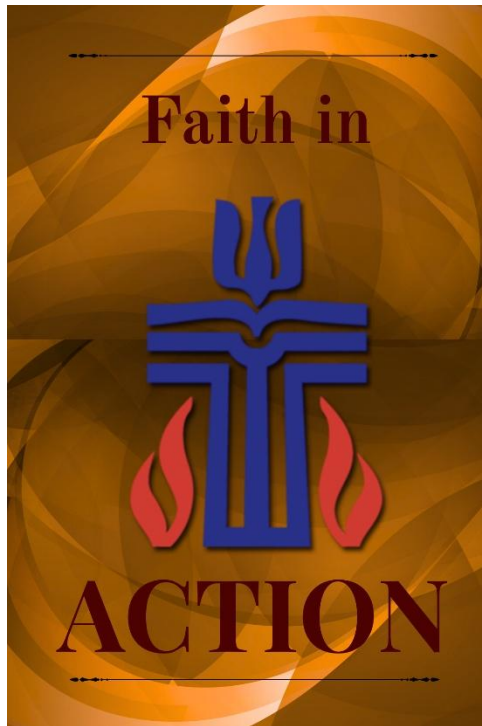


Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 24, 2025 – 11:00am**

**FAITH IN ACTION
6. FOR THE BURDENED**



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 AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Jim Simpson, Pastor

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT HYMN 399

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong and it never ends.

Repeat three times total

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Hardie, Liturgist

Let us worship the One who nourishes us,
**who satisfies us in parched places
and makes our bones strong.**

Let us worship the One who calls us,
**who leads us to compassion
and draws us nearer to justice.**

Let us worship the One who creates us,
**who forms and reforms us
in the image of our maker.**

*HYMN 630

Fairest Lord Jesus

BEING RENEWED IN GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim Simpson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jim Simpson

O God, you are nearby and far off,

in our every moment and in the highest heaven.

**Forgive us when we would rather not remember you in the
everyday moments of our lives:**

when choosing you would mean

putting our neighbors' needs first;

when following you would

challenge our comfortable assumptions;

when listening to you would
change the life we have grown to love.
Forgive us, God of mercy,
and love us into your reign of true peace. Amen.

Hymn 471 v1

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jim Simpson

Promising forgiveness and the sustenance we need to amend our lives, God rejoices in our longing for wholeness. Give thanks that we have been known and forgiven, set free to live the resurrected life of faith. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

SONG OF ASSURANCE

Hymn 471 v2

*The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise:
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song;
the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 58: 9b - 14

Linda Hardie

You shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own

interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

ANTHEM “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
arr. by Cindy Berry (in the setting of Clementi's Sonatina)

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Jim Simpson

*HYMN 726 *Will You Come and Follow Me*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 13:10–17 Jim Simpson

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

SERMON “Something Wonderful” Jim Simpson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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.



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

*** OFFERING SONG**

Hymn 606, Doxology

***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 DEDICATION**

Linda Hardie

Loving God,

**we rejoice that our lives are already consecrated by you.
Inspired by the knowledge of your love,
giving thanks for the gifts you offer us each day,
we pray that these offerings and our lives may further
your kingdom on earth. Amen**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)**

Linda Hardie

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

**The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming
of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission.**

**Jesus' human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.**

**Jesus' service to men and women commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.**

**Jesus' suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering
so that it sees the face of Christ**

in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
Jesus' crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment
on the inhumanity that marks human relations,
and the awful consequences
of the church's own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise
of God's renewal of human life in society
and of God's victory over all wrong.
The church follows this pattern in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 767

Together We Serve

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Jim Simpson

Go forth into the world rejoicing, sure of the healing God offers.

Share the good news with all,

seeking those who feel unknown and forgotten.

Be strengthened in your faith,

and trust in the kingdom that cannot be shaken.

May the blessing of God, like a mother's love, sustain you;

may the peace of God, like a strong castle, protect you;

may the hope of God, like a consuming fire, enlighten you,

this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

*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

*Service of Witness to the Resurrection for the
late Lamar Bailey will be held in the Sanctuary
of Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church at
2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 30, 2025.*

*Service of Witness to the Resurrection for the
late Randy Bandow will be held in the Sanctuary
of Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church at
2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, 2025.*

Please look for further details regarding needs for Receptions to follow

**Next Sunday – August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

FAITH IN ACTION

7. Witness

Scripture Readings: Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16, Luke 13: 18-30

Sermon: “The Eyes of Faith”

Rev. Dr. Jim Simpson

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 roll of another church.) Contact or talk to Pastor Jim to find out more.

