

Welcome to Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church.
EXALT GOD. ENGAGE NEIGHBORS. EQUIP DISCIPLES.



A Service in Celebration of the Life of
Doris Nichols Gordon
November 16, 2024
3:00 pm

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church
610 South Frederick Avenue | Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877
301-948-9418 | gpchurch.org

**A Service in Celebration
Of the Life of
Doris Nichols Gordon
July 24, 1929 – October 14, 2024**

November 16, 2024

3:00 pm

Prelude

“God So Loved the World”

J. STAINER

Carol Loopstra, flute (daughter) and Prudence Riva, piano (granddaughter)

Welcome

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

A love that never ceases,
A creativity that designed the universe,
A hope that cannot be quenched,
A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost,
The celebration of a life well-lived,
A time to remember and honor her life:
These are the things that are of God,
Then let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

Hymn [*stand*]

“He Leadeth Me”

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:

He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done,
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. *Refrain*

Reading

“Artistic Involvement”
Read by Alan Gordon (son)

Written by Doris Gordon

Testimonies from Family and Friends

Lisa Nichols (niece)
Betsy Klinger (friend)
Donald Gordon (son)
Abby Gordon (granddaughter)

Special Music

“The Longer I Serve Him”

The Gordon Family Chorus

Prayer for Illumination

The Word of God

Jeremiah 18:1–4

Marianne Gordon
(daughter-in-law)

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: ² “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Ephesians 2:4–10

Jonathan Loopstra
(son-in-law)

⁴ God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

An Artist in the Hands of God

Rev. Deborah Vaughn

Hymn [*seated*]

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”
Carol Loopstra, flute (daughter)

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Savior today!
Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,
as in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer [*unison*]

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.

Hymn [*stand*]

"Blessed Assurance"

Glory to God, #839

Prayer of Commendation [*unison*]

**Into your hands, O merciful Savior,
we commend your servant, Doris.
Acknowledge, we humbly pray,
a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock,
a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive her into the arms of your mercy,
Into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.**

Benediction

Postlude

Alicia Gordon, piano (granddaughter)



*The congregation is asked to remain seated for the Postlude.
The family will gather immediately following the service in
the Memorial Garden to dedicate a plaque to Doris.
After the Postlude, please join us in Lindsay Hall
for refreshments and a chance to greet the family.*



Participating in the Service:

Mr. Bill Stief, Organist

Rev. Deborah Vaughn