



*January 3, 2021*

2363 S. Germantown Road  
Germantown, TN 38138

[WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG](http://WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG)

*\*Please stand.*

Communion Sunday

*Please silence electronic devices.*

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Wir Christenleut hab'n jetzund Freud, BWV 710*  
(*We Christians may rejoice today*)

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Will Jones

CHIME INTROIT

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 125)

**Leader:** Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**People:** As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time on and forevermore.

**Leader:** Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

**People:** Let us worship the Lord, our God, forever and ever.

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN** (in unison)

**Holy God, your mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, and your goodness lasts from generation to generation. We appeal to your mercy as we begin this New Year. Forgive us our sins of the past and do not hold our moral mistakes against us, we pray. We long for a refreshing new start, and we thank you for offering us grace in Jesus Christ. In His name, we have new life, new hope, and new vision.**

*(Silence for personal prayer)*

**Leader:** We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

**People:** Amen.

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

GLORIA

The image displays two staves of musical notation for the Gloria. Both staves are in G major and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, featuring a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

**\*SHARING OF GRACE**

**Leader:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*(Please remember others in our church family that you cannot be with today. As you think of them, please pray for their health and well-being. Please contact them later today and offer your love).*

## THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Jones

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Proverbs 8:12-13; 22-31

I, wisdom, live with prudence, and I attain knowledge and discretion. <sup>13</sup>The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. <sup>22</sup>The LORD created me at the beginning of His work, the first of His acts of long ago. <sup>23</sup>Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. <sup>24</sup>When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. <sup>25</sup>Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—<sup>26</sup>when He had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. <sup>27</sup>When He established the heavens, I was there, when He drew a circle on the face of the deep, <sup>28</sup>when He made firm the skies above, when He established the fountains of the deep, <sup>29</sup>when He assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress His command, when He marked out the foundations of the earth, <sup>30</sup>then I was beside Him, like a master worker; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing before Him always, <sup>31</sup>rejoicing in His inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: John 1:10-18

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to Him and cried out, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because He was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made Him known.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Glory, Grace, and Truth

Dr. Jones

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

OFFERTORY

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*  
Scott Hall, baritone

arr. R. Walters

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.*

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the angel strains have rolled two thousand years of wrong.  
And man, at war with man, bears not the lovesong which they bring!  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, and hear the angels sing.*

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*If you are able, please hold each element until all have been served and the minister will signal when to partake.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**SENDING**

\*HYMN

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low-ly bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,  
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heaven and earth a-dore;  
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last

so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav-en-ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.

\*CHARGE and BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*, BuxWV 223  
(*How lovely shines the morning star*)

Dietrich Buxtehude

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## WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

On the cover: James Tissot, 1836-1902. *Journey of the Magi*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Tissot's "Life of Our Lord Jesus Christ" project took nearly ten years to complete. When it was done, it chronicled the entire life of Jesus as recorded in the New Testament in a series of 350 watercolors. To research the project Tissot traveled to Egypt, Syria, and Palestine in 1886–87 and again in 1890. While in the Holy Land he closely observed the landscape, the vegetation, the architecture, and the manner of dress, and filled sketchbooks with what he saw. He talked with rabbis and studied Talmudic literature as well as theological and historical volumes. He believed that there was still a remaining "aura" in the places where the Gospel events took place, and he spoke of having mystical experiences that added to his careful research. What he wanted to create was something as close as possible to an eyewitness account of the life of Jesus." [from Terry Glaspey's "75 Masterpieces Every Christian Should Know"]

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**Welcome to worship** online and limited onsite with Germantown Presbyterian Church. Our sincere prayer is that you will find a place here among those who already call GPC home. We know these are difficult days, and we are so glad you can join our service in the way you feel most comfortable. We are truly glad God brought you here!

**Interested in joining GPC?** *You are welcome here!* For more information on how to join, please contact Kathleen Boyd at 901-833-3413 or [kkboyd@comcast.net](mailto:kkboyd@comcast.net).

**GPC's pastors** can always be reached in an emergency or crisis. Please call the church, 901-754-5195, and then press 1 to reach the on-call pastor.

