



*Second Sunday  
of Christmas,  
January 3, 2021*

**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.*

THOSE  
WHO *persevere*  
DREAM  
*Epiphany*

# GOD GATHERS US AROUND THE WORD

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

## PRELUDE

*What Child is This?*  
Susan Rutherford

Thomas Hewitt Jones

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 60:1-3, 6

*Leader: Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the Lord's glory has shone upon you.*

**All: Though darkness covers the earth and gloom the nations,  
the Lord will shine upon you; God's glory will appear over you.**  
*Nations will come to your light and kings to your dawning radiance.  
Countless camels will cover your land,  
young camels from Midian and Ephah.  
They will all come from Sheba, carrying gold and incense,  
proclaiming the Lord's praises.*

**Let us arise! Shine! Our light has come.**

## HYMN #151

*We Three Kings*

Justin C. Han

We three kings of Orient are; | bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, | following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light, | star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, | guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now behold him arise; | King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, | sounds through the earth and skies.

[Refrain]

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

## UNISON PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

**I love to worship you when the sky is clear, and the breeze just right.  
I love to worship you when the journey to Bethlehem is an easy one.  
Unfortunately, as you know, this journey of life, love, and faith is rarely easy.  
Now and again, the stars disappear.  
My feet get blisters, and the journey is far too long and lonely.  
On these days, forgive me for giving up quickly.  
Forgive me for allowing the dream to die and for taking the shortcut home.  
I want to be as brave as the Magi.  
I want to persevere.  
Guide my feet. Show me the stars. Amen.**

(time for silent reflection)

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

# ENCOUNTERING GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 2:1-12](#)

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

## REFLECTION

“Fear and Loathing in Bethlehem”

Rev. Shelli Latham

## 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.

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### **Dedicating our Gifts to Combating Racism**

*“We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.” -Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

The month of January is traditionally a time to make resolutions and also to observe Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Why not do both? Here are some resolution suggestions that honor Dr. King's legacy, and help us on our quest to end racism.

1. Listen to Dr. King's most famous speech, “[I Have a Dream](#),” and read “[Letter from Birmingham Jail](#)”
2. Volunteer. At church, a school, your neighborhood, your community. Investigate, call, ask friends for suggestions. There are many places and organizations looking for volunteers.
3. Speak up. Refuse to stay silent when you encounter injustice and racism. Speak truth to power. It takes courage but we must do this if we want to preserve our democracy.
4. Dream/Reflect. Take some time on January 18, MLK Day, to reflect on how you can improve the future for your community, your state, the nation, and world. Write your dreams/reflections in a journal and revisit them throughout the year. Dream big; make a plan, like Dr. King.

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## ANTHEM

*Go Tell It On The Mountain*

Susan Ruthorford

African American Spiritual

arr. John W. Work, Jr.

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, | over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain | that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching | o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens | there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

The shepherds feared and trembled | when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus | that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]

Down in a lowly manger | the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation | that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

## 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

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

### HYMN #110

*Love Has Come*

Bring a Torch

Love has come: a light in the darkness! | Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; | hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!  
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. | Love is God now asleep in the hay.  
See the glow in the eyes of his mother; | what is the name her heart is saying?  
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.  
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us! | Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us. | Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.  
Love! Love! Praise to you God on high!

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Pat-a-Pan*

Diane Bish

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## WORSHIP NOTES

**Today's bulletin art** is *Another Road*, by Hannah Garrity, paper lace. Used by permission from Sanctified Art. Artist's statement:

This image is a meditation on the gift boxes spiraling out from the center of the Star of Bethlehem. The top of the central square opens as Mary receives the gifts of the three Wise Men. Multiple paths surround the star, portraying the wise decision of the Magi to return home a different way to resist the fear-ridden power of King Herod.

*"When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him."* The power of fear is palpable; it is easy for a leader to share and to use to his advantage. In this story we are reminded of the wisdom that has been gifted to us by God through Jesus' ministry—the wisdom to avoid imbibing and stoking fear. Knowing this wisdom to be true, and knowing Herod to be a leader who leads fearfully and by fearmongering, I wonder how often we humans can fall into this pattern.

We know the story well. The Magi's decision buys time for Mary and Joseph to make a move that will eventually save the life of God incarnate. They choose to leave the country as refugees, to escape the oppression that Herod's fear imposes on their child.

Can we combat the fear within ourselves—to see beyond it to the love and hope that are also held in every moment? With each decision, we first choose our lens. Can we make it our intention to see the world through love, not through fear?

