



GERMANTOWN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
C·H·U·R·C·H



*September 26, 2021*  
*8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.*

*\*Please stand.  
devices.*

*Please   silence   electronic*

## ***GATHERING***

PRELUDE

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Marianne Kim

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

CHIME INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 124; James 5)

(8:30) Mr. Dan Young  
(11:00) Mr. Graham Askew

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

**People: Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!**

Leader: Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.

**People: We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.  
We come to worship and praise Almighty God!**

\* HYMN 145

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

MARION

\*CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

**God of unity, you know our transgressions, our hidden faults, our secret sins. You know when we choose to exclude others and seek division over your desire for unity for humankind. Forgive us, gracious God, and lead us in your holy way of life and love and peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*(Time of personal prayer)*

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

**People: Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI

**Glorify 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.**

PRESENTATION OF 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WORSHIP LEADERS (11:00)

Marjorie Reynolds

Bo Hornberg

Tyler Robinson, Grey Smith, Thomas Coursey, Max Lino,  
Jacob Schepman, Wells Grantham, Jay Floyd

***THE WORD***

MEDITATION IN MUSIC (11:00)

*Pietà, Signore*

attr. Alessandro Stradella

Karen Schowalter Cooper, mezzo-soprano

*Have mercy, Lord, on me in my remorse! Lord, have mercy if my prayer rises to you; do not chastise me in your severity, less harshly, always mercifully, look down on me. Never let me be condemned to hell in the eternal fire by your severity. Have mercy, Lord.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tyler Robinson

A READING FROM PSALMS

Tyler Robinson

*Psalm 5:2-3* - Listen to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you I pray.

O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I plead my case to you, and watch.

*Psalm 69:13* - As for me, my prayer is to you, O Lord. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.

*Psalm 121:1-2* - I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES: James 5:13-18

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Faith That Works: The Power of Prayer

Rev. Wiggins

## *RESPONSE TO THE WORD*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Confession of Belhar

Rev. Mike Lyle

**We believe in God – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church. We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints, called from the entire human family. We believe the church is the single community of believers, reconciled with God and with one another. We believe that through the working of God’s Spirit, unity is a binding force and also that we must seek this unity, which must become visible to the world. We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups has been conquered by Christ. We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal. And, we pledge to make this unity active in all of our words, thoughts, and deeds. Amen.**

(Article 1 and the beginning of Article 2 of The Confession of Belhar, The Book of Confessions, Part I of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.], compiled by Barbara Hedges-Goettl. Used with permission).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

Mr. Tom Sauer

**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

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*  
Phil Russell, tenor

Charles H. Gabriel

\*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 403

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

\*CHARGE and BLESSING

Rev. Wiggins

**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](mailto: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.

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## **WORSHIP ARTS TODAY**

**On the cover:** Dürer, Albrecht, 1471-1528. *Praying Hands, or Study of the Hands of an Apostle*, 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.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Worship Leader for September



The Fifth Grade *Bridge* program exists to guide children as they begin to live their lives of faith in Jesus Christ, to encourage friendships among one another, to actively participate in worship and church life, and to successfully transition to GPC youth. Throughout the year you will see 5th-graders reading scripture in worship, participating in retreats and fellowship activities, gathering to meet junior high students, mentoring younger GPCKids at VBS, and serving in the community through Mission 901. The September worship leader is Tyler Robinson.

Tyler Christian Robinson is our 5th Grade Worship Leader today. He is the son of Ashley and David Robinson and big brother to Charlotte and Anne Louise. Tyler attends 5th grade at Forest Hill Elementary School.

### *Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements* *Week of September 26, 2021*

**Church Family Prayer Program:** Members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up. This week please pray for: Cathy & David Aslin, Molly & Meghan; Katie Burrow; Ginny Cifaldi; Marilyn & John Donnelly; Karen & Bill Fesmire; JW McAllister; Ann & Roscoe Phillips; Kay Shelton.

**GPC welcomes guest preacher Rev. James Awuni from Ghana to celebrate World Communion Sunday, October 3.** Rev. James K. Awuni is the Chairperson of the Upper Presbytery, Presbyterian Church of Ghana. He is the former pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Bolgatanga, the Bolgatanga District Minister, and the Director of Finance of the Upper Presbytery.

The Ghana Mission Team will host a luncheon following the 11:00am worship on October 3, and you are all invited to attend. Pastor James will share updates on the Upper Presbytery's mission and evangelism work. Please RSVP to Ann DeVere in the church office (901-754-5195 or [office@germantownpres.org](mailto:office@germantownpres.org)) by September 28 so we can know the number of box lunches to order.

**GPC's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Retreat is Back!** This year the retreat will be a one-day event held at GPC on Saturday, November 6 from 9am – 4pm. Mouth-watering cinnamon rolls will be provided by Pinecrest, and lunch and snacks will be provided by the Women's Retreat Planning Team. This year's theme is: *Generation after Generation: learning from, becoming, and handing down women's wisdom.* And for those of you with kids, Pastor Will is working with the Retreat team to come up with a dad/kid

event for that day. Women's retreat tee shirts are available for purchase as well. Registration opens Monday, October 4 on the GPC website. For more information, contact Pastor Susie at [susiew@germantownpres.org](mailto:susiew@germantownpres.org).

**Children's Music Wants You!** GPCKids is ramping up the music program for the new year, but there are some differences. Children from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> 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: [alexb@germantownpres.org](mailto:alexb@germantownpres.org).

**Nursery Open Sunday Nights:** The nursery is now open Sunday evenings from 5:00pm – 7:30pm. If you haven't come on Sunday nights 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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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/508084eaac22aafa7-idlewild) (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084eaac22aafa7-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](http://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](mailto: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](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.