



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Every child of God ~ belonging, engaging, being transformed

January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine

arranged by Keith Chapman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

(Moment of silence)

Leader: Come, this is a day of rest.

People: **We come, bearing burdens and cares.**

(Moment of silence)

Leader: Come, place your lives in the loving hands of God.

People: **May God heal our spirits and strengthen us.**

(Moment of silence)

Leader: Come, bring your anxiety to The God who is always with us.

People: **We come in faith and trust to worship the God of peace.**

**HYMN 146*

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Tempus Adest Floridum

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Sarah Hooker

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wise and loving God, you know how we are. We spend so much time getting ready for the next event, the next season, the unknown future. We spend time planning when and how we shall relax, where we might go on vacation. We grow tired just working on how to gain some peace in our lives.

Our need for rest is so important, but we have let plans and schedules crowd in, shouting their demands on our time and energies. Forgive us, Lord, when we have focused so much time on these things and have not sought your healing, restoring love. Teach us how to rest in you.

Give us peace. For we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Allison Bombardier

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Matthew 12:1-8
(pew Bible, page 12, NT)*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Follow Me: Biblical Practices For Faithful Living

"Honor Sabbath: Celebrate Sabbath"

Rev. Fletcher

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP, OFFERING and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Fletcher

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

(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

What is This Lovely Fragrance?

Healey Willan

Chancel Choir

What is this lovely fragrance wafting Like to the scents of flowers in spring! Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, Hear you not heavenly caroling? What is this light so fair, so tender Breaking upon our wandering eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant Followed its course o'er eastern skies. Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps, Seek the Savior, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart's adoration, love for aye.

[French poem, translated by YSOBEL]

*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.**

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Fletcher

Today's Communion prayer uses the hymn "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" for the congregational response. The four sections of the prayer are punctuated by the four stanzas of the hymn which traces the life and ministry of Jesus. You are invited to sing along using the words below or from the hymnal #159.

Responding with Thanksgiving

Rev. Hooker

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: All honor and praise and glory be to God.

People: The Lord's name be praised forever.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Prayer continues by minister)

**O sing a song of Bethlehem, Of shepherds watching there,
And of the news that came to them From angels in the air:
The light that shone on Bethlehem Fills all the world today;
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth The angels sing away.**

(Prayer continues by minister)

**O sing a song of Nazareth, Of sunny days of joy,
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, And of the sinless boy:
For now the flow'rs of Nazareth In ev'ry heart may grow;
Now spreads the fame of his dear name On all the winds that blow.**

(Prayer continues by minister)

**O sing a song of Galilee, Of lake and woods and hill,
Of him who walked upon the sea And bade the waves be still:
For though, like waves on Galilee, Dark seas of trouble roll,
When faith has heard the Master's word, Falls peace upon the soul.**

(Prayer continues by minister)

**O sing a song of Calvary, Its glory and dismay;
Of him who hung upon the tree, And took our sins away:
For he who died on Calvary Is risen from the grave,
And Christ, our Lord, by heav'n adored, Is mighty now to save.**

(Prayer continues by minister)

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.

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

Rev. Hooker and Rev. Fletcher

The Sharing of the Joyful Feast with the Community of Faith

(Please exit your pew to the right to come forward to receive the elements. Wait until you return to your seat to partake of the elements. Raise your hand if you are unable to come forward and we will bring the elements to you.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Rev. Hooker

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 110

Love Has Come

Bring a Torch

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Fletcher

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Deep Peace
Chancel Choir

Ron Alexander/John Bell

Deep peace of the running wave to you; Deep peace of the flowing air to you; Deep peace of the quiet earth to you; Deep peace of the shining stars to you; Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. *[ancient Gaelic rune]*

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

In dir ist freude (In Thee is Joy)

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
Dr. M. Virginia Tuggle
and her mother *Annie Mae Tuggle*
by Annette Loudermilk

† † †

All Hands on Deck “Empowered to Serve” Highlight

Thanks be to God! for **Everyone!** As one year closes and another begins, we recognize and appreciate all in our church community who provide their time, talent, and financial support. All who serve in leadership roles, say “yes” when asked to help out, invite a friend, feed and assist the homeless, teach a class, create flower arrangements, visit the homebound, bring cookies for memorial receptions, serve communion, play with our children, and inspire our youth.

† † †

Epiphany Brunch on January 8

Join us after worship on Sunday, January 8 for brunch in the Parlor celebrating Epiphany. Please scan the QR code to sign up to attend, or to help by making casseroles or providing fruit trays, etc. The meal is provided by the Belonging Team assisted by congregational volunteers. Breakfast casseroles and fruit trays will be served alongside orange juice, hot chocolate, and coffee.

Epiphany is the celebration of God’s manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God’s promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the magi came from the East to worship to the Christ child, and God’s covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God’s self-revelation in Christ.

† † †

Deacons’ Fund Offering

On communion Sundays we collect an offering for a fund available to help members of our church family in times of financial crisis. Envelopes are available in the pew pockets.

† † †

SCAN ME



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!):

January 2—Church Office Closed for New Year's holiday

January 8—Epiphany Brunch after worship, Women's Ministry Gathering

January 8—Club 345 Gathering, 3 to 5 pm (for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders)

January 8—Youth Group Resumes in Sycamore House, 6 to 8 pm

January 10—Women's Ministry Lesson & Lunch, 10 to noon in Keith Parlor

January 12—Women's Ministry Dinner & Lesson, 6:30 to 8:30 pm in Keith Parlor

January 19—SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) Piano Concert featuring Mary Lynn Darden and Farris Goodrun at 11:00 am in the sanctuary, reception to follow in the Keith Parlor

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

January's "Follow Me" Theme is "Honor Sabbath"

January 8 Todd Speed

January 15 Todd Speed

January 22 Emily Wilmesherr

"Rest with God"

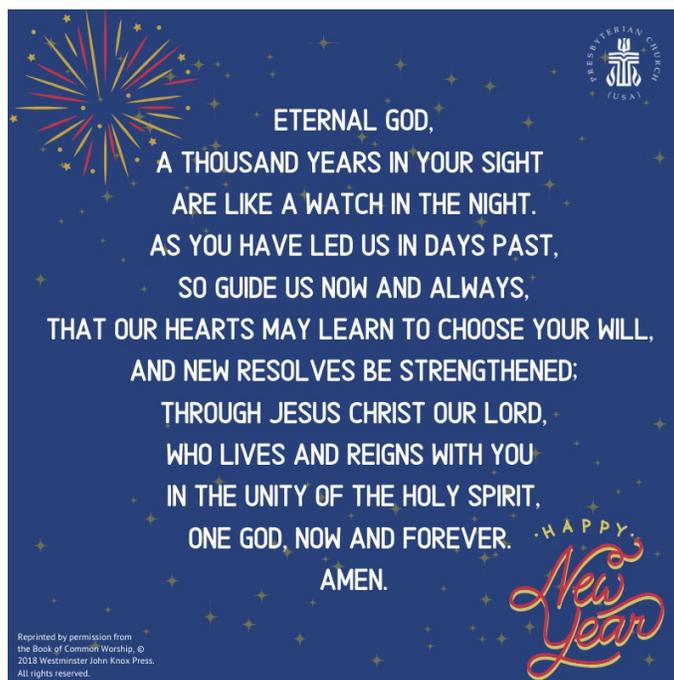
Genesis 1:26–2:3; Mark 6:30–46

"Live in Holy Rhythm"

Exodus 20:8–11

"Return with Gladness"

Luke 13:10–17



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

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!

