



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H



September 19, 2021
8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

** Please stand.*

Please silence electronic devices.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Lauren Hunt Pedersen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Will Jones

CHIME INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 8)

Mrs. Elaine Cates (8:30)

Mrs. Katherine Burnett (11:00)

Leader: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory in the heavens.

**People: Through the praise of children and infants,
you have established a stronghold against your enemies.**

Leader: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place:

**People: What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?**

Leader: Yet you have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet.

People: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

*HYMN 210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

*CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

Holy God, show us your mercy and grace. Our faith is often not visible for others to see. We hide it under a basket, not wanting our light to shine. We are nervous around others when it comes to faith: afraid to be judged, to stand out, to be different from the world. Please forgive our tepid loyalty, and please have mercy on our fickle faith. Forgive us and inspire us to live like Jesus, engaging the world in faith and living as a witness to your coming kingdom.

(Time of 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.

TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS (11:00)

Presentation of Bibles to: Samuel Alden Coursey, Abigail Nan Draughon, & William Talmadge Gunn Harris

THE WORD

ANTHEM (11:00)

Grace

Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir Ensemble

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch; like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed! Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come: 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Jones

GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:33-37 (Pew Bible pg 821)

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

EPISTLE READING: James 3:13-4:3 (Pew Bible pg 981)

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come

from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

James: Ambition for God

Dr. Jones

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles’ Creed

Rev. Mike Lyle

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Lord, Make Me an Instrument
Desiree Soto, soprano

Jonathan Willcocks

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, may there be union; where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, let there be hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, may there be joy! May we all be in peace, and only peace, and may that peace come unto each of us.

*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.**

SENDING

*HYMN 420

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE and BLESSING

Dr. Jones

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on CWM RHONDDA

Paul Manz

Welcome to worship online and 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!



Scan the QR code to sign in to the online Friendship Pad.

Interested in joining GPC? *You are welcome here!* For more information on how to join, please contact Amy Phillips at (901) 647-6433 or by email is amybirdwellphillips@gmail.com.

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.

WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

On the cover: Olusola David, Ayibiowu. *Wisdom*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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COVID Guidelines: The Session met on Thursday, September 17, and agreed to leave in place our current guidelines regarding our communal life at this stage of the pandemic (with a minor exception regarding choir/singers). For the next four weeks, the Session strongly recommends that everyone wear a mask while indoors. We believe this is a demonstration of self-sacrificial love for those who cannot be vaccinated for reasons of age (children under 12) or health. Everyone working with

children under twelve (i.e. Sunday School teachers, nursery workers, etc.) shall wear a mask. We will continue to rely on expert medical advice as we discuss and discern what is best for our congregation, and we encourage everyone to do the same for themselves and their families. Groups where children are not involved may self-regulate their meeting space and procedures, subject to the above statements. The Director of Music has been given permission to explore how more singers may take part in the choir loft, provided they sing while wearing masks, and a soloist may remove his or her mask to sing if he or she is appropriately spaced from the congregation and other singers.

Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements *Week of September 19, 2021*

Church Family Prayer Program: Members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up. This week please pray for: Katherine & Bill Burnett, Billy; Elaine Dellinger; Betty & Don Dowden; Tricia & Jeff Harris, Joseph, Talmadge; Amy & Jim Morse, Andrew, Thomas & Win; Diane Short; Kwassi Walters, Dilon, Isabella.

Children's Music Begins Today, September 19: GPCKids is ramping up the music program for the new year, but there are some differences. Children from preschool through 5th grade are invited to stay after the 11:00am worship, enjoy a light snack lunch and learn music – vocal and instrumental. They will also play games and take part in fun activities. Pick-up time is 1:30pm. Please email Alex Benford if you have questions and/or would like to be involved: alex@germantownpres.org.

Nursery Open Sunday Nights: The nursery will be open during the Sunday evening worship service. If you've been prevented from attending because you need childcare, now is your time! Come join us.

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

Oakland Presbyterian Church, Oakland, TN

First Presbyterian Church, Paris, TN

Marl Bluff Church, Reagan, TN

1st Presbyterian Church, Rosemark, TN

New Mobile App for Contributions: Our credit card processor has updated the mobile app that we use for contributions to GPC. This change applies only to new contributions and changes to existing contributions. It will not impact any existing recurring contributions that are made by credit card or direct transfer from your bank account. The previous application (MobileAccess) will not be supported after September 30.

If you need to make a new contribution or change an existing contribution after September 30, you will need to download the [new Vanco Mobile app](#) from the App Store or the Google Play Store. Just find Germantown Presbyterian Church and log in to this app with your existing user name and password to make your contribution – one-time or recurring – just as you have in the past.

If you have questions about this process, please call Fred Turverey in the GPC office at 901-754-5195.

Save the Date: Sunday, October 3 is World Communion Sunday. GPC welcomes guest preacher Rev. James Awuni from Ghana. A mission luncheon in Warren Fellowship Hall will follow the 11:00am worship service.

Lost and Found:

Lost: Set of keys from the front office. Police car key chain. If you've borrowed these keys, please return them to the office as soon as possible. Thanks.

Found: Dark men's suit jacket is in the church office. Contact office@germantownpres.org or come by to claim.

Audio Visual 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. 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.

Special Needs Program: There are many volunteer opportunities each week in our special needs program, including our Wednesday lunch and Friendship Circle, our Thursday morning *Amplify* music program, and our Friday morning JoyLife901 Breakfast Club meetings. For more information about participation and/or volunteering, please contact Jackie Classen at specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

Feed our Youth! Youth Sunday activities have begun, and we would love your help in providing them food. You can provide breakfast, supper, or both. Click or copy and paste [here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4fabaf23a2f9c07-gpcyouth) (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4fabaf23a2f9c07-gpcyouth>) to sign up to bring the youth food. Thanks for your help. If you have any questions, want to volunteer with GPC youth, or would like to be on the Youth Ministry email list, please email youth@germantownpres.org.

Memphis Food Bank Mobile Pantry has set up a mobile food donation site at Idlewild Presbyterian Church, and more volunteers are needed to sign up and help Idlewild volunteers distribute food. The volunteers staff this site two (2) times a month on Wednesday mornings from 8:00am-10:30am; at least 25 volunteers are needed. Go to this website [here](#)

(<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084eaaac22aafa7-idlewild>) to sign up to help give out food to our hungry neighbors.

Mentors for Memphis Athletic Ministries: MAM is searching for men and women who will commit to mentor a high school student for this upcoming school year. Mentors will be matched with students accepted into our Mentoring Program. Students are hand selected and hired by MAM to work in our sites and gain college and career training. Mentors will help these students set goals and take the steps to reach those goals and prepare them for life after MAM. For more information or to sign up, go to: www.mamsports.org/volunteer.

Grief Support Ministry: The Grief Support Group has begun meeting regularly again on the second Thursday of every month from 6:00-7:30pm in Warren Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact the church office (901-754-5195) or office@germantownpres.org.

GPC Prayer Ministry – As a church, we pray for all our members during the year. There are several ways to request prayer. We 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.



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