



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Every child of God ~ belonging, engaging, being transformed



March 24, 2024

Palm/Passion Sunday

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD



Since at least the 4th century, Western churches have kept the first day of Holy Week by concentrating on both the glory and the passion of Christ, recalling both the palms and the passion, linking the joy of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem with sober meditation on the suffering and death of Christ.

All worshipers are invited to gather on the front terrace at 10:15 am and process from the front terrace into the sanctuary during the first hymn. We will process into the narthex, proceed all the way down the outside aisles, and go to our seats down the center aisles.

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

All Glory, Laud and Honor

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: Shout aloud, O daughters of Jerusalem!

Leader: Behold, your king comes to you;

People: Our God in Christ is triumphant and victorious.

Leader: Jesus, our redeemer, is humble and riding on a donkey,

People: Hosanna in the highest; save us! Hosanna!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Ellacombe

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.
2. From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.
3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

CHORAL INTROIT

Lo! He Comes!
Covenant Choir

John D. Horman

Lo, He comes! Sing we “Hosanna!” Lo, He comes, let us sing to the Lord. Enter His gates with shouts of thanksgiving, into His courts with songs of praise. Come, let us march in glad procession: Loud Hosannas now we raise. Open your heart and welcome the Savior: Join with the song that has no end. This is the day for which we have waited: the coming of our Lord is surely at hand. Lo, He comes! Sing we “Hosanna!” Lo, He comes, let us sing to the Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Speed

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Leader: Today we have cheered for You as our champion and praised You as our hero.

People: Forgive us tomorrow when our enthusiasm fades.

Leader: Today we have entrusted You to rescue us from our pitiful circumstances.

People: Forgive us on Tuesday when we decide that we can handle everything on our own.

Leader: Today we have made You the centerpiece of our very existence.

People: Forgive us on Wednesday when we forget to remember who You are.

Leader: Today we loudly call out Your name.

People: Forgive us on Thursday when we deny You, as if we never met.

Leader: Today we gaze at You with the star-struck wonder, as if we are Your biggest fan.

People: Forgive us on Friday when we avert our eyes because the Cross is too painful to look at.

Leader: Today we express our unsuppressed hopefulness in the future You have for us.

People: Forgive us on Saturday when we believe all is lost.

Leader: Today we are boldly certain that You will redeem us.

People: Restore us on Sunday when we are startled and awed by Your rising.

(Moment of Silence)

RESPONSE TO CONFESSION: HYMN 306

Dennis

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (stanza 2)

**Before our Maker's throne we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: During this Holy Week, we waive palms, shouting Hosanna, Save us; we break bread with Jesus remembering the last supper; and we walk with Jesus to the foot of the cross.

People: On that Cross all of our sins are washed away by the power of God's grace.

Leader: Through Jesus Christ we are saved, we are redeemed, we are forgiven!

People: We are forgiven indeed, *amen*.

**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 306*

Dennis

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (stanza 5)

**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

Children are invited to come forward for the Inter-Generational Moment during the singing of the last stanza.

Kids Connected is a faith formation program for children to engage with the Bible, connect with God and one another. Children PreK-5th grade are invited to leave the sanctuary with their teachers, after the inter-generational moment. After worship, children can be picked up in the room next to the nursery. All children are also welcome to remain in worship with their families. There are worship materials located in the Foyer to assist children in their exploration of worship.

Today's Kids Connected Leaders: Jan Bedol, Kris Taylor, Marissa McMahan, Emily Wilmesherr, & Lori McMahan

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT: Baptism

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr, Dr. Speed, Mary Lynn Darden

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Virginia Ann McHugh

daughter of Michael & Morgan McHugh, born October 17, 2023

RESPONSE TO BAPTISM

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (stanzas 1 & 3)

Dennis

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear.