### If you reserved a poinsettia

in honor or memory of a loved one and you wish to pick it up,  
you may do so any time this coming week  
at the church office (between 9:00am & 4:30pm).

**IF YOU HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO SUBMIT YOUR 2021 PLEDGE AND WOULD LIKE TO,  
FILL OUT A CARD FROM YOUR PEW AND PUT IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR GO  
ONLINE TO [GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG/2021-PLEDGE-COMMITMENT/](http://GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG/2021-PLEDGE-COMMITMENT/).**

## Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements Week of January 3, 2021

*Sign in to the online Friendship Pad [here](#) to indicate you attended the service, whether onsite or online, (and/or to ask the ministers any questions) and thank you for worshipping with us this Sunday.*

As part of the Church Family Prayer Program, members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up. This week please pray for: Christine/Tom Adams, Kirsty; Cathy/Ruffin Borden; Jennie Fulmer; Susan Jones; Kirsten/Paul King; Lalla Mellor; Leigh Powers; Mary/Rodney Strop.

In January, please pray for these churches in the Presbytery:  
Grace Presbyterian Church, Bartlett, TN  
The Presbytery of the Mid-South, Staff & Volunteers

*Note: Any text that is [blue](#) is an active link in the electronic version.  
You can click on that to go to a webpage or send an email.*

### GPC NEWS

**Church members and friends beware:** churches and members are often targeted for scams, especially during the holidays. Please be aware that **no staff member will ever email or text you asking for help or money.**

**GPC's Wednesday evening Compass** program will not meet in the winter and spring of 2021 due to COVID. Keep watching social media and the website for more Compass details.

**Did you know GPC has 2 video channels? We do! And make sure you subscribe!** The more subscribers we have, the more we can post! If you missed any of the videos for any reason, you can catch them on either one of these channels.

> Check out the Vimeo channel [here](#)  
> and the YouTube channel [here](#).

**Help Needed with Worship Services:** GPC is looking for volunteers who want to join an ongoing team that will form the core group who works with the audio-visual process of the livestream during Sunday morning and evening worship services. The people already participating will be happy to train you, and all you have to do is learn the user-friendly system. In addition, the volunteer will switch camera views during certain parts of the service for our livestreaming. It's all very easy, and yet vitally important to our expanding Internet presence. Please consider volunteering, and if you are interested you can contact the church office at [communications@germantownpres.org](mailto:communications@germantownpres.org).



## ADULTS

Women: Membership in Presbyterian Women (PW) is open to all women and strives to help develop the gifts and talents of all women in our church. It's a great way to meet the other women of the church and grow in your faith. Please consider joining in as we unite with other women of the church and commit to helping every woman develop into the person God intends her to be and grow spiritually through prayer, Bible study, and mission work, keeping our hearts open to God's call to action and involvement. Individual Bible Study Circles meet the first Tuesday of every month on Zoom for now with both morning and evening options. For more information please call Nancy Halter, Moderator, 901-454-3268 or Bonnie Algee, Vice Moderator, 901-674-2613.

Men: The men of GPC have resumed Zoom meetings for their Sunrise Men's Breakfast Friday mornings at 6:30am. If you'd like to be involved in that fellowship and Bible study, contact Drayton Mayers at [draytonmayers@gmail.com](mailto:draytonmayers@gmail.com). In addition, the men's lunch devotion group has resumed meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 1pm via Zoom, so if you'd like to be plugged into that group, please contact Anthony Duke at [anthony.duke@ipaper.com](mailto:anthony.duke@ipaper.com).

Onsite/online Sunday morning adult class: Coffee and Conversations is a hybrid online/onsite class that meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room in the elementary hallway downstairs following worship. Join the class any Sunday as this group begins a new series on **ENGAGE 2021** in January led by Pastor Will.

## SPECIAL NEEDS

**Jump on Board!! The Special Needs Elementary Sunday School Class needs you!** We need 2 teacher assistants. You would be helping under the guidance of our exceptional teachers, Mary K. Grantham or Julie Lindow! You would be teaching on a rotational schedule! This way teachers, assistants, and students get the best of both worlds.

