

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – July 14, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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



Welcome

Welcome to all! Please register your attendance with the QR code on the back of the bulletin, with the online link, or on paper in the church Gathering Space. Need help? Ask any usher.

Opening Music

“Come, Now Is the Time to Worship”
Praise Team

BRIAN DOERKSEN

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

The Spirit of God calls to us,
with sighs too deep for words.

The Spirit of God calls to us,
summoning us to become more than we are now.

The Spirit of God calls us by name.
We are the children of God!

Opening Prayer

Hymn [*stand*]

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

Glory to God, #692

Call to Confession

God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. With this assurance, let us be honest with God and with ourselves. Please join me in prayer.

Prayer of Confession [*responsive*]

Jesus said that one of the great commandments is to love God.

We confess the ways in which we have failed to love God as often and as well as we could.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Jesus said that the other greatest commandment is to love our neighbors.

We confess the ways in which we have failed to love our neighbors as often and as well as we could.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

And Jesus said that we are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

We confess the ways in which we have failed to love ourselves as often and as well as we could.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

As God's own, might we learn to love with the heart of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message (11:00)

Carolyn Hayes

At the 11:00 service, children and youth are invited to leave for class. Children can be picked up after church in Room 30/31 or Room 32/33. Youth will be released from class to find you.

Musical Response [*seated*]

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"
verses 1-2

Glory to God, #286

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

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

Sermon

Rev. LeAnn Hodges

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn [*stand*] "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" Glory to God, #727

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory "One Step He Leads" PEPPER CHOPLIN
Praise Team

Sung Response [*stand*] "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"
verse 3 Glory to God, #35

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

Announcements

Sending Song [*stand*] "O for a World" Glory to God, #372

Closing Blessing

Closing Music [*seated*] "Step by Step" DAVID "BEAKER" STRASSER
Praise Team

Passing the Peace

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

†

Participating in the service:

Bill Stief, Guest Musician

Carol Anderson and David Mecklenburg, Worship Leaders (9:30)

Mary Spencer, Worship Leader (11:00)

Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. LeAnn Hodges

Cover photo by Anna Shvets: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/photo-of-people-holding-each-other-s-hands-4672720/>



**YOUTH
SUMMER
CALENDAR**

JULY

July 17, 6–7:30 pm | Wednesday Night Youth Group
July 21 | Sunday Youth Time, dismissed from 11 am worship.
July 22–27 | MOVE High School Camp
July 31, 6:00 pm | Ice Cream Gathering at Carmen’s in Rockville,
1115 Nelson St., bring \$4 for ice cream

Thank you for
worshiping with us!

gpchurch.org/guestbook gpchurch.org/give




July 14, 2024 Announcements & Events

Monday Morning Coffee – All are welcome to join us at 10:30 am on Zoom. Monday Morning Coffee is held on the first and third Monday of the month. Come for a few moments to say hello or stay the whole time. Please email office@gpchurch.org for the Zoom link.

VBS is for adults, too! – This summer Carolyn Hayes is leading a 5-week Sunday morning adult class. The theme is “Sail On,” and the adults will follow the same themes as the children’s program. Join us at 9:30 am through August 4th in rooms 31-32 and be encouraged to sail with the Spirit.

The Sunday Morning Group – Sundays at 8:15 am in Room 33 and on Zoom. Join the group as they study Richard J. Foster's Celebration of Discipline. For the Zoom link please email Steve Olin at office@gpchurch.org.

Fall PDA Trip – Our trip to New Bern, NC is filling up fast, but we still have room for YOU! We leave Sunday, September 22 and return Friday, September 27. Have you always wanted to go? Now’s your chance! Please speak with Rev. Lawrence SOON!



PCUSA

Sunday, July 21, at 11:00 am

You are cordially invited to join the CWF & CMF of Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church for the Inauguration of CMF and Dedication of New Members into CWF & CMF.

RSVP: 240-899-5291 (CMF) 410-500-6085 (CWF)

Great Job on Table Fellowship! – Five table fellowship groups have been organized so far. Now there is an opportunity for a 6th group. One of our members has volunteered to host a Table Fellowship luncheon for individuals in the next month or so. For this unique opportunity, you would contribute an item to the menu but would not need to host or travel at night. If the weather cooperates, this luncheon may be outside. If interested, please contact Clara Pratt at office@gpchurch.org.

Special Guest Speaker – Community Engagement Ministry invites you to hear what God is doing around the world! Hear from GPC member and Elder, Arfan Sandhu, who recently returned from an inspiring trip to one of our GPC-supported missionaries. "The beauty of the landscapes, the warmth of the people, and the impactful work we were able to do left a lasting impression on me." Arfan has lots more to share on Wednesday, July 17, at 7 pm. The Zoom link will be in the weekly email message.