

# Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 – 11:00 am



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

*office@deercreekpreschurch.org*  
*www.deercreekpreschurch.org*



CONFESSiON AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSiON

Rev. Park

Like a parent, God seeks to set boundaries for the children of God. And, like children, we are stubborn enough to want to do things our own way. So, we become easy prey for the evil one. But Jesus, our Sibling, shows us how to find the will, the strength, to resist and to know the mercy of God. Together, let us confess our sins, so God might fill us with hope and joy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSiON

Rev. Park

**God of Eden's morning, we know that Lent is a hard time for us. In a culture which showcases success, you call us to sacrifice ourselves for others. In a world which promotes power, you invite us to deny ourselves. In a society which encourages us to 'feel good,' you point us to the struggles of siblings, the burdens others bear. By your mercy, forgive us, Hope of our lives. Remind us that as we journey with Jesus, we learn the steps of discipleship. As we listen to his call to obedience, may we learn how to say 'no' to all that tempts us. As we see his suffering, may we live out the good news which has come to us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Park

By ourselves, we would be easily controlled by sin and temptation. But God has given us the free gift of grace, and so we are set free to live as disciples.

**This is the gift which brings us hope; this is the gift which brings us joy; this is the gift which brings us life.**

***Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.***

SHARING THE PEACE

Rev. Park

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

Nancy Tims, Liturgist

May our ears be attentive to hear your Words.

May our hearts be ready to receive your will.

May our eyes be opened to see your face.

Speak to us today for your servants are listening.

**Amen.**

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nancy Tims, Liturgist

Psalm 32: 1-11

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. <sup>2</sup> Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. <sup>3</sup> When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>6</sup> Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. <sup>7</sup> You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. <sup>9</sup> Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. <sup>10</sup> Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him. <sup>11</sup> Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

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

### ANTHEM

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord*  
Linda Oliveira

### TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Park

\*HYMN #840

*It Is Well With My Soul*

## GOSPEL READING

Rev. Park

Matthew 4: 1-11

**1** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2** After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3** The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” **4** Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” **5** Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6** “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” **7** Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **8** Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9** “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” **10** Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” **11** Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“How Is It Written”

Rev. Park

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rom. 8:1, 28, 38, 39

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to 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. Park

### 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. Park



*To make an offering online, scan this code or visit  
[www.deercreekpreschurc.org](http://www.deercreekpreschurc.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

Nancy Tims, 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 #625

*How Great Thou Art*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Park

\*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 – February 22, 2026

*Liturgist:* Nancy Tims

*Greeters:* Nancy & Jim Wilson

*Counters:* Linda Jackson & JoAnn Mulrey

*Fellowship:* Barbara & Waymond Henry

*Flowers:* OPEN

### SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, March 1, 2026 Second Sunday in Lent & The Lord's Supper

Rev. Nikki Passante

*Scripture:* John 1: 29-42

*Sermon:* “Come and See”

### IN MINISTRY – March 1, 2026

*Liturgist:* Ken Terry

*Greeters:* JoAnn Mulrey

*Counters:* JoAnn Mulrey & Rich Wilks

*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 <a href="mailto:pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org">pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org</a>
Church Administrator:	<a href="mailto:office@deercreekpreschurch.org">office@deercreekpreschurch.org</a>
Music Director:	Sudie LaPlue <a href="mailto:sudieplayspiano@gmail.com">sudieplayspiano@gmail.com</a>
Preschool Director:	Lauren McNamara 770-888-5101 <a href="mailto:deercreekpreschool@gmail.com">deercreekpreschool@gmail.com</a>

### **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, Kelly Hobbs

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS** — Nancy Tims (2<sup>nd</sup>), Leslie Etherton (5<sup>th</sup>), Jerry Scarborough (8<sup>th</sup>), Linda Hardie (22<sup>nd</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**—Please send all prayer requests to the church office at [office@deercreekpreschurch.org](mailto:office@deercreekpreschurch.org).

Bulletin announcements due by Noon on Wednesday.  
[office@deercreekshorespreschurch.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@deercreekpreschurch.org)).

**THIS WEEK AT DEER CREEK SHORES**

**Sunday, February 15**

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

**Wednesday, February 18**

7:00pm – Choir

**SHADY GROVE RV PARK** - Thank you for your monthly contributions! *Items especially needed for March are instant coffee (individual packets), 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, March 8th. Questions? Contact Linda Jackson at [linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com](mailto:linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com).

**TREAT THE TROOPS – Wednesday, March 11th** - Please join us at the VFW Post at 1045 Dahlonega Highway to pack for Treat the Troops. Plan to arrive around 6:40 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 March 8th. 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, March 8th. 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).

## **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](http://www.deercreekpreschurch.org)

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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!***