



Service of the Lord's Day, December 31, 2017

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.*

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.

GOD GATHERS US AROUND THE WORD

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

PRELUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Embrace the Child and bless your God,

All: For the works of God's hands are faithful and just.

They have set a star to hang in the sky;

With a blazing torch our God shall lead us.

They have sewn the world a garment of light;

With swaddling love our God shall clothe us.

For the Child's sake, let us not keep silent;

For the Child's sake, let us not find rest,

Until all God's earth is robed in brightness,

Until all God's earth shall burn with life!

† **HYMN 132**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

God of new birth, we greet you this morning anticipating new starts and hope for the future. Strengthen us to create healing where we have caused brokenness so that we may move into the future without the weight of guilt upon our shoulders.

We admit that, given the chance, we have rarely chosen to praise others. Our voices hesitate to sing out in joy the goodness of those around us. Instead, we choose to scream about the weaknesses and inadequacies of others, even those we claim to love most. We are guided more by meanness than by your gentleness. We are seldom wise enough to listen to your voice, preferring instead the sweet songs of sin.

Forgive us, Heart of Heaven. Touch those inner places of hope and joy that they might become gifts we can offer to those around us, as we seek to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(time for silent reflection)

POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God,

whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.**

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

† 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

(WE'RE ALL GOD'S) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2: 22-40

p 59 NT

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

SERMON

"Do You See What I See?"

Elizabeth Soileau Acton

† HYMN 821

My Life Flows On How Can I Keep from Singing

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter
Evan Pettigrew, tenor

Eric H. Thiman

† OFFERTORY HYMN

In the Bleak Midwinter (verse 4)

Cranham

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a

6
shep - herd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my

12
part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

† 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

What Child Is This
Evan Pettigrew, tenor

Philip Kern

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN 136

Go, Tell it On the Mountain

Go Tell It

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Christians, Awake, Salute the Happy Morn Charles Callahan

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WORSHIP NOTES

We are grateful to have Reverend Rachael Whaley Pate assisting us with worship this morning. Rachael is a minister at large in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and spends her time supply preaching around the city. She and her husband John have two children, Miriam and David. Thank you for being here this morning, Rachael!

PRAYERS

pray for our dhpc community

Dr. Stan Foster, Bobby Howlett, Ivey Lois Hubert, Elizabeth Mabry, Charles Middleton, Jess Hatton, Bo Mays, David Vigilante, Wilma Ralls, Yolanda Tamsen

pray for our family and friends

Will Ellis, son of Hannah family friend Joe James; **Elizabeth Cortez**, Cliff Frierson's sister; **Lucy Corkran**, friend of Anne Townsley; **Chelsea Walker**, Letia Henson's daughter; **Nancy Hahn Bono**, Susan Hagood's sister; **Duke Daschboch**, grandchild of Anne Townsley's friends; **Ashlee Hall**, friend of Danielle Wilson; **Michele O Rouse**, Cynthia Middleton's sister; **Christina Georgiadou**, friend of the Vigilante and Adams families; **Pellicane family**, Jane Weir's friends; **Meredith Shahpazian**, friend of Betty and Linda Davis; **Martha Wily**, friend of Linda and Betty Davis; **Jenna Van Gelderen**, friend of Jane Weir's family; **Matthew Sweet**, grandson of Carl Sweet; **Steve Campbell**, friend of Karin Dusenbury

pray for our world

Loving Lord, on this day ending a year that had much joy, but also much heartbreak, anger, conflict, and frustration, we pray for a gentle and peaceful new year to replace it. May kindness and love take the place of the anger and spite that have dominated the world. We pray that all world leaders will once again begin to work together for the good of all. Please help us shift the worldview from a focus not on us but rather to the needs of others.

We ask your blessings for all of us in this New Year. And, we pray, as always, in the name of your most precious Son, Jesus. **Amen.**

WEEKLY UPDATE

Sunday, December 31

11:00AM – *Worship Service*

Monday, January 1

New Years Day – *Office Closed*

Wednesday, January 3

6:15PM – *Yoga Prayer*

Friday, January 5

6:00PM - *OIKOS*

Sunday, January 7

9:30AM – *Adult Bible Roundtable Sunday School Class*

9:45AM – *Sunday School Classes for All Ages*

10:15AM – *Choir Warm Up*

10:30AM – *OIKOS*

11:00AM – *Worship and Ordination Service*

12:15PM – *Rev. Elizabeth Acton's Ordination Reception*

12:30PM – *Christian Education Team Meeting*

12:30PM – *Congregational Life Team Meeting*

12:30PM – *Mission Team Meeting*

12:30PM – *Worship Team Meeting*

INTOWN FOOD PANTRY

A complete list of Pantry needs is on the bulletin board outside the Tower Room and in the newsletter.

Due to the holidays Mercy Community Church was 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.*) This created more demand for the Pantry. Thus, the Pantry hosted a hot lunch of chili and a fresh salad for their guests. Thank you for your donations to the Pantry and this meal that helped keep our brothers and sisters on the street fed and cared for!

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 to let her know what you can bring. Thanks in advance for your help with this special day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 DHPCers 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) 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. More info coming soon.

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 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
Director of Education and Mission: Elizabeth Soileau Acton, eacton@dhpc.org
Director of Music Ministries: Michael Fuchs, mfuchs@dhpc.org
Director of Young Adult & Parent Nurture: Rachel Mathews, rmathews@dhpc.org
Organist: Cliff Frierson, cfrierson@dhpc.org
Office & Facilities Manager: Danielle Wilson, 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