



***Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017***

**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.

† *You are invited to stand when you see this symbol.*

## PRELUDE MUSIC

**PRELUDE** *Berceuse Paraphrase* George Baker

**ANTHEM** *The Shepherds' Carol* Dan Forrest  
Chancel Choir

As lately we watched o'er our fields through the night. | A star there was seen of such glorious light.  
All through the night, angels did sing | Carols so sweet of the birth of a King.

His throne is a manger, His court is a loft. | But hosts of bright angels, in strains sweet and soft,  
Him they proclaim, our Christ by name, | and earth sky and air straight are filled with his fame.

Then shepherds be joyful, salute your new King, | let hills and vales ring to the song that ye sing.  
Blest be that hour, welcome the morn | for Christ our dear Savior on earth now is born.

† **CAROL #119** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* Mendelssohn

**ANTHEM** *Away in a Manger* Ola Gjeilo  
Chancel Choir  
Michelle Jarrell, solo

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, | The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay, | The Little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, | But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, | And stay by my side, until morning is night.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask the to stay | Close by me forever, and love me I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, | And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

† **CAROL #145** *What Child Is This* Greensleeves

**ANTHEM** *O Magnum Mysterium* Morten Lauridsen  
String Quartet

*O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger!  
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!*

**ANTHEM**

*The Infant King*  
Chancel Choir

Basque Carol  
arr. David Willcocks

Sing lullaby!

Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing Lullaby! | Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Angels are watching, stars are shining | over the place where he is lying:

Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!

Lullaby baby, now asleeping, sing Lullaby! | Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Soon will come sorrow with the morning, | soon will come bitter grief and weeping:

Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!

Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, sing Lullaby! | Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, | then in the grave at last reposing:

Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby!

Lullaby! Is the babe awaking? Sing Lullaby! | Hush, do not stir the Infant King.  
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning, | Conquering Death, its bondage breaking:

Sing lullaby!

† **CAROL #110**

*Love Has Come*

Bring a Torch

...

**GOD GATHERS US AROUND THE WORD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHRISTMAS WONDERINGS**

Isaiah 9:2-4

Bill Armstrong,  
Chris and Nicole Escobar

*The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.*

## PRESENTATION OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Tina McCormick, Renée Weese  
Anne Townsley, Robert Welborn  
Lauren Fuchs

Of the Father's love begotten,  
*Hodie Christus natus est:* Today Christ is born:  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
*hodie Salvator apparuit:* today the Savior appears:  
He is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,  
*hodie in terra canunt Angeli,* today on earth the angels sing,  
*laetantur Archangeli:* and the archangels rejoice:  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see  
*hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:* today the just exalt, saying:  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo, Alleluia.* Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.  
Evermore and evermore!  
Amen.

## CHRISTMAS WONDERINGS      Isaiah 9:6-7

*For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.*

...

O ye heights of heaven, adore him. Angel hosts, his praises sing.  
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent;  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

### UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

*Leader: When the world was dark  
and the city was quiet,  
you came.*

*You crept in beside us.*

*And no one knew.  
Only the few  
who dared to believe  
that God might do something different.*

**All: Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?**

*Will you come into the darkness of tonight's world;  
not the friendly darkness  
as when sleep rescues us from tiredness,  
but the fearful darkness,  
in which people have stopped believing  
that war will end  
or that food will come  
or that a government will change  
or that the Church cares?*

**Will you come into the darkness  
and do something different  
To save your people from death and despair?**

*Will you come into the quietness of this city,  
not the friendly quietness  
as when lovers hold hands,  
but the fearful silence when  
the phone has not rung,  
the letter has not come,  
the friendly voice no longer speaks,  
the doctor's face says it all?*

*Will you come into that darkness,  
and do something different,  
not to distract, but to embrace your people?*

**And will you come into the dark corners  
and the quiet places of our lives?**

*We ask this not because we are guilt-ridden  
or want to be,  
but because the fullness our lives long for  
depends on us being as open and vulnerable to you  
as you were to us,  
when you came,  
wearing no more than diapers,  
and trusting human hands  
to hold their maker.*