THE SESSION

Diane Badow(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

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Jim Simpson pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org
Church Administrator:	Leslie Etherton office@deercreekpreschurch.org
Music Director:	Sudie LaPlue sudieplayspiano@gmail.com
Preschool Director:	Lauren McNamara 770-888-5101 deercreekpreschool@gmail.com

Bulletin announcements due by Noon on Wednesday
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm
If no one is present during these hours, phone
and email are monitored remotely.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN - Happy New Year! Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Women will kick off the 2025-2026 year on **Thursday, September 11, at 10:30AM** in the fellowship hall. Barbara Henry is our hostess, and Linda Oliveira will lead the first lesson, "Mary Magdalene, the Tower," from our new study guide, "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ." Please bring a small sandwich to share. We will have a light lunch together after Bible study. (The Coordinating Team will meet at 9:45).

SHADY GROVE RV PARK - Thank you for your monthly contributions! **Items especially needed for September are peanut butter and jelly, hamburger or tuna helper, canned meat (tuna, chicken, beef stew, or chili), and canned vegetables.** Additional items needed are cleaning supplies such as Spic & Span, multi-surface cleaner, sponges, Pine Sol, Palmolive, laundry detergent, disinfectant wipes, tall trash bags, paper towels; toilet paper and personal care items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, disposable razors, band aids, Neosporin and Bactine spray. Please leave your donation in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, September 7th. Questions? Contact Linda Jackson at linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com.

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

OTHER NEEDS—If you have any need or concern, please don't hesitate to contact any Elder or the church office (church phone and email are monitored daily during normal business hours Mon-Thur 9:00-1:00).

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

IN PRAYER *(Please review prayer list and notify the office of updates.)*
Diane Badow and her Family, Leslie Bailey and her Family, George Marks, The Family and friends of Stacy Robinson, Loretta Marks, Harriette Cady, Adriana Oliveira, Fabiano Vicente, Sudie LaPlue, Daniel Phan, Linda Oliveira

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS—Matthew Savage, Jim Wilson, Bob Bouffard, Tanna Savage, Don Shuman, Joyce Fisher, Ron Studd

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES—Ron Studd & Susan Jones Studd, Ken & Vikki Terry, Linda & John Jackson

PASTORAL TRANSITION – a note from the Session and the Pastor
Members and friends of our church received an email communication from Pastor Jim on Tuesday evening (August 19, 2025) sharing the news of his decision to retire from active ministry for personal and family reasons. In conversation together Jim, as our Pastor, and the Session covenanted to work together, as we always have done, to ensure that this transition occurs smoothly.

We quote a portion of Jim's letter to the Congregation:

"A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, September 28, 2025, to act on my request to dissolve the pastoral relationship. The Rev. Casto-Waters (General Presbyter, Cherokee Presbytery) will moderate this meeting.

Though my time as your Pastor may be shorter than we all hoped, I will always be deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve Deer Creek Shores—the concluding chapter of my ministry, which began with my ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in 1987. These thirty-eight years of ordained service (almost one third of which were spent within Cherokee Presbytery) have been rich and fulfilling, and now I look forward to new thoughts, experiences, and opportunities in retirement.

In the weeks ahead, I remain fully available to you as your Pastor and will do all I can to support and assist during this transition. The Session will be working on all that is needed as I and the church navigates this transition.

Your prayers for Janice, our family, and me are deeply appreciated as we move into this new chapter. You have my prayers, and the prayers of our entire family.

With gratitude and love,
Jim Simpson, Pastor"

Jim's last Sunday in worship leadership will be Sunday, September 21, and the Session is making plans to celebrate his time with us and to mark his retirement. Everyone is asked to pray for Jim, and Janice, and their family, and for our congregation as we adjust to this news and look to the future God has for all of us. If you have ideas, questions, suggestions or concerns please contact Pastor Jim or any member of the Session. The Session has been supported by the Presbytery Commission on Ministry (COM) and will look to make plans for future pastoral leadership.

THIS WEEK AT DEER CREEK SHORES

Sunday, August 24

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

11:00am – Worship – Sanctuary

Monday August 25

12:00 – Staff Meeting – Pastor's Study

Wednesday, August 27

7:00pm – Choir

IN MINISTRY

Serving Today – August 24

Liturgist: Linda Hardie

Greeters: Jim and Nancy Wilson

Counters: Linda Jackson and JoAnn Mulrey

Coffee Fellowship: Open

Serving Next Sunday – August 31

Liturgist: Ken Terry

Greeters: Troy and Leslie Etherton

Counters: Linda Oliveira and Nancy Tims

Coffee Fellowship: Open

COMING UP!

LIFELINE SCREENING – Life Line Screening will be here at Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church on **Friday, September 26** offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these health screenings today. There is no time like the present to take action!

Three ways to register:

- **Call toll-free: 1-800-324-9458 promo code HABC001**
- **Online: [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://llsa.social/habc)**
- **Text: the word **circle** to 216-279-1607**

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church – Priorities for 2025

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.



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!