

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – February 2, 2025

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. | Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.



Welcome

Welcome to all! If you are visiting today, please leave us your contact information at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. Need help? Ask any usher.

Opening Music

(9:30) "My Lord, What a Morning"

ARR. SHACKLEY

(11:00) "What Manner of Man is Jesus"

Christian Men Fellowship

Call to Worship *[responsive, italics are sung]*

Glory to God, # 600

We meet in the name of God, Creator of the universe, source of true humanity, mother and father of all.

Amen. Amen. Amen, Amen, Amen.

We meet in the name of Jesus, Word made flesh, savior and lover of all.

Amen. Amen. Amen, Amen, Amen.

We meet in the name of the Holy Spirit, Lord and giver of life, midwife to new humanity, inspirer of all.

Amen. Amen. Amen, Amen, Amen.

Come, Eternal God,

Be present here, befriend us here, renew us here.

Opening Prayer

Hymn *[stand]*

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

Glory to God, # 692

Call to Confession

Faith, hope, and love have all been passed on to us, not so we can hoard these gifts for ourselves, but so we might share them with others. Let us lift our prayers to the One who is always ready to place forgiveness in our hearts, as we name how we failed to do this in our own lives.

Prayer of Confession *[responsive]*

Gracious God, for the times when we withheld our love from you,

Forgive us.

Merciful God, for the times when we withheld our love from others,

Forgive us.

Compassion God, for the times when we withheld love from ourselves or denied your love for us,

Forgive us.

Show us how to claim love as our guiding purpose in all that we do.

May we choose love in all things.

[Silence for Personal Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God's Word

Musical Response

"He Came Down"
verse 1

Glory to God, # 137

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

1 Corinthians 13:1–13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn [*stand*]

"Though I May Speak"

Glory to God, # 693

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

(9:30) "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

RANEY

(11:00) "Immortal God, Invincible God"

Christian Men Fellowship

Sung Response [*stand*]

(9:30) "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Glory to God, # 610

verse 5

(11:00) "We Are Saying Thank You Jesus"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Communion Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving [*responsive*]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and our greatest joy...

The Lord's Prayer [*together*]

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Please take the elements you have at home, eat whatever kind of bread you have, and drink whatever cup you have prepared. The bread is the body of Christ, the bread of heaven, and the cup is the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Take and eat. Take and drink.

Prayer after Communion

We Depart for Service

Sending Song [*stand*]

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

Glory to God, # 623

Announcements

Closing Music [*seated*]

(9:30) "On the Wind of Spirit"

HAYES

(11:00) "Praise the Lord"

Christian Men Fellowship

Closing Blessing

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**



Participating in the service:

Katherine Williams, Director of Music

Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Elder Doreen Turczyn-Toles, Worship Leader (9:30)

Youth of GPC, Worship Leader (11:00)

Rev. LeAnn Hodges

Elder Kris Maldarelli, CRE

Thank you for
worshiping with us!

gpchurch.org/give



Join the Fun at the Annual Souper Fellowship Luncheon

Today | Following the 11:00 am Service | Lindsay Hall

Your fellow GPC chefs and bakers have prepared wonderful soups and desserts to share, and we will enjoy great fellowship and an opportunity for mission.

There will be no Sunday Coffee Hour following either worship service.

VIPS MEETING

Very Important Presbyterian Seniors

Thursday, February 6 at 11:30 am in Lindsay Hall

Acknowledging Black History Month

Program: "Growing Up Black in the United States"

Presented by our VIPS friends, Jerry Brown, Yvonne Miller, and Frantz Wilson.

Bring Your Own Lunch or Join in the Shared Lunch with a Soul Food Menu.

Craft Group Meets Next Week

February 9, 12:15 pm in Lindsay Hall

The group knits and crochets to fulfill requests, including hats for the Prison Ministry, prayer shawls, and prayer squares for local service organizations.

Contact Barb Clark to join.

Racial Justice Open Conversation

Sunday, February 9 at 9:30 am in the Library

The Church, Slavery, and Racism

Join members of GPC's racial justice ministry to discuss the complex and maddening history of Christianity on the issues of slavery and racism. The conversation is open to all with a curious mind and open heart. A Zoom session will also be offered on Tuesday, February 11 at 7:30 pm.

Creation Care February Message

How can we reduce consumption to protect resources for everyone? Start small: unplug devices when not in use, plan meals to cut food waste, and eat less animal protein (a major driver of deforestation). Walk lighter on the planet in 2025!

"Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." — Luke 12:15 (NIV)



Little Free Pantry Message



It's Cold Outside!

Help Make Sure Folks Have Something Warm to Eat

Winter is the perfect time to stock our food pantry with plenty of healthy, heat-up options—soups are especially appreciated! Please place donations directly in the pantry or the wooden box behind the Welcome Desk.

Thank you for your warm support.

Caring Card Ministry

We need a volunteer to help prepare weekly support cards for congregation members facing challenges or significant events. Partner with Sandy McCoy in managing the provided card lists, arranging cards, and preparing a prayer list for the table. The Caring Card table will be located in or near Lindsey Hall and will be available during Coffee Hours. Contact [Rev. Deb](#) to join this meaningful effort.

The Sunday Morning Group

Sundays at 8:15 am in Room 33 and on Zoom

Join the group as they study Ta-Nehisi Coates's *Between the World and Me*.

Monday Morning Coffee

February 3 at 10:30 am on Zoom

All are welcome to join us! Come for a few moments to say hello or stay the whole time.

Contact the [church office](#) with event questions and for the Zoom links.

Interested in Joining GPC?

Please contact [Kris Maldarelli, CRE](#) for more information.

Ready to get more connected?



Join our Email List



Join a Small Group



Come to an Event



Opportunities to Serve