

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 8, 2026 – 11:00 am



7620 Lanier Drive, Cumming, GA 30041
(770) 887-6801

office@deercreekpreschurch.org
www.deercreekpreschurch.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* *Please stand in body or in spirit*
(Bold = unison; ***Bold Italics*** = sung)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS
CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Rev. Dr. Short

*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Maker of heaven and earth.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*HYMN #643

Now Thank We All Our God

CONFESSiON AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSiON

Rev. Dr. Short

PRAYER OF CONFESSiON

Rev. Dr. Short

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to

live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Dr. Short

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Short

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Micah 6: 1-8

¹ Listen to what the Lord says: “Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. ² “Hear, you mountains, the Lord’s accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the Lord has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. ³ “My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. ⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. ⁵ My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord.” ⁶ With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt

offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Oh! How I Love Jesus!, Frederick Whitfield
Performed by Alexis Hine

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Short

*HYMN #739

O, For a Closer Walk with God

GOSPEL READING

Rev. Dr. Short

Matthew 5: 1-12

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. He said: ³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Original Beatitudes”

Rev. Dr. Short

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Hymn #581

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Short

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 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Short



*To make an offering online, scan this code or
visit www.deercreekpreschurch.org.
Thank you for your support.*

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn #606

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

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good, we thank you for the earth, our home, and for the gift of life. We praise you for your love in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world, who died rejected on the cross and rose triumphant from the dead. Because he lives, we live to praise you, our God forever.

Gracious God, who called us from death to life, we give ourselves to you; and with the church through all ages we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN 418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Short

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn #765

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying,

let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

POSTLUDE

IN MINISTRY TODAY – February 8, 2026

Liturgist: Linda Hardie

Greeters: Gail & Mel Smith

Counters: Barbara Henry & Mel Smith

Fellowship: OPEN

Flowers: OPEN

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, February 15, 2026

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

Rev. Short

Readings: Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon: “Salty Christians”

IN MINISTRY – February 15, 2025

Liturgist: Evie Studd

Greeters: Vikki & Ken Tery

Counters: Nancy Tims & Linda Oliveira

Fellowship: OPEN

Flowers: OPEN

If you would like to assist in any of the above capacities, please contact the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

THE SESSION

Diane Bandow (2025) Don Wagner (2025)

Charlotte Dewberry (2026) Jerry Scarborough (2026)

Ron Studd (2027) Linda Jackson (2027)

Nancy Tims, Clerk

Elders-Elect: Barbara Henry, Linda Oliveira

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Dr. Richard Short
pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org

Church Administrator: office@deercreekpreschurch.org

Music Director: Sudie LaPlue
sudieplayspiano@gmail.com

Preschool Director: Lauren McNamara
770-888-5101
deercreekpreschool@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN PRAYER

(Please review prayer list and notify the office of updates.)

Leslie Etherton, George Marks, Loretta Marks, Harriette Cady, Chantel Druivenga, Sudie LaPlue, Linda Oliveira, Wright Family, Don and Betty Shuman, Jerry and Linda Snowden, Reverend Sid Gunter, Isaac Bucks, Jim Wilson, Bobbye Wright, The family of Jim Byrd, Glenn Simpson, Jackson Jebcoat, The Family of Tony Pritchett, Chip Jabaley, Milly Whatley

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS — Nancy Tims (2nd), Leslie Etherton (5th), Jerry Scarborough (8th), Linda Hardie (22nd)

SANCTUARY FLOWERS — Flowers beautify the Sanctuary of our church and are a gift to God and those who attend our worship service. Giving flowers is a lovely way to remember someone or commemorate a special occasion. If you would like to sign up for a date to place flowers in the sanctuary during our service, please see the registration book in the fellowship hall. Thank you for your contribution toward enriching our worship services.

— The Worship Committee

PRAYER REQUESTS—Please send all prayer requests to the church office at office@deercreekpreschurch.org.

Bulletin announcements due by Noon on Wednesday.
office@deercreekshorespreschurch.org
(770)-887-6801

OTHER NEEDS—If you have any need or concern, please do not hesitate to contact any Elder or the church office (office@deercreekpreschurch.org).

THIS WEEK AT DEER CREEK SHORES

Sunday, February 8

10:00am – Adult Sunday School – Grace Cox Room

Wednesday, February 11

7:00pm – Choir

DATES TO REMEMBER

SHADY GROVE RV PARK - Thank you for your monthly contributions! **Items especially needed for February are peanut butter, hamburger or tuna helper, canned meat (tuna, chicken, beef stew, or chili), toilet paper and paper towels.** Additional items needed are canned vegetables, small packages of instant coffee, cleaning supplies such as Spic & Span, multi-surface cleaner, sponges, Pine Sol, Palmolive, laundry detergent, disinfectant wipes, tall trash bags; personal care items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, band aids, Neosporin and Bactine spray. Please leave your donation in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, February 8th. Questions? Contact Linda Jackson at linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN will meet Thurs., Feb 12, at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Charlotte Dewberry will lead the program on the Sixth Lesson in our study guide. Brenda Gossett will serve as hostess. Please bring a sandwich to share. The coordinating team will meet at 9:45

February 13 – PRESCHOOL PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT –

6:00pm- 8:45 - Drop off the kids for a night of pizza, Valentine’s crafts, and a movie while you enjoy a little time to yourselves with that special someone! Space is limited so register soon! (770) 888-5101 or DeerCreekPreschool@gmail.com.