And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Allison Bombardier

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 11:1-11

(pew Bible, page 47, NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

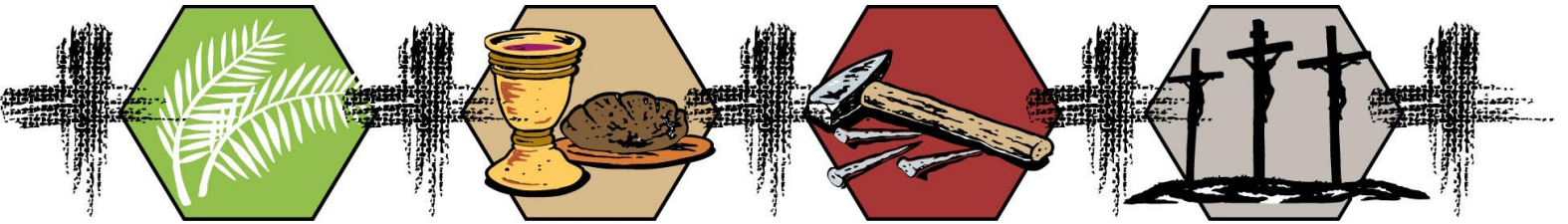
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Failed Expectations"

Rev. Fletcher and Allison Bombardier

RESPONDING TO THE WORD



**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Philippians 2:5-11)*

Amazing Grace Ayegbayo

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! *Amen.*

MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

Dr. Speed

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

Amazing Grace Ayegbayo

*(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: Update on DPC Cool Campaign

Scott Overcarsh

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Gilbert Martin

Chancel Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross, On which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God. All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood. See from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far to small, Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life my all! *Amen. [Isaac Watts]*

***DOXOLOGY 708 (stanza 1)**

We Give Thee but Thine Own

Schumann

**We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Dr. Speed

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN 209**

My Song Is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Fletcher

***CHORAL AMEN**

Four-fold in G

John Stainer

***CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

*March based on "Lift Up Your Heads"
(from Handel's MESSIAH)*

Alexandre Guilmant

† † †

Everyone is welcome to join us for brunch in the Parlor after worship.
Children & their parents are invited to the egg hunt in Fellowship Hall after brunch.

† † †

Music

Matthew McMahan, *Minister of Music, Choirmaster & Organist*

Lori McMahan, *Director of Children's Music Ministry*

Chancel Choir

Covenant Choir

† † †

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of our parents and grandparents

Joyce and Jimmy Bond

Sue and Hugh Warren

by

Camilla, Catherine, Claire and Hugh P. Warren, Jr.

† † †

Matthew McMahan Playing Palm Sunday Concert at Oak Grove UMC

Oak Grove United Methodist Church presents "Palms to Passion", a concert featuring Duruflé's *Requiem* at 6:00 pm today with our own **Matthew McMahan** at the organ! This is a free event and nursery is available. Oak Grove UMC is located at 1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur, GA 30033.

† † †

We Need Flowers!

Please bring flowers from your yard (or pick up a bundle from the store) and help flower the cross on the lawn Easter Sunday! There will be coffee and hot cocoa available at 9:30 am to enjoy while decorating the cross, and punch after worship while folks take their Easter photos.



Spread Love to DPC Kids

Did you see the tree decorated with pink lights and hearts? We need volunteers for Bible & Music Camp and the hearts have opportunities for donations and volunteers. Just pick a heart from the tree and write your info on the nearby clipboard list and you will be contacted with more details. Contact Emily Wilmesherr with questions at ewilmesherr@dpchurch.org.

† † †

Registration is open for Bible & Music Camp, June 3–7, 2024.
Visit <https://tinyurl.com/DPCBAM2024> or Scan the QR Code to sign up!



† † †

Communion Helpers Needed

Are you glad we have gone back to actual cups of juice for communion? Would you like to be on the team that prepares communion for all of us, and/or cleans up the cups and trays afterwards? You could help a little or a lot. Write your name and a way to contact you below, and someone will be in touch! Thank you so much!

Name: _____

Best way to contact: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

† † †

Matthew 25 Task Force Forming

The DPC Session recently approved the formation of a Matthew 25 Task Force. If you are interested in helping with this initiative, please contact Tully Fletcher at tfletcher@dpchurch.org or Roslynn Hight.

† † †

Another “Supersized” Response!

During February, DPC collected food and hygiene items for the DEAM (Decatur-area Emergency Assistance Ministry) pantry at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Your response was wonderful and greatly appreciated! During the first two months of 2024, DEAM distributed over 22,000 pounds of food to households and the unhoused. Your donations will help DEAM to provide greatly needed food assistance to many women, men and children in our Decatur community and neighborhoods. Thank you for your very generous response!!