**Will you come into our lives,  
if we open them to you  
and do something different?**

(time for silent reflection)

*When the world was dark  
and the city was quiet  
you came.*

*You crept in beside us.*

**Do the same this Christmas, Lord.  
Do the same this Christmas. Amen.**

## **POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Please greet your neighbors with signs and words of peace and reconciliation.)*

### **† RESPONSE OF PRAISE #113**     *Angels We Have Heard on High* (verses 1,3)     Gloria

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo - - - ri-a in excelsis Deo! Glo - - - ri-a in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King  
Glo - - - ri-a in excelsis Deo! Glo - - - ri-a in excelsis Deo!**

## **ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 2:1-20

p 58 NT

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

**SERMON**

“Wondering and Wandering”

Rev. Shelli Latham

**CAROL**

*All of You Who Walked in Darkness*  
(see insert)

Richard Bell

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**ANTHEM**

*Before the Marvel of This Night*  
Chancel Choir

Carl Schalk

Before the marvel of this night, | Adoring, fold your wings and bow,  
Then tear the sky apart with light | And with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, | That fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace!

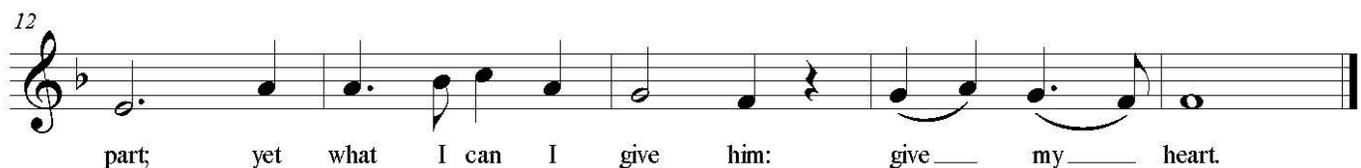
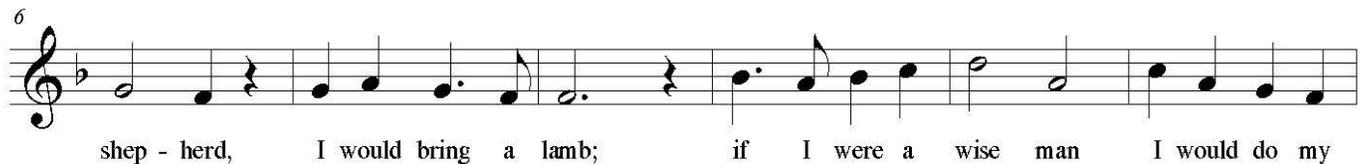
Awake the sleeping world with song, | This is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng, | In royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, | A teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, | Our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown, | Now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love, | That rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love!

† **OFFERTORY HYMN**

*In the Bleak Midwinter* (verse 4)

Cranham



## † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### 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

*I Wonder as I Wander*

Appalachian Carol

Chancel Choir

arr. John Jacob Niles

Michelle Jarrell, soloist

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, | How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die,  
For poor on'ry people like you and like I. | I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, | With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, | And the promise of ages, it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, | A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing, | He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

### † SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST #122

*Silent Night, Holy Night!* (verses 1,3,4)

Stille Nacht

You are invited to light your candle from the candle of your neighbor, passing the light of Christ. Please hold lit candles upright and tilt unlit candles.

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing,  
alleluia to our king;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

### † CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### † CAROL #134

*Joy to the World*  
(verses 1, 4)

Antioch

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! | Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room, | and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, | and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, | and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness | and wonders of his love  
and wonders of his love, | and wonders, wonders of his love.**

(choir)

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.

Honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

### POSTLUDE

*In dulci jubilo*

*arr. Wilber Held*

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## WORSHIP NOTES

We want to know you've worshipped with us! **Please sign the blue Fellowship Pad**, located in the rack, at the end of each pew, and pass it down the row.

