis has returned home from rehab after breaking her hip.

Helen Woodside has finished radiation and is in remission. She is so grateful for prayers, cards and phone calls.

Isaree Patterson had surgery. She thanks everyone for their prayers and all the concerns shown for her. She hopes to continue her recovery and be back with us soon.

Santana Herrera received positive results from his medical tests and is grateful for your prayers..

prayers for our family and friends

Richard Odom, Cynthia Middleton's brother; **Brenda Robbins and Alan Baggett**, friends of Betty McIntosh; **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; **Peyton Kirby**, nephew of Robert Welborn; and **Cindy Woodside**, daughter-in-law of Helen Woodside.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, September 24

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 11:00 AM – *Worship*
- 12:00 PM – *Sandwich Ministry*
Deacon Training

Wednesday, September 27

- 6:15 PM – *Handbells Rehearsal*
- 7:30 PM – *Choir Rehearsal*

Sunday, October 1

- 9:30 AM – *Drop-In Coffee and Fellowship*
Roundtable Adult Education Class
- 10:00 AM – *Children's Sunday School*
- 11:00 AM – *Worship*
- 12:00 PM – *Mission Meeting*

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. Many hands make light work, so make plans to gather after worship in the rear of the sanctuary to help make sandwiches. Contact Anne Townsley (anne.townsley314@gmail.com) with any questions.

FALL ONLINE BOOK STUDY:

Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Striving for God's Justice

Monday, October 9 - November 13; 7:30 - 8:30 PM

The Christian Education Team invites you to participate in this Fall's online book study, featuring the book *Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies While Striving for God's Justice* by Scott Black Johnston, Senior Pastor of NYC's Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. This book, and the conversation around it, will explore the unrest over long-standing social injustices and the rise in new, antidemocratic perspectives and practices. Participants will reflect on whether or not a nation so divided as ours can come together again and how we, as people of faith, might reconcile the call to participate in God's ongoing struggle for justice while not losing our souls to hatred. To participate, RSVP by emailing Elizabeth by Monday, October 2.

CREATION CARE OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 8, 11AM

The Mission Team is excited to invite you to join in a creation care centered worship on the lawn the second Sunday in October. Dr. Bill Brown, the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, who is known for his work at the intersection of creation care and Bible will be leading us in worship. This is sure to be a great service, so throw on your casual blue and green clothes and join us outside!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Sunday, October 15, 11:30AM; Parlor

Once again DHPC is joining together to fight hunger through a meal packing event organized by Rise Against Hunger, an international hunger relief organization that distributes life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable. In previous years DHPC members and friends have had a great time as they joined together to package slightly more than 10,000 meals! This year's packing event will take place in the Parlor following a short casual worship service in the sanctuary. We hope you will make plans to join us for this year's event and bring a friend to join you! Stay tuned for information on how to register! And, don't forget to invite a friend!

RISE AGAINST HUNGER: SET-UP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sunday, October 15, 10AM

To have Rise Against Hunger be a success, we need some (awesome) volunteers to help prepare the Parlor for the event. If one of your spiritual gifts is carrying heavy things and setting them down, then this is the perfect opportunity for you! All ages are welcome! Email Pastor Elizabeth (eacton@dhpc.org) to volunteer.

"TAKING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION HOME" COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Thursday, October 19, 5:30 - 7:30pm

The Mission Team is excited to host a workshop for our VaHi (and beyond) neighbors. The workshop, taught by Georgia Interfaith Power and Light, will share information about energy efficiency and solar power options, as well as information about Inflation Reduction Act benefits for individual homeowners. DHPC members and friends are encouraged to attend to welcome our neighbors. In addition, Anne Townsley is arranging potluck snacks for guests. If you would like to contribute, please contact Anne (anne.townsley314@gmail.com). Please encourage your friends and neighbors to attend this exciting workshop. Childcare will be provided. Contact Pastor Elizabeth (eacton@dhpc.org) with any questions.

RESTORED ORGAN INSTALLATION PROGRESS

Last week marked our historic organ's 83rd birthday. Most of the foundational work for the organ's restoration is now in the final stages. About half of the pipes have been reinstalled. Many of them have been individually tested in place, although the organ can't "make music" yet because the console will be the last major component to be reinstalled. We're looking forward to the organ singing for us again soon.

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.**

.....

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.

Brentwood Christian Church (affectionately known as Springfield, MO’s bible belt alternative) is an open and affirming Disciples of Christ congregation striving to become a community where all God’s children are welcome regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, political stance or theological perspective.

And, thanks be to God, they share the following welcome statement:

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here:

If you are young or old, you are welcome

If you have brown skin, black skin, white skin, or any color of skin, you are welcome

If you are married or single, you are welcome

If you are gay or straight, you are welcome

If you are transgender, you are welcome

If you are a man or a woman, you are welcome

If you cannot hear or see, you are welcome

If you are sick or well, you are welcome

If you are happy or sad, you are welcome

If you are rich or poor, powerful or weak, you are welcome

If you believe in God some of the time or none of the time or all of the time, you are welcome

You are welcome here

Come with your gifts, your pain, your hope, your fears

Come with the traditions that have helped you and hurt you

Come with your experiences that have made you and broken you

Come with a mind, ready to engage, and a heart, open to discern

Come and listen for the Sacred Spirit that calls you to love your neighbor wholeheartedly, seek justice, create peace and practice compassion

You are welcome here!

CHURCH STAFF

Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Renée A. Meyer, rmeyer@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, Susan Rutherford

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
Music is used by permission and reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-710585
and CCLI #11358326 (copyright license) and #11358326 (streaming license)*