



*Please stand, as you are able. Assisted listening devices are available in the Narthex and the Philips Foyer.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Easter isn't just a Sunday — it's a season.

One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith — that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks (a “week of weeks”), spanning the 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday and encompassing the festival of the Ascension of the Lord. The season of Easter is intended to be a joyful time for celebrating the presence of the risen Christ in the church.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

The Rejoicing

Charles Callahan

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 104)

Leader: You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst. By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

People: **You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart.**

Leader: The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has its home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the conies.

People: **O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.**

Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

People: **I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

*OPENING HYMN

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

Holy Manna

1. **God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain, mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind, and rain. We, created in your image, would a true reflection be of your justice, grace, and mercy and the truth that makes us free.**
2. **You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry. We respond in grateful worship joined in one community. When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole. Healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward toward your goal.**
3. **God, your word is still creating, calling us to life made new. Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all distortion. Polish us with loving care. Thus, new creatures in your image, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from the Book of Common Worship)

Dr. Speed

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of the world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve Christ in the world as faithful disciples. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

All children are invited forward at this time for the Inter-generational Moment.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT *Electronic Recycling*

Leslie Raymer, *Coordinator of Threshold Ministry*

Leader: We now go our separate ways.

Adults: **May God be with you there.**

Children: **May God be with you here.**

Following the Inter-generational Moment, children ages 4 to 3rd grade have the option of attending Children's Chapel in the Children's Ministry classroom. (Parents are welcome to walk out with us to see where we meet.) For pick up after worship, exit the sanctuary through the door by the piano and walk past the reception desk and take the stairs all the way down. Then, turn left to go down the short set of stairs. The room is the first on your left. If you need assistance finding this space, please ask an usher.

Today's Children's Chapel Leaders: Jan Bedol & Catherine Carter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Speed

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 1–2 (selected verses)
(pew Bible, page 1, OT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living

SERMON

Honor God's Diversity: "*Affirming People Who are Marginalized*"

Dr. Speed

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF EASTER FAITH

Rev. Fletcher

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast; that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day; and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the disciples, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

He is our Lord and our God.

With the faithful of every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION—DENISE HOWELL, 20 YEARS

Rev. Fletcher

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.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

Dr. Speed

*(Please sign and pass the **Ritual of Friendship Register** at this time so that we might know your concerns, and keep you informed about the life and ministry of this community of faith.)*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Thine, LORD, Is Wisdom, Thine Alone

Dayton F. Tynan, Jr.

Thine, LORD, is wisdom, thine alone, Justice and truth before thee stand; Yet nearer to thy sacred throne, Mercy withholds thy lifted hand. Each evening shows thy tender love, Each rising morn thy plenteous grace; Thy wakened wrath doth slowly move, Thy willing mercy flies apace. To thy benign, indulgent care, Father, this light, this breath we owe; And all we have and all we are, From thee, great Source of being, flow. Thrice Holy, thine the kingdom is, The power omnipotent is thine; And when created nature dies, Thy never-ceasing glories shine!

[Ernst Lange, translated by John Wesley]

*EASTER DOXOLOGY

Lasst uns Erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dr. Speed

Scan the QR Code on the back of the bulletin to give online!

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

New Dimensions

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Speed

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Tune in B-flat

Robert Powell

† † †

Music

Matthew McMahan, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Chancel Choir

† † †

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of *Dr. John Henry Per-Lee, Sr.*
by his family
and in grateful appreciation for the
20 years of dedicated service to
Decatur Presbyterian Church by
Denise Howell, Program & Ministerial Secretary
by the Personnel Committee and entire congregation

It's Denise Howell's 20th Anniversary with DPC!

This is a special Sunday, and we hope all join in celebrating the 20th anniversary of Denise Howell as our Program and Ministerial Secretary. The flower arrangements today are dedicated to Denise. We'll see a video of heartfelt testimonials to Denise from her co-workers and members of the congregation during the worship service. We celebrate 20 details about her job and her life in the flyer you pick up with the bulletin. You can send your greeting to Denise by picking up and using the cards provided in the Philips Foyer outside the sanctuary and at the reception desk. These will be available for two more weeks. The celebration continues into next week when the Personnel Committee under Marianne Adams is hosting a lunch for Denise and the staff on Wednesday.

