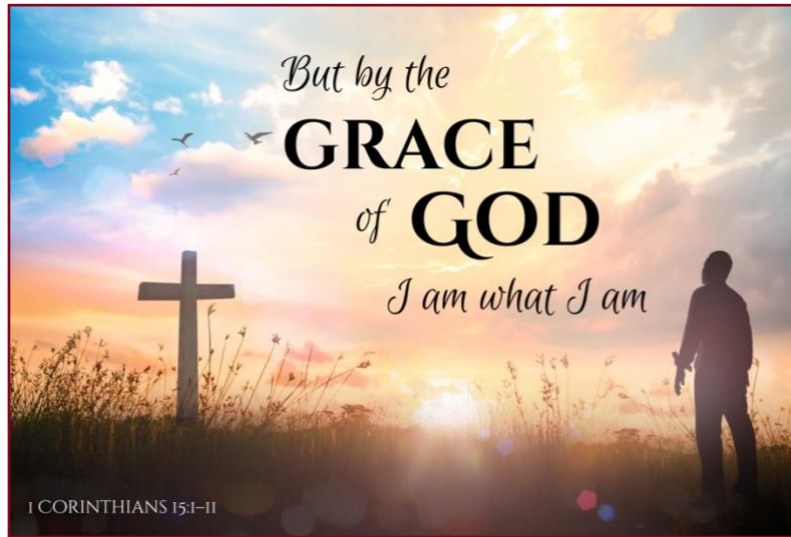


Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – February 9, 2025

Fifth 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

"With a Joyful Heart"
Canterbury Ringers

GESCHKE

Call to Worship *[responsive]*

Jesus promises that when we gather, God is present.

God is with us here. God is with us today.

Let us praise our Creator, the Alpha and Omega, the Almighty saying,

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

The Lord of hosts is here. Let us ground ourselves in worship.

Opening Prayer

Hymn *[stand]*

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Glory to God, # 15

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *[together]*

Lord of hosts, Jesus of Galilee, Holy Spirit, forgive us for the ways we have fallen short. You ask us to look out for the people on the outside and care for the lost; but we center ourselves. You ask us to give away; but we grab for more. You ask us to love one another; but it's hard to love people we don't agree with. The world is full of violence

from things we have done and didn't do, to things we have said and didn't say, and to all the things we should have said and done. Forgive us. Help us. We call on you, our beloved, our help, our God, our hope. Hear our silent confessions now.

[Silence for Personal Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message (11:00)

Carolyn Hayes

Youth group begins at 11 am in Spencer Hall (downstairs, at the far end of the building), if you are a Youth and are still in worship, please feel free to leave with the younger Children, following the Children's Message.

Preschool–1st graders attend Godly Play in room 14, and 2nd–5th graders are in room 32/33.

Both rooms are downstairs.

Musical Response

"Know That God Is Good"

Glory to God, # 659

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 97:1–5

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1–11

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

Sermon

Elder Kris Maldarelli, CRE

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn *[stand]*

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

Glory to God, #641

Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith) *[together]*

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,

and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
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

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

"Prayer for Peace"
Canterbury Ringers

HELMAN

Sung Response [*stand*] "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Glory to God, # 607

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

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

We Depart for Service

Sending Song [*stand*]

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”
sing three times

Glory to God, # 80

Announcements

Closing Music [*seated*]

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”
Canterbury Ringers

ARR. AUSTIN

Charge and Benediction

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
Carolyn Hayes, Worship Leader (9:30)
Children of GPC, Worship Leader (11:00)
Elder Kris Maldarelli, CRE

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in celebration of the birthday of Gina Obeng.

Liturgy written by Rose Schrott Taylor and provided for free distribution by Presbyterian Outlook

Thank you for
worshiping with us!

gpchurch.org/give



Craft Group Meets Today

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

Zoom meeting Tuesday, February 11 at 7:30 pm

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.

[Email the office for the Zoom Link.](#)



Interested in Joining GPC?

Have you been attending GPC online or in person for a while and want to know more about GPC and church membership?

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

We are looking for a part-time facilities manager.

[Find out more information here!](#)

Ready to get more connected?



Join our Email List



Join a Small Group



Come to an Event



Opportunities to Serve

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

Help Us Reach You in an Emergency

In January, GPC leadership decided to cancel in-person worship due to a forecast of all-day ice and snow. One of the quickest ways to send mass notifications is through our emergency text alert system. If you did not receive a GPC Ministry alert on Jan. 18, it means we don't have your cell phone number on file. Please take a moment to fill out this [Emergency Contact Form](#) so we can keep you informed in the future.

Upcoming Lenten Study

everything [in]between, Meeting God in the midst of extremes

We will follow Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, beginning with Jesus turning his face toward Jerusalem (Luke 9:5). The booklet can be downloaded as a paper copy or as an e-reader. Links will be provided in the weeks closer to Ash Wednesday.

The Communication Committee wants you to Add Your Smile!



Help build community at GPC by adding your photo to the Online Directory. It is so easy. It's easy! Upload your photo (instructions on our website), email it to pwhiteh@hotmail.com, or have it taken in Lindsay Hall after services. Help us put smiling faces to names in our directory!

Little Free Pantry Message



Show Love for Your Neighbor Through Contributions to the Little Food Pantry

Valentine's Day is coming up this week. As you are shopping for a special way to remember your loved ones, don't forget to pick up something tasty for our Food Pantry. Thank you for your loving support!

This week's need is **peanut butter**.

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)

