



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Every child of God ~ belonging, engaging, being transformed

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Assisted listening devices are available in the Narthex and Philips Foyer.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

People: **God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's servant.**

Leader: God's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

People: **God has shown strength with God's arm. God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

Leader: God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

People: **God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.**

Leader: Come, for God is doing a new thing!

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

**HYMN 772*

Live Into Hope

Truro

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Tully Fletcher

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you share with us words of hope, words of Good News. But sometimes we are unable to hear them because the source is too familiar. You call us to share the Good News with those around us. But sometimes we are unable to share, because the people know us too well. You encourage us to send messengers to other places where they will be heard better. But we can be jealous, wanting the Good News to be for us, not them. In the multitude of ways we can and have subverted your message of freedom and healing, in all the ways we have kept the Jubilee year from happening, we have left the path of true wisdom and call upon your Grace to lead us back on track.

Time of silent prayer.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Children are invited forward. Following the Inter-generational Moment, children ages 4 to 3rd grade have the option of attending Children's Chapel in the Children's Multi-Purpose Room.

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: Kathryn Hecker and Lori McMahan

INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE—HOPE

Beryl Taylor, Brittney Turner-Salah, and family

People: Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child, there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong.

And none shall be afraid.

HYMN 466

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino

(Choir sings once, congregation joins on repeat)

Come and fill our hearts with your hope, You alone, O Lord, are Holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your hope; Alleluia.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Melinda Jereb

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 1:46-55

(pew Bible, page 57, NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living

“Go Tell: The Right Story”

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr

SERMON

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(adapted from the Belhar Confession, Article 3, BCW, pp. 612–13)*

Dr. Speed

Leader: We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;

People: And we believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Leader: We believe that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity,

People: And we believe that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;

Leader: We believe that we must be prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, avoiding prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief. And we affirm the reconciling power of the gospel.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Fletcher

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.

'ALL HANDS ON DECK' CAMPAIGN

Dr. Speed

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

*(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

Jesus, Emmanuel

K. Lee Scott

O come, the broken heart to mend, The troubled soul to cure; With treasures of your grace, Come to the humble poor. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim; And heaven's eternal arches ring With your beloved name. He comes, the prisoners to release, In Satan's bondage held; Brass gates before him break, Strong chains and shackles yield. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim; And heaven's eternal arches ring With your beloved name. How glad the sound, the Savior comes! The Savior promised long; Let every heart prepare a throne, And every voice a song. Jesus, Emmanuel, come. *[Philip Doddridge, altered]*

*DOXOLOGY

Divinum Mysterium

**Of the Father's love begotten, e'er the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega; He the Source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see:
Evermore and evermore! Amen.**

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Star of the County Down

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Wilmesherr

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee

J. S. Bach

† † †

Music

Matthew McMahan, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Chancel Choir

† † †

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of
Sara Sadler Turnipseed
by Bill Turnipseed, and daughters Mary, Nancy & Cassie Turnipseed

† † †

Christmas Decorations & Music Fund

If you would like to contribute to a fund that will be used to beautify the Sanctuary and church and provide special Christmas Music, please complete the form below, attach payment and place it in the offering plate, in Financial Administrator's mailbox in the Mail Room, or mail it to the Decatur Presbyterian Church Office, Attn: Christmas Decorations & Music Fund, 205 Sycamore Street, Decatur, GA 30030. **You may also complete the form and pay online by scanning this QR Code.**



Please note that the scope of the drive has been expanded to cover special music as well as refurbishing & re-purposing our sanctuary decorations, so please be generous. **All gifts received by December 11 will be acknowledged in the bulletin (in the format below) on Sunday, December 18.**

Donation given in *(please check one)*

Honor

Memory



Name of person honored/remembered

by

Donor Name

OR—I would simply like to donate to the Christmas Decorations & Music Fund **with no dedication:**

Donor Name

† † †

Mark Your Calendars for Intergenerational Hurricane Relief February 16-20, 2023

Hurricane Ian has been devastating to southwest Florida and beyond. Disaster relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) will begin soon and continue for months and even years, with all sorts of ways to help. DPC has begun planning an inter-generational mission trip with other churches from our Presbytery for February. All ages and families are welcome. Contact Tully Fletcher at tfletcher@dpcchurch.org if interested in participating.

