



April 16, 2023

2nd Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

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

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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Easter Hymn

Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 139)

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

People: **You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

Leader: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

People: **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

People: **See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 238

Thine Is the Glory

Judas Maccabeus

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, your face has been hidden from us by our sins. Your mercy we have forgotten in the blindness of our hearts. We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep, following too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, leaving undone those things which we ought to have done, and doing those things which we ought not to have done...

(silent prayers of confession)

Holy God, cleanse us from all our offenses. Deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts, we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Please turn to your neighbor, introduce yourself, and pass the peace of Christ.)

RESPONSE TO PARDON HYMN 695

Change My Heart, O God

Change My Heart

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.
If you need assistance finding this space, please ask an usher.*

Today's Children's Chapel Leaders: Catherine Carter, Lisa Nye, and Lori McMahan

INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT: Praying Honestly

Nicole Jiskoot

Leader: We now go our separate ways.

Adults: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 6:5-13
(pew Bible, page 5, NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Follow Me: Biblical Practices For Faithful Living

"Pray – Pray Honestly"

SERMON

Dr. Speed

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CHORAL RESPONSE

Search Me, O God
Chancel Choir

Ito Loh

Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me, O God, and know my thoughts,
And see if there be any wicked way in me. And lead me in the everlasting way.

**AFFIRMATION OF EASTER FAITH*

Nicole Jiskoot

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

*(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.)*

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Dr. Speed

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Tree of Life
Chancel Choir

K. Lee Scott

There in God's garden stands the tree of Wisdom, Whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations: Tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty. Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!" There on its branches see the scars of suffering; See there the tendrils of our human selfhood Feed on its lifeblood. Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage; Our greed has starved it; our despite has choked it. Yet, look! It lives! Its grief has not destroyed it Nor fire consumed it. See how its branches reach to us in welcome; Hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary! Give me your sickness; give me all your sorrow; I will give blessing." This is my ending; this my resurrection; Into your hands, LORD, I commit my spirit. This have I searched for; now I can possess it. This ground in holy. All heaven in singing, "Thanks to Christ whose passion offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon. Peoples and nation, take it; take it freely!" Amen! My Master!

[Pécselyi Király Imre; translated, Erik Routley]

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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

Green Tyler

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Speed

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata Brevis

Daniel E. Gawthrop

† † †

Music

Matthew McMahan, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Chancel Choir

The anthem, *The Tree of Life* (composed by K. Lee Scott)

is presented to the glory of God

and in honor of

Jane Boswell

† † †

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God

in loving memory of

Ann Clement Fossett

“You will always be the sunshine in our lives.”

by Larry and the Fossett family

† † †

Has the Chancel Choir Got a Deal for You!!

Today, and for the next few weeks, look for the Flower Cart display to purchase **12 Months of Flowers for only \$40!** With the Flower Gift Card, you can go to Hall's Garden Center (on Memorial Drive in Stone Mountain) and get a bouquet of flowers each month for a whole year! You'll make someone very happy, and help the Chancel Choir raise money for their (eventual) trip to perform in Carnegie Hall, which was cancelled in 2020.



† † †

Fundraiser for Advocacy Gathering



Did you know that church and youth group member, **Eric Naindoub**a, founded an organization to help disabled people and improve accessibility in DeKalb county and all of Georgia? It's called **American and African Advocacy Gathering (AAAG)**. Join us in supporting Eric's fundraising efforts by purchasing a t-shirt by April 17. Go to this link to order a t-shirt: <https://www.customink.com/g/qdgd0-00cq-y2e3>

† † †

Volunteers Needed

The Caring Team is looking for 2-3 people to help coordinate donations to DEAM (Decatur-area Emergency Assistance Ministry) in July and February of each year. Please contact Alice Wichmann if you are interested or for more information, ahuang@123mail.org.

† † †

Refer to the card in the hymnal pew pocket for more information.

† † †

Tully Fletcher Shares about Holy Land Experience

Recently Pastor Tully was blessed to travel to Israel and tour the Holy Land where Jesus lived, and where most of the Bible took place. He will be sharing and teaching about his experiences there, and how one's understanding of the scriptures deepens by visiting this amazing land. There are three opportunities for you to attend and learn. **Wednesday Night, May 3**, at 5:15pm will be an intergenerational event (with the first 15 to 20 minutes geared for all ages, and the rest geared for adults. And a 2 part series on **Sunday Mornings, May 7 & 14, at 9:15am**, which will be a combination of the adult Sunday School Classes (Fellowship, Cornerstone, & Crusader). All events will take place in the Parlor Classroom.

† † †

Film Screening of "At the River: Struggle & Grace in the Segregated South"

DPC will host a special film screening on **Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30pm** - At the River: Struggle and Grace in the Segregated South. Filmmaker Carolyn Crowder, raised in Montgomery, Alabama, during the Civil Rights era, travelled throughout the Southeast interviewing ministers, now in their 80's and 90's, about their experiences and what it took to go against the racist currents during those hard days within their local communities and congregations, and discovered why they dared to do so. The film screening will be followed by a Q and A time with several featured ministers.

† † †

Darnell Music Scholarship



Applications for the 2023 scholarship are being accepted and should be submitted to the church office by April 30. Scholarships from this fund are restricted to college level music students who have either been accepted to a school of music at an accredited college or university or have an active application on file. Priority is given to applicants who are members of DPC, their children and grandchildren and then to members of the Decatur community at large. Applications are available by contacting the church office.

† † †

SAM Trip to Illuminarium on April 27

Join the Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) for a tour of Illuminarium Experience "Wild: A Safari Experience" on Thursday, April 27. You will come face-to-face with the world's most exotic animals in their natural habitats in this unique cinematic experience. Meet in the church parking lot at 10 am to carpool to midtown Atlanta for an 11 am tour and then enjoy lunch at New Realm Brewing Company, returning to DPC around 2 pm. The cost is \$30 (seniors, group rate) and we must purchase tickets a week ahead, so if you cancel, you would still need to pay for your ticket. Deadline to RSVP is Monday, April 24. RSVP to the church office or by church emails.

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)

April 16—Pre-K Milestone Workshop, after worship, light lunch for pre-ks and their families, RSVP by April 12

April 23—Global Village Project "Tribute to Education" at DeKalb Conference Center

April 27—SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) trip to see the "Wild: A Safari Experience" exhibit at the Illuminarium in midtown Atlanta, followed by lunch at New Realm Brewing Company.

April 27—BAM Camp Training, 7 to 8:30 pm, Parlor Classroom

April 30—Festival of Praise—All choirs Sing during worship

April 30—Youth BBQ Competition & Fund Raiser, after worship

May 11—DCM's Sip & Savor Fundraiser, 6:30 pm 716 W. Trinity Place

May 16—Film Screening of 'At the River: Struggle and Grace in the Segregated South', 6:30 pm

June 5-9—Bible & Music Camp, registration is now open! Visit <https://decatur-presbyterian-church.square.site/bam>



Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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