**The Prayer of Brokenness** is by Sarah Are, © Sanctified Art, sanctifiedart.org.

## PRAYERS

### **Pray for our dhpc community**

**Robert Welborn** will be having hip replacement surgery on Jan 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Porter Remington, former** long time DHPC Organist/Music Director had successful robotic heart surgery on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> and appreciates prayers for a full recovery.

**Wilma Ralls** was hit by a car and has significant physical therapy ahead for multiple broken bones. Cards may be sent to her at Manor Care Rehab Center, 4360 Johnson Ferry Place, Room 245, Marietta GA 30068.

**Martha Moore** is adjusting well to her new home at the Phoenix, an assisted living facility in Cumming GA. She continues to have OT/PT and visiting nurse checks. She has a new phone (470-875-3566), but mail should continue to be sent to her daughter Beth Yoder at 2694 Middlecreek Way, Cummings GA 30041.

**Charles Middleton** has ongoing chronic health issues, but is doing reasonably well at this time.

**Lisa Carter** is having ongoing pain with her knees, and appreciates prayers for healing.

**Steve Thaxton** was admitted to Emory Decatur Hospital on Dec 21<sup>st</sup> for treatment of his ongoing cellulitis in his legs.

**Miriam Herrera** is undergoing chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer.

**Multiple members with Covid.** We have several members and friends of DHPC who currently have Covid. Prayers for their recovery.

### **pray for our family and friends**

**Kathleen Boyd**, friend of Robert Welborn, **Elissa Tatton**, Genie Talbott's sister, **Maureen O'Harra**, Katie Vigilante's mother, **George Reeves**, former DHPC member, **Michael Woodside**, son of Helen Woodside, **Michael West**, friend of May Dewees, **Carolyn Smith**, friend of May Dewees, **Madelyn Magruder**, friend of Jane Martin, **Barbara Magnan**, Cathie Magnan-Power's mother, **Carol Vigilante**, David Vigilante's mother, **Lee Sewell**, friend of May and Ron DeWees, **Lora Butler**, friend of Jane Weir, **Robert and Doris Thweatt**, Kenyon Thweatt's mother and father, **Lins Grawert**, sister of Bruce Grawert, **Sara Torres**, friend of Adam Ralls, **Rev. Brice Graves**, friend of Susan Hagood, **Colton, Summer and Matthew Cooper**, friends of Lauren Merceron, **George Ports**, friend of Lauren Merceron, **Kathy Moore**, friend of the Armstrongs, **Betsy Weir**, Jane Weir's sister, **Luis Bolano**, Tyler Merceron's uncle, **Kevin Harris**, former DHPC sexton, **Ruth Potter**, former DHPC member and elder, **Allie Busby**, Renee Weese's mother, **Kells Weatherby and family**, Jane Weir's nephew, **Michele O Rouse**, Cynthia Middleton's sister

## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

### **Sunday, January 3**

- 9:00 AM – *Pre-Recorded Online Worship*
- 11:00 AM – *Live Online Worship & Fellowship*
- 12:15PM – *Online Personnel Team Meeting*

### **Monday, January 4**

- 9:00 AM – *Virtual Staff Meeting*
- 10:00 AM – *Virtual Worship Planning Meeting*
- 4:30 PM – *Anti-Racism Protests at Emory Presbyterian*

### **Wednesday, January 6**

- 4:30 PM – *Anti-Racism Protests at Emory Presbyterian*
- 5:00 PM – *Handbell Choir Rehearsal in Converse Hall*

### **Sunday, January 10**

- 9:00 AM – *Pre-Recorded Online Worship*
- 10:00 AM – *Virtual Children's Sunday School*
- 11:00 AM – *Live Online Fellowship & Roundtable*

### **THANK YOU FROM THE MISSION TEAM**

The Mission Team wishes to express our gratitude to the congregation for your support of our Advent offerings. We know a number of you participated in the Advent Drive for Mercy Church, shopped the online Alternative Gift Market, and/or gave an offering to the Christmas Joy Offering. Your commitment to caring for our vulnerable neighbors during these difficult times is very much appreciated.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SHARE CHRISTMAS JOY**

Christmas joy was spread abundantly thanks to DHPC's wonderful Presbyterian Women. In early December the mother of a family of six (four children) reached out to DHPC because the family was facing financial difficulties due to lost work and illness. She was unsure how she was going to pull off a joyous Christmas. Well, the PWs heard the call for help and answered big time! Each child received several pieces of clothing, as well as a few fun gifts off their wish list. Also, the family received a grocery store gift card to pay for their Christmas dinner. The day after Christmas the mother reached out to Pastor Elizabeth and said the "day was magical" and it was "like living in a dream." Thank you, PWs, for your faithfulness and generosity!