The Christmas carol, ***All of You Who Walked in Darkness***, was composed this past month by Dr. Richard Bell, Director of Instrumental Studies at Clayton State University and Director of Music at First Baptist Church of Morrow. Dr. Bell composes a new Christmas carol every December, and we are grateful that he has generously shared his music with us this evening.

**Today's bulletin art is** *Terrifying, Joyous News*, by Lauren Wright Pitman. Inspired by Luke 2:8-20. Acrylic and ink on canvas. © A Sanctified Art, [www.sanctifiedart.org](http://www.sanctifiedart.org).

### **Our Advent-Christmas Journey: *Return to Wonder***

Throughout the four-week season of Advent, we have remembered Christ's first coming to earth as a baby, born in Bethlehem. It is a fantastical story – God being born in a lump of hay, to a poor girl in a rinky-dink town. It is a whimsical story, with stardust and the flutter of angels' wings and enough magic electrifying the air that magi in the East mounted their camels and traveled with sparkly gifts for a king. As we celebrate the birth of the one who changed the world, we invite you to continue to *Return to Wonder*. Returning is an action and a reorientation. This Christmas, may we reorient from the craze of the world's priorities to get back to the fantastical, whimsical, magical story that changed everything. Our Christmas prayer for you is the blessing of imagination to wonder what God becoming flesh really means for the world and that you may revel in the mysteries and beauty of the one who made and was born to save us.

**Presentation of the Christ Candle** - Each week during Advent, lanterns have been processed down the aisle to the sound of Gregorian Chant. Tonight all four lanterns pierce the darkness of the night and are joined by the Christ Candle, carried by a child, to remind us, it was a child who was born to be the light of the world.



## WEEKLY UPDATE

### **Sunday, December 24**

5:00PM – *Congregational Carols & Choral Music*

5:30PM – *Christmas Eve Worship Service*

### **Monday, December 25 - Friday, December 29**

All day - *Office Closed*

### **Sunday, December 31**

11:00AM – *Worship Service*

## **2017 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

As we approach the end of the 2017 year, please be sure to complete your stewardship commitment for the current year. Year to date, we have received approximately 85% of our budgeted pledge revenue and we look for the balance of those commitments in the next two weeks! Meanwhile, we are fast approaching the end of the stewardship campaign for 2018. Session will soon finalize the 2018 budget. If you have not yet pledged, please do as soon as you are able so that Session can move forward with planning 2018 budget finalization. Pledges may be made online or by completing a pledge form, located outside the church office and in the Tower Room. Thank you for your dedication to the many ministries of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church.

## **INTOWN FOOD PANTRY**

*A complete list of Pantry needs is on the bulletin board outside the Tower Room and in the newsletter.*  
This Christmas guests will be even more dependent on the Pantry than usual. Mercy Community Church will be closed Christmas week. *(Mercy Church is a safe place, a sanctuary, where people may receive endless cups of hot coffee and a warm meal. Most days Mercy community members take food to the streets where hungry people get a bowl of homemade soup and a sandwich or two.)* With Mercy Church closed Christmas week, the Pantry guests will be especially hungry. Thank you for your continued generosity! On December 27, the Pantry is hosting a hot lunch of chili and a fresh salad for their guests. If you would like to contribute to this meal, contact Jane Boyd Lee ([jb.lee@att.net](mailto:jb.lee@att.net), 404-872-4017) to learn more about what is needed. We will be sure it gets to the Pantry.

## **UPCOMING EVENT**

### **SEEKING ORDINATION RECEPTION REFRESHMENTS**

**Sunday, January 7, 11AM**

All are invited to join in celebrating Elizabeth Soileau Acton's ordination during worship on Sunday, January 7th. Worship will be followed by a reception in the Parlor. Volunteers are needed to bring desserts and finger sandwiches. Please contact Nancy Merl (404-255-7343, [artnres@gmail.com](mailto:artnres@gmail.com)) to let her know what you can bring. Thanks in advance for your help with this special day.