† † †

Memorial Drive Ministries “Welcome Kit” Donation Drive

Memorial Drive Ministries will hold a Welcome Kit drive to benefit refugee families. Gather the needed items and place them in a bag or box and deliver to Memorial Drive Ministries at 5140 Memorial Drive on **Sunday, April 14 between 2 and 4 pm**. The needed items are (new): towel, wash cloth, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, disposable razors, toilet paper (at least 4 rolls), and bath soap. Place all items in your bag/box and deliver to MDM on April 14!

† † †

Intern-Led Sunday School Class April 7th and 14th

Join Amazing Grace Ayegbayo and the Fellowship Sunday School Class for Amazing Grace’s presentation on Differences in Worship in African and North American Churches. She will share her experiences in attending churches in Nigeria, South Africa, USA, and Canada. The Fellowship Class meets in the upstairs Conference Room at 9:30 am. All are welcome!

† † †

SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) Sunny Monday Game Day

Your Senior Adult Ministry invites you to the Session Room and Parlor Classroom on April 22 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm for game playing fun and fellowship! We will have Bridge for experienced players and for those who want to learn how to play, as well as many assorted board and card games. Invite your friends!

† † †

Discover DPC on Sunday, April 21

Discover DPC is a casual informational meeting after church for visitors to learn more about Decatur Presbyterian and meet members and pastors. The next opportunity for Discover DPC will be April 21, in the Parlor Classroom after worship.

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 Sycamore Street, Decatur, GA 30030 / dpchurch.org

Holy Week 2024

Palm Sunday, March 24

10:30 am

Live Streamed and in-person service in the sanctuary
with Procession of Palms and Brunch and Egg Hunt
after worship
led by Tully Fletcher

NO Wednesday Night Activities This Week

Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:30 pm

Live Streamed and in-person service from the
sanctuary with communion
led Nicole Jiskoot
Dinner to follow at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Good Friday, March 29

7:30 pm

Live Streamed and in-person
Choral Tenebrae service from the sanctuary
featuring the Chancel Choir

