



May 2, 2021

2363 S. Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

**Please stand.*
Communion Sunday

Please silence electronic devices.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Marianne Kim

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

BELL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 22:25; 1 John 4:7; Acts 8:26-40)

Ms. Jill Crocker, Liturgist

Leader: Let our praise for all that God has done resound within and beyond these walls.

People: **God's love abides in us for the sake of those who do not know the love of God.**

Leader: When the weak realize their strength, and the poor eat until they are satisfied,

People: **Then - God's love will be known because we've shared with those in need.**

Leader: As the stranger finds a friend; as a family offers forgiveness,

People: **Then - God's love will be known as it is shared from one person to the next.**

Leader: Then - justice and peace will surely embrace for the sake of human kind.

ALL: Let our praise for all that God has done resound within and beyond these walls.

Let us worship God, together, celebrating our unity in Christ our Lord.

*OPENING HYMN

God is Here!

ABBOTT'S LEIGH



1. God is here! As we his peo - ple, Meet to of - fer
2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us Of our life - long
3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come In the Shep - herd's
4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, In an age of



1. praise and prayer, May we find in full - er mea - sure
2. need of grace; Here are ta - ble, font and pul - pit,
3. flock and fold; Here, as bread and wine are tak - en,
4. change and doubt, Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel,



1. What it is in Christ we share: Here, as in the world a -
2. Here the cross has cen - tral place: Here in hon - es - ty of
3. Christ sus - tains us as of old: Here the ser - vants of the
4. Help us work your pur - pose out: Here, in this day's ded - i -



1. round us, All our var - ied skills and arts Wait the com - ing
2. preach - ing, Here in si - lence as in speech, Here in new - ness
3. Ser - vant Seek in wor - ship to ex - plore What it means in
4. ca - tion, All we have to give, re - ceive; We who can - not



1. of his Spir - it In - to o - pen minds and hearts.
2. and re - new - al God the Spir - it comes to each.
3. dai - ly liv - ing To be - lieve and to a - dore.
4. live with - out you, We a - dore you! We be - lieve!

*CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

Gracious God, we believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another, yet we confess that we do not always live up to our beliefs. We do not live into the unity of the church, as Christ has called us to be one body. Instead, we see separation and hatred everywhere we look, and yet, we remain silent, doing nothing to mend the breaches. Forgive us, we pray. Help us, God, to love one another and practice hospitality, community, and relationship-building with all of your children. Help us, God, to be agents of unity, in the church and in the world that you have created. Through us, let your love flow.

(Silence for personal prayer)

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

People: Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*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

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

Laudate Dominum (from *Vespers Solemnis*)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Kallen Esperian, soprano

*Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people. For He has bestowed His mercy upon us,
And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mr. Tom Sauer

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

1 John 4:7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts 8:26-40

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.” ³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Belong, Believe, Bless: Sharing God’s Inclusive Love

Rev. Wiggins

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Mental Health Awareness

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**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

Ms. Kirsten King

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING and THE LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

Rev. Wiggins

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Ms. King

SENDING

*HYMN

O for a World

AZMON

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

*CHARGE and BLESSING...

Rev. Wiggins

*POSTLUDE

Rejoicing in God

Colin Curtis

WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

Special thanks to our guest soloist today, acclaimed soprano Kallen Esperian. Thank you, Kallen, for helping sanctify our worship with your talents this morning!

On the cover: Paul Goodnight, *Ethiopian Eunuch*.

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.

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.

The flowers in worship today are given to the glory of God by Ann Harbor in memory of her late husband, Jim.

Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements Week of May 2, 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: Jeff Bowlin; Emily & Chad Coursey, Cate, Sam & Thomas; Sharon & Jim Goldsworthy; Kimm & Andrew Harris, Emma Grace, Colton, Beau; Rebecca Laine; Margaret Owens; Susan & Mike Threlkeld; Susie Wiggins.

In May, please pray for these churches in the Presbytery:

First Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon, TN

Anderson Presbyterian Church, Jackson TN

First Presbyterian Church, Jackson TN

*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.*

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.

ADULTS

Sunday morning adult classes offered limited onsite and online:

Coffee and Conversations is a hybrid online/limited onsite class that meets from 10:45-11:45am in UL-218 in the new adult education wing. This class was designed especially for parents with children in Sunday School onsite. Pastor Mike is leading this class using the new Engage 2021 study with a focus on evangelism. To participate, contact Anna White at annaw@germantownpres.org.

Hits of the Ages Class, coordinators Liz (lizcallicott@bellsouth.net) and Alan Callicott (alan@callicottinsurance.com) - This class begins at 11am following worship and is studying the book of Genesis with the "Genesis to Revelation" study series. Currently this class meets primarily on Zoom. Beginning May 16, Pastor Mike Lyle will facilitate the ENGAGE series for 7 weeks. For information and how to join/participate with this class, contact the class coordinators.

Psalm 78 Class, coordinators Stacy Weiss (stacy.weiss@comcast.net) and Kevin Floyd (kevinfloyd@comcast.net) - This class, which is made up of parents of school-age children, is currently looking at a book *Depending on Jesus: Discovering the Sufficiency of Christ*. They meet on Zoom each Sunday at 11am and would like to invite other young parents to jump onboard! The class will continue to be held over Zoom. If we decide to meet in person, we will still offer a Zoom option. For information and how to join/participate with this class, contact the class coordinators.

