

**Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – August 9, 2020**  
**Join us on You Tube!**

**Greeting**

**Call to Worship** [*responsive*]

We wait with hope,  
**for God's promises are sure.**  
We wait with patience,  
**for God's time is a mystery.**  
Come and worship.  
**We will wait upon the Lord together.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Call to Confession**

Our God is merciful and compassionate,  
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.  
God is close to all who call on the Lord in truth,  
listening to their cries for help, and offering them wholeness.

So let us bring our confession to God,  
knowing that God will hear our prayers and forgive us.

**Prayer of Confession** [*together*]

**Holy God, we are not the people we should be.**  
**Fear holds us captive; worry weighs us down.**  
**We make choices for ourselves, neglecting others.**  
**We fail to see the truth,**  
**seeing ourselves as too much, or too little.**  
**You have made us for wholeness, and you call us back to you,**  
**and so we pray for your forgiveness,**  
**and your grace to start again.**  
**In Jesus' name, Amen.**

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

**Assurance of Pardon**

The Risen Christ is here, restoring, empowering, and strengthening us.  
We are established as God's beloved people.  
**We are forgiven and made new in Christ's love.**

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

## Music for Reflection

### We Listen to God's Word

#### Scripture

Psalm 31:9-14, 19

<sup>9</sup> Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;  
my eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.

<sup>10</sup> For my life is spent with sorrow,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.

<sup>11</sup> I am the scorn of all my adversaries,  
a horror to my neighbors,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me.

<sup>12</sup> I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;  
I have become like a broken vessel.

<sup>13</sup> For I hear the whispering of many —  
terror all around! —  
as they scheme together against me,  
as they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup> But I trust in you, O Lord;  
I say, 'You are my God.'

<sup>19</sup> O how abundant is your goodness  
that you have laid up for those who fear you,  
and accomplished for those who take refuge in you,  
in the sight of everyone!

#### 2 Corinthians 12:7b-10

Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more

gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Leader: This is the Witness to God's Word. **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Things Get Broken: Us**

Rev. Mary Austin

## **We Respond to God's Grace**

### **Invitation to Generosity**

#### **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;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **We Depart for Service**

### **\*Announcements**

#### **Passing the Peace**

Greeting: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Response: "And also with you."

### **\*Commission & Benediction**

#### **Participating in the service:**

Mr. Michael Baxter, Worship Leader

Mr. Wade Meyers, Music Consultant / Organist

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the writing of Beth Merrill Neel.