

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – September 27, 2020
Join us on YouTube!

Greeting

Call to Worship [responsive]

O give thanks to God, call on God's name.

Let us make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing to God, sing praises to our Sovereign.

We will tell of all God's wonderful works.

Seek God and all the divine strength;

We seek God's presence continually.

Let us worship with thanksgiving!

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

Our God is a God of miracles and of mercy,
with grace extravagant and unexpected.

Trusting in that, let us bring our repentance to God.

Let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

**Saving God, we are your people
yet we fail to live in peace.**

**We are your voice in the world,
and we choose to be silent.**

**Forgive us, for ignoring your truth
and trusting our own wisdom.**

**Forgive us for what we fail to see about ourselves,
and for what we despise in each other.**

**Enable us to worship you
in spirit and in truth,
that your name might be glorified
through our words and lives. Amen.**

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the words of Jesus: "Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them."

As we gather to fulfill the law of love,
Christ is here to make us whole.
In the life and spirit of Jesus, we are forgiven and set free.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

Music for Reflection

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Scripture

Psalm 25:1-9

- ¹ To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- ² O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
- ³ Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- ⁴ Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.
- ⁶ Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
- ⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!
- ⁸ Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

Matthew 21:23-32

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' 24 Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

25 Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" 26 But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' 27 So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

28 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." 29 He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

Sermon

Two Kinds of People in the World

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. Ezekiel Anpoma, Mr. Daniel Anpoma and Mr. Stuart Hayes, Worship Leaders

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Mrs. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Rev. Mary Austin, Pastor