Seekers Class, coordinators Randy Harris (randyfarris2@yahoo.com) and Lanny Oakes (lannyoakes@bellsouth.net) - Having recently completed the new Engage 2021 study with a focus on mission led by Pastor Susie, the group has returned to their study of the OT book of Isaiah. Beginning May 16, 2021 they will begin either "Old Testament Characters" or "New Testament Characters." Then on July 11, 2021, Pastor Mike Lyle will facilitate the Engage series for 7 weeks. This class continues to meet exclusively via Zoom. For information and how to join/participate with this class, contact the class coordinators.

The dedicated group of women known as Paula's Hearts and Hands enjoy meeting together to knit prayer shawls, baby blankets, booties, hats, and other things for those in need of prayer and support. They pray over each item produced and often watch a Bible Study series together. They have resumed meeting in person at church in Warren Hall. To find out more about this class, contact Mary Rogers at mlrogers44@bellsouth.net.

GPC members are invited to join a 6 week Zoom Bible Study on the Book of Revelation led by Idlewild Presbyterian member (and former GPC member) Mary Edith Walker. The study began Thursday, April 15 at 10:00am. Your Bible will be your guide. Last fall 7 members from GPC participated in her Bible Study and really enjoyed it! Please contact Barbara Armstrong (b2armst@gmail.com) to sign up or with any questions.

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. In addition, the men's lunch devotion group has resumed meeting on the 2nd and 4th 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.

SPECIAL NEEDS

FUTURE FAMILY FUN:



Coming in May 2021:

Mother's Day is such a special day! Check out this article from Country Living, for 37 ideas to celebrate with our mothers: **37 Mother's Day Activities to Celebrate Her Special Day**. I hope you enjoy their ideas! God bless our mothers!



Coming in June 2021:

Check out this **"Father's Day" celebration event, 6/18/21, 5-9PM**

A Special Night for Special Kids A private and FREE event, offered to children AND adults with special needs, and their families.

The evening event includes tethered balloon rides and glow, as well as festival and kids' zone activities. For more

information: <https://thebluffcityballoonjamboree.com>.

To register to attend: [Special Night for Special Kids Application \(wufoo.com\)](https://www.wufoo.com)

We love and thank God for our fathers!

SPECIAL NEEDS & CHILDREN

GPC's Breathe/ Parent's Night Out (PNO): Do not despair! We are having talks about the Breathe/Parent's Night Out program and wish to bring it back as much as you'd love to see it restored! It is also our desire to have this program in full swing, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding!

CHILDREN

Sunday morning adult class limited onsite and online for parents with children in Sunday School: Coffee and Conversations is a hybrid online/limited onsite class that meets from 10:45-11:45am in UL-218 in the new adult education wing (temporarily moved from downstairs). This class is led by Pastor Mike continuing the Engage series on evangelism.

VBS is the week of June 7 – 11, 9:00am – noon, for 3-year-olds (potty trained) through rising 5th graders as of the coming August school year. Registration is now open for participants, and it will stay open through April 30. Also, adult and youth volunteers are needed! You may read the adult and youth volunteer job descriptions by clicking on the volunteer registration forms located at www.germantownpres.org/vbs. Please sign up to volunteer on these online sign-up forms! Supply donations are needed, and you may grab an item that you would like to donate on the supply boards located in the AC Lobby. VBS Decorating Day is Sunday, June 6 from 10:30am (following worship) – 3:00pm and will include a pizza lunch. Please mark your calendar for all of these important dates. Please go online to register or volunteer at www.germantownpres.org/vbs. You may email Anna White with questions annaw@germantownpres.org. Thank you for supporting our children in their faith development through Vacation Bible School!

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.

YOUTH

Youth Sunday School begins a new theme for May with Christopher about establishing good habits to maintain a healthy relationship with God.

If you would like to be on the Youth Ministry email list, please email youth@germantownpres.org.

MISSIONS

In case you missed it. (ICYMI)

May 2021: **Memphis Athletic Ministries** is gearing up for the summer months and would love to get GPC members involved with our Summer Academy. Summer Academy is focused on slowing "summer slide" for rising 3rd - 8th grade students across the city. Historically, Memphis students decline in their reading and math due to learning inactivity in the summer months and MAM is working hard to combat that decline. We provide all-day activities to keep students engaged in learning in a fun and safe environment. MAM families pay \$50 for the entire 5-week summer program. To offset costs, we are asking for support from friends across the city to cover our expenses to provide excellent programs to our families. To get involved, visit www.mamsports.org/summer to DONATE NOW!

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 |
| 2. Room in the Inn (RITI) - | 901-395-3329 | innkeeper@roomintheinn-memphis.org |
| 3. MIFA - | 901-527-0208 | jseacat@mifa.org |

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

Room in the Inn (RITI) Memphis is always looking for volunteers, and donations are always welcome. You can drop off various toiletries in the bin in the Activity Center labelled RITI.

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 waived, nor has our need for support from congregations and individuals.

Questions? Contact Rev. Elizabeth Doolin, the UKirk Campus Minister, at ukirk-memphis@gmail.com. Follow us on social media! On Instagram and Twitter @ UKirkMemphis, and Facebook @ UKirkatMemphis

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. Or you can also send a prayer request to the pastors at 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.

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 or scan the QR code on the left to set up and manage your recurring or one-time gifts.



**Mail checks to:
2363 S Germantown Rd
Germantown TN 38138.**