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church – Priorities for 2026

1. Increase membership and participation through connecting with and serving those who reside in our community through enhanced community outreach. To include Youth and Preschool.
2. Revitalize the Congregational Care Ministry within our church and congregation.
3. Increase regular opportunities for the congregation to gather outside of worship for fellowship.
4. Create policies including Child Protection, Sexual Harassment, Anti-Racism, as required by the Book of Order.
5. Improve and develop leadership and communication skills for this church.

These five priorities for the life of the congregation in 2025 were identified by the Session at its recent Leadership Retreat. Look out for the important action steps that are being identified towards expressing these priorities. Pray that these priorities and the action steps identified will help lead the congregation forward in its life and witness. Be considering ways you can participate in expressing these priorities.

**Join us LIVE on Facebook Sunday @ 11AM
FACEBOOK**

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church - Home

Connect and Catch up with us @ any time

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church - YouTube

Membership at Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

If you are reading this information in our Worship Bulletin, you already belong here at Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church. Here, all are welcome, and membership in the congregation is not required to participate in any of our activities and ministries. By becoming a member, you will have voice and vote in congregational meetings and can better express your commitment to Jesus Christ through this church. Welcoming people as members helps us to get to know them better and to support you more fully – letting all of us stay engaged and grow in faith together. Individuals may join the church by Profession of Faith and Baptism (for those who have never been baptized), by Reaffirmation of Faith (for those who are not currently active members of another Christian church), or by Transfer of Church Letter (for those on the active role of another church.) Contact the office to find out more.



www.deercreekpreschurch.org

*7620 Lanier Dr
Cumming, GA 30041*



Welcome to Deer Creek Shores!

We would love to connect with you! Consider signing the Friendship Pad found in the Pews, or checking in digitally this morning so we can follow up with you!



HELLO DEER CREEK FAMILIES,

JANUARY WAS CERTAINLY A CHILLY ONE! WITH ICY WEATHER AND A FEW SCHOOL CLOSURES MIXED IN, WE TRULY APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S FLEXIBILITY AND UNDERSTANDING AS WE NAVIGATED THOSE DAYS TOGETHER. EVEN WITH THE COLD, OUR CLASSROOMS STAYED WARM WITH LEARNING, LAUGHTER, AND GROWING MINDS.

FEBRUARY IS SHAPING UP TO BE A FUN-FILLED AND LOVE-PACKED MONTH AT DEER CREEK SHORES PRESCHOOL! AS WE LOOK AHEAD, WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR OUR FAMILIES AND THE JOY OUR CHILDREN BRING INTO OUR CLASSROOMS EACH DAY.

WE ARE ALSO EXCITED TO SHARE THAT WE RECENTLY LAUNCHED AN AFTER-SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB, AND THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ABSOLUTELY LOVING IT! FROM HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTS TO CURIOUS CONVERSATIONS, IT HAS BEEN SUCH A JOY TO WATCH THEIR EXCITEMENT AND LOVE FOR DISCOVERY GROW.

FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

FEBRUARY 9-11 | LOVE BUG BOOGIE SPIRIT WEEK

OUR CLASSROOMS WILL BE BUZZING WITH EXCITEMENT AS WE CELEBRATE LOVE BUG BOOGIE SPIRIT WEEK!

- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - BEE MY VALENTINE - WEAR YELLOW AND BLACK OR ANYTHING BEE-THEMED
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 - BOWS & BOWTIES DAY - SHOW OFF YOUR FAVORITE HAIR BOWS OR BOWTIES
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - SNUGGLE BUG DAY - PAJAMA DAY FOR ALL OUR COZY LITTLE LOVES
- FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 - PARENT'S NIGHT OUT - "LOVE BUG BOOGIE"

WE ARE SO EXCITED FOR OUR FEBRUARY PARENT'S NIGHT OUT! THIS SPECIAL EVENING WILL INCLUDE DINNER, A SNACK, AND FUN LOVE BUG BOOGIE-THEMED ACTIVITIES FOR AGES 1-10. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WOULD LIKE TO ENROLL, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR EMAIL US AT DEERCREEKPRE SCHOOL@GMAIL.COM. WE CAN'T WAIT FOR A NIGHT FULL OF FUN WHILE PARENTS

ENJOY A WELL-DESERVED EVENING OUT!

- FEBRUARY 16-17 NO SCHOOL
- FEBRUARY 25 - OUR FIRST EVER - LETTER SOUND HOEDOWN

YEEHAW! OUR CHILDREN WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN A LETTER SOUND HOEDOWN, WHERE LEARNING MEETS FUN AS WE REINFORCE LETTER SOUNDS IN AN ENGAGING, AGE-APPROPRIATE WAY.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

COMING SOON: WE WILL SOON BEGIN ACCEPTING REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 PRESCHOOL YEAR. PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD IF YOU KNOW A FAMILY LOOKING FOR A LOVING, FAITH-BASED PRESCHOOL COMMUNITY.



THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR PRESCHOOL FAMILY. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP AS WE GUIDE OUR CHILDREN IN LEARNING, GROWTH, AND FAITH.

DEER CREEK SHORES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT SIGN UP