

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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



Opening Music

Instrumental

Welcome

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

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

Lent calls us to journey, this and every day,
following Jesus wherever he leads us.

Lent calls us to journey:

to the place where God covenants with us.

Lent calls us to faithful living,
to trust the One who gives us life.

**Lent calls each of us to take up our cross,
to trust the One who bears it with us.**

Lent calls us to journey with God.

Let us worship God, who walks with us, this and every day

Opening Prayer

Hymn [*stand*]

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

Glory to God, #314

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

Eternal God, forgive those things we have done
which have caused you sadness,
and those things we should have done
that would have brought you joy.

In both we have failed
ourselves and you.

Bring us back to that place
where our journey began,
when we said that we would follow your way.
Lead us to the Cross and meet us there.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Assurance of Pardon [*responsive*]

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Natalie Jorges-Castellanos

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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 13:1-20

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' ⁷Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' ⁸Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' ⁹Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfil the scripture, "The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me." ¹⁹I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. ²⁰Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.'

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Faithful Feet"

Elder Kris Obom Maldarelli

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn [*stand*]

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Glory to God #203

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Instrumental

Sung Response

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

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, a
nd the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Depart for Service

Announcements

Sending Song [*stand*] “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?” Glory to God, #727

Passing the Peace

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

Closing Blessing

Closing Music

Instrumental

†

Participating in the service:

Elder Kris Obom Maldarelli, Guest Preacher
Charles Duncan, Worship Leader (9:30)
Ninna Nana, Worship Leader (11:00)
Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts
Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Thank you for
worshipping with us!

gpchurch.org/guestbook





March 19, 2023

Weekly Announcements

Our Little Free Pantry is getting used! Protein items seem to be the most appreciated, so think about adding to your next shopping list peanut butter, canned tuna and chicken (pop-top lids are a special gift), shelf-stable milk, and protein bars. Put items directly into the Pantry or leave them with Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence.

GPC Website Calendar – Did you know that the GPC Website now offers not only upcoming featured events, but full Calendar page listings? Thanks to the volunteer commitment of member Paul Whitehead, your church-related event, meeting, or activity information can be posted for all to see throughout the year. Just email your entry information to office@gpchurch.org.

Is preparing and serving good food your love language? If so, consider baking nut-free sweet treats for our Sunday Coffee Fellowship. Or if you binge-watch the Food Network, whip up a batch of savory appetizers for us to sample on Sunday mornings. Good food leads to conversation, which increases our fellowship, and multiplies our mutual life in Christ! Thank you in advance.

Today's Events

Newcomer Welcome Reception – New to GPC? Curious about faith? Want to know more about the church? Join us March 19, following the 11:00 service, in the church library for the Newcomer Welcome Reception. This is the place for you to meet others who are also new to the congregation, ask questions of the staff, and get to know other church leaders. Whether you are ready to become an official member of the church, or if you simply want to know more, we would love to see you there. Questions? Ask Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence.

Creation Care Committee Meeting – Join us on Sunday, March 19th at 11:00 am in room 32/33. We welcome present and new participants. We will be discussing plans for spring activities.

Upcoming Events

GPC Website Tutorial – We hope that everyone is enjoying using the new GPC website. The Communications committee invites anyone who has questions or would like to learn more about the features of the new format to attend a GPC Website Tutorial next Sunday, March 26, after the 11:00 a.m. service in Room 202. If you haven't really used the website, come find out what benefits you've been missing!

We're NOT Foolin'! – Join the fun on Saturday, April 1, 10:00-12:00, to clean up GPC grounds & plant flowers in preparation for the culmination of Lent: Easter! Please bring enthusiasm, a water bottle, gloves, and helpful tools, such as a trowel, shovel, clippers, loppers, etc. We will provide flowering annual plants, bags for trash & plant refuse, and tempting snacks. Questions? Contact Lisa Whitehead.

Weekly Meetings

Sunday Coffee Hour – Every Sunday after both the 9:30 and the 11:00 am Church services, provided by the Congregational Life Ministry.

Children's & Youth's Music – Wednesday evening rehearsals. The children's choir meets at 5:30 pm. The children's chimes and bells as well as the youth bell choir meet at 6:00 pm. Come join us!

2023 Lenten Mission Project

This year your financial gifts will support both a local and a global project.
And we have a hands-on collection drive suitable for all ages.

Make your financial gift online, through the mobile app, through the mail, or in the Sunday offering plate.

Global Mission

In memory of Juliana Ziorklui, we will support the work of the Presbyterian Church in Ghana.

Local Mission

We will give every student at Summit Hall Elementary School and Gaithersburg Preschool & Kindergarten a free book at the end of the school year to promote summer reading. If sufficient funds are available, we will support another MCPS school.

In-kind Collection Drive

Benefits Gaithersburg Community Soup Kitchen, a.k.a. The Lord's Table.
Shopping Lists are available in the Gathering Space.

Thanks to the 9 people so far who have made financial contributions. We are well on the way!



WEEKLY Virtual Meetings

Monday Morning Coffee – 10:30 am on zoom

All welcome. Please join us for a few moments to say hello or stay the whole time.
Never been before? We'll be glad to see you.

Monday Evening Bible Study – 7:00 pm on Google Meet

Currently studying books in the Old Testament. Contact Carolyn Hayes for details or just jump in!

During Lent: Virtual Morning Prayer - Wednesdays at 8:30 am on zoom

Join us on Zoom for a brief prayer service each Wednesday morning.
At work, or commuting? Join by phone. All welcome.

Exodus Bible Study – Wednesdays at 7:30 pm on Google Meet

We're studying Exodus. If you'd like to join, the book is titled Discover Exodus.
The curriculum is from Faith Alive, 2 books (\$8.99ea +\$7.00 s/h).



Email office@gpchurch.org to request the links



Easter Flowers



Please take this opportunity to remember or honor a loved one by ordering a plant to be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The cost is **\$14 per plant**. Please make checks payable to "GPC," with "Easter flowers" written on the memo line. To place an order, complete this form and return it to the church office, with proper payment, no later than **Sunday, April 2**.

----- Please PRINT clearly -----

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of Plants _____

Circle one: IN HONOR OF IN MEMORY OF IN CELEBRATION OF:

Please pick up your plant(s) after the 11:00 am Easter Sunday service.