

# Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

**First Sunday in Easter**

**April 12, 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 "The Heavens are Telling"

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Passante

CALL TO WORSHIP Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Peace be with you. Jesus stands among us.

**Peace be with you. The risen Lord is here.**

Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega,

**The Lord who was and is and is to come.**

\* **HYMN #41** *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above*  
(verses 1, 2 & 5)

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Passante  
(Acts 2:22, 27)

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Passante

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe, and the hope of those who doubt: We confess that our faith is small, that we trust in our own devices more than in your gracious promises to sustain us. Lord, increase our faith; quicken us amidst our unbelief. By your Spirit grant us, who have not seen, yet seek to believe, the faith to receive the fullness of Christ's blessings. Work in us and through us by the same Spirit that raised Him from the dead, to your honor and glory.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Passante

(Psalms 16:1, 10)

My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and reconciled to God. This is our promise of peace and joy.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! 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.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Passante

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.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Passante

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

(Psalm 16:11)

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. **Amen.**

\**HYMN #238*

*Thine is the Glory*

GOSPEL READING

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

John 20: 19-31

*Holy Bible, NT p. 115*

SERMON

“Doubting Thomas”

Rev. Passante

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(adapted from *A Declaration of Faith*)

**Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised Him from the dead. The risen Lord appeared to his followers. They recognized Him as their Master who had been crucified.**

**We are certain that Jesus still lives. He lives as God with us touching all of life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because of his humanity and because of his love, we have a friend in God.**

**We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a sure victory over the powers that deform and destroy life. Even though we cannot always see signs of Jesus' love and goodness in our troubled world we know Jesus is our Lord. We do not need to be afraid if we are loyal to Jesus for Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE &  
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Passante

**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.**

## GIVING THANKS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

(Psalm 16)

Sisters and brothers, we have no good apart from God. Therefore, let us keep God at the forefront of our minds and give generously from all that we have been given, that others may also receive from the fullness of God.



To make an offering online, scan this code or  
visit [www.deercreekpreschurch.org](http://www.deercreekpreschurch.org).  
Thank you for your support.

OFFERTORY

“Jesus, Alleluia”

\*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

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. **Amen.**

LEAVE TO SERVE

\*HYMN #39

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Passante

\*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

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**IN MINISTRY TODAY – April 12, 2026**

*Liturgist:* Linda Hardie

*Greeters:* Gail & Mel Smith

*Counters:* Barbara Henry & Mel Smith

*Fellowship:* OPEN

*Flowers:* OPEN

**SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, April 19, 2026**

**Second Sunday of Easter - 11:00am**

**Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante**

*Reading:* Luke 24: 13-35

*Sermon:* “The Heart of the Matter”

**IN MINISTRY – April 19, 2026**

*Liturgist:* OPEN

*Greeters:* Vikki & Ken Terry

*Counters:* 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.

**Last Sunday, April 5**

In Attendance: 70    Collection: \$1,933.00

**THE SESSION**

Charlotte Dewberry (2026)    Jerry Scarborough (2026)

Ron Studd (2027)    Linda Jackson (2027)

Barbara Henry (2028)    Linda Oliveira (2028)

Nancy Tims, Clerk

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

Interim Pastor: Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante  
nikki@deercreekpreschurch.org

Church Administrator: Keith Tims  
office@deercreekpreschurch.org

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **IN PRAYER**

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

Leslie Etherton, George Marks, Loretta Marks, Chantel Druivenga, Sudie LaPlue, 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, Chip Jabaley, Milly Whatley, Brenda Gossett, Sharon Gossett

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – SUNDAYS at 10am – Grace Cox Room.** Led by Ken Terry. We are currently studying the books of the Bible starting with the Old Testament. Come join us for interesting discussion and learning. All are welcome.

**The Church Administrative Committee** will be meeting following worship at 12:15 in the Grace Cox Room. This committee supports the administrative life and organization of the church. We are seeking individuals willing to serve, and we invite anyone interested in joining to attend.

**The DCSPC Preschool Board** is seeking dedicated members to serve. If you have a love for children and a desire to support our preschool ministry, we invite you join us. Please contact the church office if you are interested. We also extend our sincere thanks to those who have already stepped up to serve.

**TREAT THE TROOPS - THURSDAY, APRIL 16th** - Please join us at the VFW Post at 1045 Dahlonga Highway to pack for Treat the Troops. Plan to arrive around 6:40 pm so that you are ready to start packing at 7:00 pm. The event usually lasts about an hour and we ask that you wear your Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church name tag. If you would like to contribute homemade cookies, please

bring those to the church on **April 12th**. Store bought cookies are not acceptable. Homemade cookies should be packaged in a fold top plastic bag, six cookies per bag, and closed with a twist tie or yarn. If using a zip lock bag, do not zip the top but do close it with a twist tie or yarn. **Other snack items needed are microwave popcorn, lunch size bags of chips, powdered drink mix for a single bottle of water, Slim Jims, small bags of trail mix, Lance crackers, and small cans of Pringles.** Donations should be placed in the Treat the Troops box in the Fellowship Hall by **Sunday, April 12th**. Questions? Contact Linda Jackson at [linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com](mailto:linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com) or Nancy Tims at [teachtims@gmail.com](mailto:teachtims@gmail.com).

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS** — Dave Horton (6<sup>th</sup>), Will Tims (19<sup>th</sup>), Rich Wilks (24<sup>th</sup>).

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES** – Don & Pat Wagner (26<sup>th</sup>).

**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 & OTHER NEEDS** - Please send all prayer requests to [office@deercreekpreschurch.org](mailto:office@deercreekpreschurch.org). If you have any need or concern, please do not hesitate to contact any Elder or the church office.

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

## 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. *Completed.* 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 four 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 at 11am.**

Connect and catch up with us at any time on  
Facebook and YouTube!

**[facebook.com/Deercreekshorespresbyterianchurch](https://facebook.com/Deercreekshorespresbyterianchurch)  
[youtube.com/@deercreekpreschurch](https://youtube.com/@deercreekpreschurch)**

## **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.*



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***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!***