† † †

Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries in May

Birthday: Associate Pastor **Emily Wilmesherr**, May 25

Service Anniversaries: **Juan Hernandez**, 6 years, started at DPC May 15, 2016

Denise Howell, 20 years, started at DPC May 22, 2002

† † †

Young Adult Lunch Gathering May 22

Meet in the Terrace Garden after worship (about 11:40 am) and walk to a nearby eatery on the square in Decatur for lunch with Pastor Tully. Let him know you are coming at 919-819-2057.

† † †

A Screening of the Documentary "The Neutral Ground" A Story about Sore Losers on May 22

May 22, 2022 / 3:00 to 5:30 pm / Plaza Theater

1049 Ponce de Leon Avenue, NE / For tickets, visit: <http://plazaatlanta.com/>

Electronic Recycling

The DPC Threshold Ministry is sponsoring an Electronics Recycling opportunity this month! Bring your unwanted electronic items after worship on **Sunday, May 22 and Sunday May 29 to the Fellowship Hall door at the main parking lot**. The volunteers will be at the Fellowship Hall door from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm both Sundays. You may also bring items to the church on Monday, May 25 and Wednesday, May 25 from 9:00 am to 9:30 am during the DPCC (Decatur Presbyterin Children's Community) car pool drop off (same location).

Accepting: Tablets, Cell Phones, Laptops, Desk Top Computers/Monitors, Batteries, and Small Electronics

NO TVs or appliances containing Freon accepted.

This will enable our Threshold Ministry to stock working tablets and laptops for their guests. Cell phones will be donated to partner agencies working with Domestic Abuse Survivors.



Look what's coming up!

Look for more information in our announcement slides and church emails on these events (if you're not receiving our emails, please contact dhowell@dpchurch.org):

May 22–Young Adult Lunch, meet after worship to walk to lunch in Decatur

May 22 & 29–Electronic Recycling sponsored by Threshold Ministry, after worship thru 1:30 pm, drive thru at Fellowship Hall door, main parking lot.

June 5–Pentecost Sunday, wear red to church! Also welcoming Agnes Scott College alumnae!

June 6-10, Compassion Camp, 9 to 12 pm, for 3 year olds to rising 6th graders. In-person & at-home options.

Register now on our website www.dpchurch.org

June 12–18, Montreat High School Youth Conference for rising 9th graders through graduating seniors, contact Tully Fletcher for more info (on all youth events) at tfletcher@dpchurch.org

July 9–16, High School Youth Mission Trip to Mobile, AL

July 17–All Church Cook Out at Mason Mill Park, hamburgers and hot dogs provided, bring a side or dessert! 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

July 20–24, Montreat Middle School Youth Conference for youth who have completed 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade, held at Maryville College in Maryville, TN

August 7–Kick Off Sunday (Wednesday Nights will resume August 10)

“Follow Me” Upcoming Sermon Texts

Theme: Honor God's Diversity

May 29 Emily Wilmesherr *“Listening”–Center Voices from the Margins; Matthew 15:21-28*

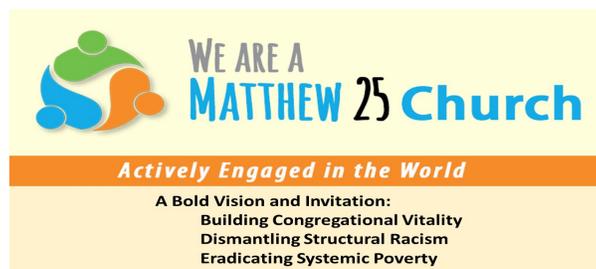
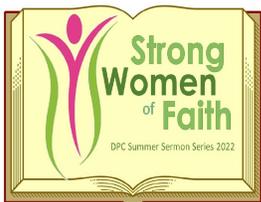
June 5 Todd Speed *“Challenging”–Work for Liberation While Challenging Oppression; Numbers 27:1–11; Luke 6:27-31*

June 12 Todd Speed *“Overturning”–Use Advantages to Overturn Inequality; Mark 10:17–31; Luke 19:1-10*

† † †

Summer Sermon Series: “Strong Women of Faith” Begins June 19

Join us this summer for a sermon series on *Strong Women of Faith*, featuring the stories of Sarah, Hagar, Miriam, Deborah, Ruth, Hannah, and Esther.



Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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