You get to touch the lives of our special friends and you can still attend adult SS class! If you'd like to volunteer or ask questions please email me at [specialneeds@germantownpres.org](mailto:specialneeds@germantownpres.org) or call 901-626-3380.

**AMPLify**, one of GPC's PEACE Ministry programs, is on Christmas break and will return in January. Meanwhile, look for their special Christmas music program in GPC's social media (Facebook, YouTube, and Vimeo). This music program allows students who are differently abled to showcase their gifts and talents through rhythm, melody, and spontaneity and is led by the very talented, Noel Wilkins.

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming special needs events. If you would like to be on the Special Needs Ministry email list, please email [specialneeds@germantownpres.org](mailto:specialneeds@germantownpres.org).

## SPECIAL NEEDS & CHILDREN

**GPC's *Breathe* Parents' Night Out (PNO) finished 2020 strong!** Join us on January 15. *Breathe* exists to provide a quiet night out for parents and a fun Bible experience with friends for kids. For the 2020-21 school year the theme is *Parable Quest* - the fun and excitement of exploring the Amazon rainforest is combined with the discovery of what it means to "follow Jesus on a life-changing adventure." The Bible focus verse for the year is: John 13:13 - *You call me teacher and Lord and rightly so for that is what I am.*

Make plans for your children to attend! Remember we include little ones as young as one year old through fifth grade as well as children with special needs. Visit our website at [www.germantownpres.org/breathe](http://www.germantownpres.org/breathe) to register for the first time and/or to make a monthly reservation. We will look for you in the months to come. (Please note: reservations for this event close at noon on the Monday prior to the event.) The cost is \$15/child per event night (includes a pizza dinner). Scholarships are available upon request. If requesting a scholarship, while checking out choose the "cash" option and contact 901-754-5195 to speak with Anna.

## CHILDREN

Sunday morning adult class onsite and online for parents with children in Sunday School: Coffee and Conversations is a hybrid online/onsite class that meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room in the elementary hallway downstairs following worship. Join the class any Sunday as this group begins a new series on **ENGAGE 2021** in January led by Pastor Will.

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming children's events. If you would like to be on the Children's Ministry email list, please contact Family Ministry Director Anna White at [children@germantownpres.org](mailto:children@germantownpres.org).

## YOUTH

Sunday mornings and afternoons: Youth meet for Sunday School from 10:45 – 11:45am onsite and on Zoom and for Sunday afternoon fellowship from 4:30-6:30pm including dinner. \*Due to the logistics of Youth Group at 4:30pm, Zoom is only available for 10:45am Sunday School at this time.



Watch the youth eblast for information about the special Hot Chocolate Meeting Events coming up for the youth and their parents to meet Christopher Greco this month.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** If you are participating in Sunday School by Zoom, please bring a Bible to class! Also, look for a special email with papers to print for Sunday School.

Verse to Remember: Luke 19:10... "For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

To participate in the Bible reading plans, youth, here's what you do:

1. Download youversion
2. Open your yourversion Bible app.
3. Go to the "reading plans."
4. Search "It's Personal."

If you would like to be on the Youth Ministry email list, please email [youth@germantownpres.org](mailto:youth@germantownpres.org).

## MISSIONS

*In case you missed it. (ICYMI)*

**Resources to help the homeless:** There are some terrific ways to help the homeless in the Germantown/Memphis area. If you want to help, please donate and/or give out the numbers listed here:

1. Hospitality Hub - 901-522-1808 [info@hospitalityhub.org](mailto:info@hospitalityhub.org)
2. Room in the Inn (RITI) - 901-395-3329 [innkeeper@roomintheinn-memphis.org](mailto:innkeeper@roomintheinn-memphis.org)
3. MIFA - 901-527-0208 [jseacat@mifa.org](mailto:jseacat@mifa.org)

**Remember – don't give out anyone's personal number!**

**Room in the Inn (RITI) Memphis has temporarily suspended housing the homeless due to the rise of COVID.** However, donations are always welcome. You can drop off various toiletries in the bin in the Activity Center labelled RITI.