### **GOD CALLS (In the New Testament) - ONLINE BIBLE STUDY**

**Thursdays, January 11 - February 8, 7-8 PM**

*Are you interested in exploring the Bible but the Sunday School hour doesn't quite work for you? Would you like to get to know a group of DHPCCers through a consistent gathering which studies, checks in with each other, and prays together? And would you like to do that from the comfort of your own home, in your PJs, and with a cup of cocoa?* For five weeks in the New Year, we would love to have you join our second online Bible Study, which will continue to explore the dynamic call stories of some of our most well-known Bible characters while wrestling with what that has to do with our own lives. A strong sense of connection was formed among the participants of our first Bible Study. We look forward to the ways this second study will also form new relationships and strengthen old ones. You will need access to a computer with camera, microphone, and audio output. To participate, please contact Rachel Mathews ([rmathews@dhpc.org](mailto:rmathews@dhpc.org)) who will provide further information.

### **YOUTH GROUP LUNCH AND TRIP TO MY SISTER'S HOUSE**

**Sunday, January 14, 12:15**

Following Second Sunday Lunch, all 6th-12th graders are invited to journey to My Sister's House to deliver the items collected during the Advent Baby Supplies Drive.

## **SANDWICH MINISTRY RETURNS**

**Sunday, January 21, 12:15PM; Sanctuary**

Following worship on January 21, the DHPC Sandwich Ministry returns! All are welcome and encouraged to join the mission team in the rear of the sanctuary to assist in assembling sandwiches for Mercy Community Church, our neighbors who are homeless and/or hungry. Each month we will make 120 sandwiches. With your help we can accomplish this in less than 30 minutes, so please plan to stay a bit longer each third Sunday of the month. We are excited about this effort to feed our brothers and sisters on the streets and hope you are too! Contact Anne Townsley ([anne.townsley314@gmail.com](mailto:anne.townsley314@gmail.com)) with any questions.

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## **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT DHPC**

Children of all ages are welcome in the sanctuary during worship. Being present in worship is how children learn to worship, so we welcome their wiggles and whispers. Children's worship bags are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. (*Please return used bags to the basket near where bags were picked up.*) During the Sunday School hour, a class featuring Bible stories, music, and art is available for all infants and toddlers. Additionally, parents of small children are invited to drop off their children in our nursery, Room 115, while they attend worship. 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.



## **MAKE YOUR OFFERING DONATION FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE**

Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's Quick Response code reader, and you'll be taken to DHPC's secure giving portal, where you can make a one-time or recurring gift using your credit or debit card, or checking or savings account. Payments or gifts for special offerings should be labeled as such in the "Optional Memo" line.

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Shelli Latham, [pastorshelli@dhpc.org](mailto:pastorshelli@dhpc.org)  
Director of Education and Mission: Elizabeth Soileau Acton, [eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)  
Director of Music Ministries: Michael Fuchs, [mfuchs@dhpc.org](mailto:mfuchs@dhpc.org)  
Director of Young Adult & Parent Nurture: Rachel Mathews, [rmathews@dhpc.org](mailto:rmathews@dhpc.org)  
Organist: Cliff Frierson, [cfrierson@dhpc.org](mailto:cfrierson@dhpc.org)  
Office & Facilities Manager: Danielle Wilson, [dwilson@dhpc.org](mailto:dwilson@dhpc.org)

### THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

Christian Education: Jennifer Beck  
Congregational Life: Elizabeth Adams  
Finance: Bill Armstrong  
Mission: David Vigilante, Callie Thweatt  
Personnel: Bob Beard  
Property and Administration: Bryan Gartman  
Worship: Suzette Stewart

Clerk of the Session: Kenneth Wideman  
Treasurer: Linda Davis

#### *Elders Emeriti:*

Cecile McRae Hooks, Charles C. Knox,  
Belle Miller McMaster, Frank Harkins Merl