Easter Sunday, March 31

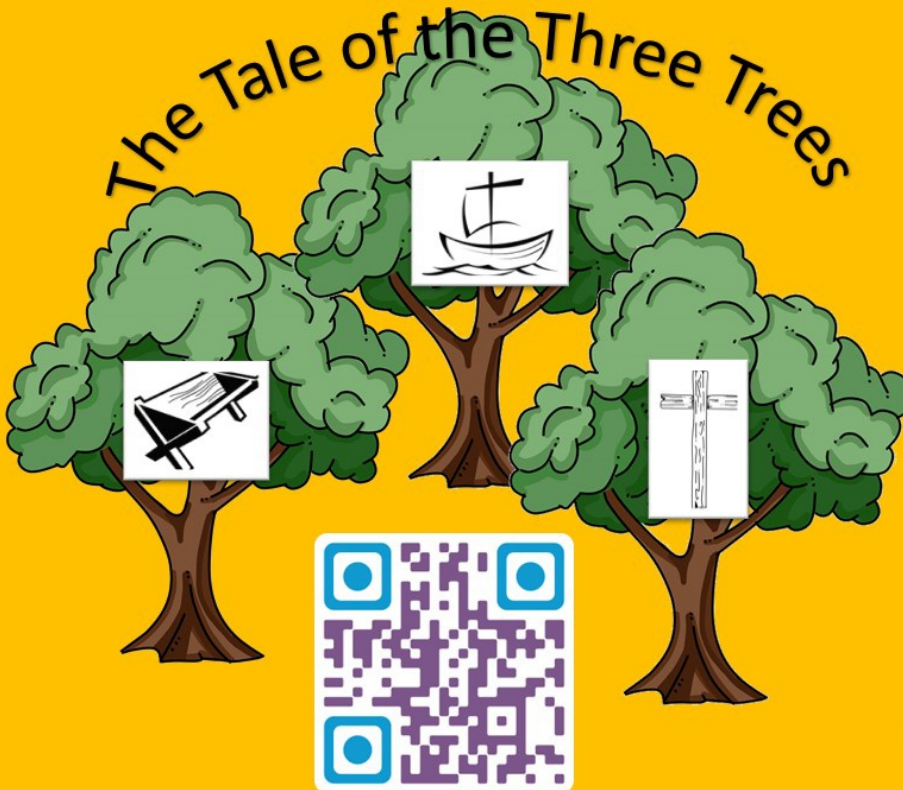
9:30 am

Flowering of the Cross on the Lawn
with coffee & refreshments

10:30 am

Live Streamed and in-person service
in the sanctuary led by Todd Speed
Music with Brass Quartet

The Tale of the Three Trees



**Bible & Music Camp
June 3 – 7**

**Registration Is Now
Open!**

**Scan the QR Code
to Sign Up or
Volunteer!**

DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
dpchurch.org

JOIN US FOR FABULOUS EVENT



Hosted by **THE DPC YOUTH GROUP**

**SUNDAY
APRIL
28**



**ON THE DPC LAWN
11:30AM - 1:00PM**

**FUNDRAISER
FOOD & DRINKS
COMPETITION PRIZES
AND SO MUCH MORE...**



**SIGN UP TO COMPETE
[TINYURL.COM/DPCBBQ24](https://tinyurl.com/DPCBBQ24)**



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

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)

March 27—NO Wednesday Night Activities, (Dinner on Thursday after Maundy Thursday service)

March 28—Maundy Thursday Service with Communion, 5:30 pm, Sanctuary. Hand and foot washing before and after service. Dinner at 6:15 pm

March 29—Good Friday Choral Tenebrae Service, 7:30 pm in the sanctuary featuring the Chancel Choir

March 31—Easter Sunday! Decorate the cross on the lawn; Festival Service of Easter with Brass Quartet (NO Youth Group or Confirmation meetings today)

April 3—NO Wednesday Night Activities (Spring Break)

April 7—NO Youth Group (end of Spring Break)

April 9—PW Women's Ministry Gathering, 10 am to 12 pm in the Parlor, lesson and lunch

April 11—PW Women's Ministry Gathering, 6:30-8:30 pm in the Parlor, dinner and lesson

April 14—HS Senior Sunday; celebrating the graduating class of 2024, youth leading worship

April 14—PW Women's Ministry Gathering, meet in the Parlor after worship to walk to lunch at Raging Burrito

April 21—Discover DPC, Parlor Classroom after worship (*a casual informational meeting after church to learn about Decatur Presbyterian and meet members and pastors*)

April 22—Sunny Monday Game Day, 1:30 to 4:30 pm in the Parlor Classroom & Session Room; Contract Bridge, learning Bridge, and other games available, organized by your Senior Adult Ministry

April 28—Festival of Praise, all choirs sing; Celebrating **Brandon Laird's 20th Anniversary** at Decatur Presbyterian Children's Community; **Youth Fund Raiser BBQ** after worship (NO Youth Group or Confirmation meetings today)

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Good Friday, March 29

Easter Sunday, March 31

"Failed Expectations"

Service with Communion

A Choral Tenebrae Service

"Who Will Roll Away the Stone?"

Tully Fletcher

Nicole Jiskoot

Chancel Choir

Todd Speed

Easter Season Series: Faith in Action (April 7–May 19)

Sunday, April 7

Sunday, April 14

Sunday, April 21

Sunday, April 28

"Sharing Possessions"

"Turning to God" Senior Sunday

"Speaking What We Have Seen and Heard"

"Obeying the Spirit" Festival of Praise

Todd Speed

HS Seniors

Todd Speed

Emily Wilmesherr

† † †

A Bold Vision and Invitation:

- **Building Congregational Vitality** by challenging congregations and their members to deepen and energize their faith and grow as joyful leaders and disciples actively engaged with their community, seeing new disciples engaged in ministry and longstanding believers develop in faith as the gospel of Jesus Christ is shared in word and deed.
- **Dismantling Structural Racism** by fearlessly applying our faith to advocate and break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- **Eradicating Systemic Poverty** by acting on our beliefs and working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.



Actively Engaged in the World

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give online!



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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