## **LIVE ONLINE FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP**

### **First, Third, & Fifth Sundays of the Month (January 3, 17, & 31), 11 AM, via Zoom**

Join us on odd-numbered Sundays for live worship together via Zoom. We will have a time of fellowship, followed by a brief worship service. On the first Sunday of the month, please come with your bread and juice (or wine) for communion. This is a wonderful opportunity to join together with your DHPC family. Sign in information for computers and smartphones is available [here](#). To call in, dial 1-646-558-8656. The meeting ID is 330 367 764#.

## **LIVE ONLINE FELLOWSHIP AND ROUNDTABLE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### **Second & Fourth Sundays of the Month (January 10 and 24), 11 AM, via Zoom**

Join us every even-numbered Sunday for a time to check-in, pray, reflect, and learn. We gather in small groups for our call to worship and then chat, worship, and spend time in fellowship with one another. The second portion of our class is a study on the week's scripture led by Pete McGuire. Sign in information for computers and smartphones is available [here](#). To call in, dial 1-646-558-8656. The meeting ID is 330 367 764#.

## **VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### **First, Third, and Fifth Sundays of the Month, 10AM; Zoom (No Sunday School on January 3.)**

Every odd numbered Sunday our elementary age children are encouraged to gather with Pastor Elizabeth and members of the CE team. We will spend our time together sharing about our week, learning about a Bible story, crafting, and laughing. All children are welcome! Contact Elizabeth ([eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)) to learn how to join us!

## **VIRTUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**

### **Second, Fourth, and Fifth Wednesdays, 7 PM; Zoom (Resumes January 13)**

Middle school youth are invited to join Pastor Elizabeth for a weekly online check-in. Each week's conversation is unique and entertaining! Contact Elizabeth ([eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)) to join us.

## **INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES: MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS**

As Covid drags on the need for assistance is high and ICM can't fill that need without our help. At the top of the most wanted list is packets of tuna, canned chicken, canned soup, cereal, pasta sauce, shelf stable milk, pop top veggies, Uncrustables, peanut butter, and jelly. The complete list of wanted items is in the DHPC weekly newsletter. Thank you for caring for our hungry neighbors.

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## **INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?**

We are so grateful for the visitors (old and new) who add to our community each week. If you have visited the church and are interested in learning more about what it would look like to join, it's really easy; just talk with Pastor Shelli ([pastorshelli@dhpc.org](mailto:pastorshelli@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.

## **THREE WAYS TO SUPPORT DHPC**

### **1. Make a donation with your smartphone!**

Text "DHPC Offering \$\_\_\_ (the amount you want to give)" to 73256 to give using your text messaging. You can also use the drop down menu to select another fund. Standard text message rates do apply.

### **2. Give online. [Click this link to give online](#).** 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.

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Shelli Latham, [pastorshelli@dhpc.org](mailto:pastorshelli@dhpc.org)  
Pastor of Education and Mission: Rev. Elizabeth Soileau Acton, [eacton@dhpc.org](mailto:eacton@dhpc.org)  
Organist: Cliff Frierson, [cfrierson@dhpc.org](mailto:cfrierson@dhpc.org)  
Music Fellow: Brian Adams, [badams@dhpc.org](mailto:badams@dhpc.org)  
Worship Media Specialist: Mike Crocker, [media@dhpc.org](mailto:media@dhpc.org)  
Music Assistant: Eugene Dorestal, [edorestal@dhpc.org](mailto:edorestal@dhpc.org)  
Office & Facilities Manager: Danielle Wilson, [dwilson@dhpc.org](mailto:dwilson@dhpc.org)  
Sexton: Dequente Williams, [sexton@dhpc.org](mailto:sexton@dhpc.org)

## THE SESSION MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS

Christian Education: Gigi Muirheid  
Congregational Life: Kirk Simpson  
Finance: Bob Beard  
Mission: Eric Dusenbury  
Personnel: Missie Grawart  
Worship: Suzette Stewart  
Property and Administration: Beth Thorn  
  
Clerk of the Session: Vivian Hodo  
Treasurer: Linda Davis

### *Elders Emeritae:*

Cecile McRae Hooks, Belle Miller McMaster

### ***Druid Hills Presbyterian Church***

*1026 Ponce de Leon Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30306 | 404.875.7591 | [www.dhpc.org](http://www.dhpc.org)*

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