All Hands on Deck!

Calling All Hands on Deck! All participants in the DPC community are encouraged to engage in ministry opportunities, in addition to regular Sunday worship, that will deepen their belonging with others, help them to grow in their relationship with God, and discover meaningful avenues to share the love of Christ with neighbors. To which of the “learning and growing” and/or “giving and serving” opportunities available will you offer your time and commitment? Have you seen the booklet with the opportunities available listed? Look for the booklet with the All Hands on Deck logo for a listing many of the areas you can engage beyond attending worship at DPC, with an attached card where you can request more information. Look for the ‘hands’ basket, take a cut out hand, write your name and at least one of our ministries where you are engaged beyond worship at DPC, and drop it in the offering plate. We will attach your ‘hands’ to our All Hands on Deck board and fill our ‘deck’!



† † †

All Hands on Deck “Empowered to Serve” Highlight

Got an empowered volunteer to highlight? Email dhowell@dpchurch.org.

Thanks be to God! for **Dave Williams!** Busy Dave Williams leads the Cornerstone Sunday School Class and volunteers with our Threshold Ministry. He has served several terms as elder, including as Clerk of Session. He has focused on committees and ministries supporting faith formation, but also Congregational Care and Administration. He was a member of the Task Force that created the DPC Bylaws, Policy Manual and Operations Manual. Dave chaired two pastor nominating committees. Outside the church, Dave is an avid jogger, dabbles in drawing, serves fellow residents at The Clairmont Condominium, and takes classes on topics like website building.

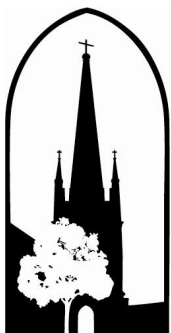
Look what’s coming up!

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):

- November 27–1st Sunday of Advent; Advent Festival 3 to 5 pm** in Slack Fellowship Hall
- December 3–Decorate the Church for Christmas Season**, gather at 10 am in the sanctuary
- December 3–Pick Up for Poinsettias and Wreaths from Fund Raisers.** 9 to 11 am at Fellowship Hall drive thru
- December 4–2nd Sunday of Advent; New Member/Visitor Gathering** after worship
- December 7–Decorate the Fellowship Hall Tree during Wednesday Dinner**
- December 10–Decatur Presbyterian Children’s Community Breakfast with Santa** in the Keith Parlor, 9 am to noon
- December 14–Great DPC Cookie Swap** during Wednesday Dinner–bring 2 or 3 dozen cookies to swap!
- December 21–Longest Night Service** at 5:30 pm in Scott Chapel, Dinner at 6:15 pm
- December 23–College Connections Christmas Gathering** at Comet Pub & Lanes, 8 to 11 pm
- December 24–Christmas Eve Services** at 3:30 pm (“Come as You Are” pageant for families with young children), 5:30 pm (child-led with communion), and 8:30 pm (candle-lit service of Lesson & Carols with communion)
- December 25–Christmas Day service** at 4:30 pm, church-wide potluck dinner at 5:30 pm (RSVPs requested)
- February 16-20, 2023–Inter-Generational Hurricane Relief Mission Trip.** DPC has begun planning an inter-generational mission trip to Hurricane Ian ravaged areas in Florida with other churches from our Presbytery for February. All ages and families are welcome. Contact Tully Fletcher at tfletcher@dpchurch.org if interested in participating

“Follow Me’ Advent Theme is “Go Tell”

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| November 27 | Emily Wilmesherr | “The Right Story” | Matthew 25:34-40; Luke 4:16-21, 46-55 |
| December 4 | Todd Speed | “Break the Good News” | Luke 1:1–25, 57–80; John 1:1–18 |
| December 11 | Todd Speed | “Join the Chorus” | Isaiah 58:6–9a; Acts 8:26–39 |
| December 18 | Todd Speed | “Tell of the Hope Within You” | Jeremiah 32:1–44; Luke 2:8–20 |



 **WE ARE A
MATTHEW 25 Church**

Actively Engaged in the World

A Bold Vision and Invitation:

- Building Congregational Vitality
- Dismantling Structural Racism
- Eradicating Systemic Poverty

Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 Sycamore Street, Decatur, GA 30030 / www.dpchurch.org / 404-378-1777