**To sign up and/or volunteer to help and/or for more info about other ways you can get involved, email Susan Shirley Hurt at [susanshirleyhurt@gmail.com](mailto:susanshirleyhurt@gmail.com).**



**UKirk Memphis** is a ministry serving the campuses of Rhodes College, the University of Memphis, and beyond. UKirk is a nationwide campus ministry affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in partnership with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We seek to reach, love, and teach college students to be lifelong followers of Jesus Christ. In the season of COVID-19, we have pivoted from our normal in-person events to holding our weekly gatherings online for a time of fellowship, conversation, and prayer. We are holding some small socially distant gatherings outdoors, along with providing opportunities for one-on-one conversation with the campus minister. We have also sent care packages to our students as tangible reminders that they are loved! Although we are doing ministry differently this year, its importance in the spiritual lives of our students has not waivered, nor has our need for support from congregations and individuals.

We ask for your prayers for our students as they navigate life in this time. And if you feel called to donate financially, you can do so online at [www.ukirkmemphis.com](http://www.ukirkmemphis.com) under the "Support Us" tab. There you can also sign up for our quarterly newsletter. If you would rather write a check, you can make it out to the Presbytery of the Mid-South with UKirk in the memo line and send to the Presbytery office at 449 Patterson St. Memphis, TN 38111. UKirk Memphis sends a big thank you to Germantown Presbyterian Church for their continued support of our ministry!

Questions? Contact Rev. Elizabeth Doolin, the UKirk Campus Minister, at [ukirk-memphis@gmail.com](mailto:ukirk-memphis@gmail.com).

Follow us on social media! On Instagram and Twitter @ UkirkMemphis, and Facebook @ UKirkatMemphis

**Our Ghana missions team** asks that you pray for good health and safety for our friends in the Upper Presbytery as well as the country of Ghana. Our committee remains in contact with the Upper Presbytery, as they too are being impacted by Covid19. They are behind us in numbers of confirmed cases; however, as we have all witnessed, these numbers will climb.

The Upper Presbytery sends their prayers and well wishes to all members of our GPC church family. Our Ghana missions committee will share their needs as we come to know them. If you feel called to support them, we will share more details soon of how you can. If you have questions, please contact team members Erin Bowden (901-371-7884) or Beth Brock (901-355-0262).

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

**GPC Prayer Ministry** - These times are filled with anxiety and unrest. We as a church want to pray for all our members. There are several ways to request prayer. The website has a prayer request link toward the bottom of the homepage page with praying hands graphic. We also have replenished the pew prayer cards. Just fill them out and put them in the offering plate. Another way is the email that church member Margaret Owens oversees. The address is [margaretowens1@aol.com](mailto:margaretowens1@aol.com). Or you can also send a prayer request to the pastors at [prayers@germantownpres.org](mailto:prayers@germantownpres.org). The pastors also pray over all confidential prayer requests. This is a great way for us to get renewed strength during these uncertain times.

**GPC offers a Grief Support Ministry.** The Grief Support Group isn't meeting together currently, but if you or someone you know needs to talk to someone, note your options below. Contact the church office (901-754-5195) or **Stephanie Wall**, Certified Grief Counselor, American Academy of Grief Counseling and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, Grief Recovery Institute (901-494-7786) or **Beth Brock** (901-355-0262) or **Linda Oakes** (901-237-6566).

**GPC family: please be assured that GPCKids, PEACE the Special Needs Ministry, and GPC Youth all follow the CDC/WHO COVID-19 guidelines to ensure the safety of our participants and our leaders as we resume meeting onsite.**

If you're reading this digitally, you can click [here](#) to read the updated policies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Director of Family Ministry Anna White at [family@germantownpres.org](mailto:family@germantownpres.org).

### GIVING

Even if you're not here physically, you can give to support the ministries of GPC during this time. For more information please call Fred Turverey in the church office at 901-754-5195.



**Set up a recurring or one-time donation by texting the amount you wish to give to 901-295-0202.**



**Download the "GivePlus Church" app to set up recurring or one-time donations. You can also manage and view your giving from the convenience of your smartphone!**



**Visit [germantownpres.org/giving](http://germantownpres.org/giving) or scan the QR code on the left to set up and manage your recurring or one-time gifts.**