

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – November 8, 2020
Join us on YouTube!

Opening Music

"Amazing Grace"

Wade Meyers, vocalist

Greeting

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

Come all who are weary
of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division.

We are here, listening for God.

Come all who are heavy-laden
with too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger.

We are here, listening for God.

Come all who have hope
for liberation, for peace, for freedom, for the kingdom.

We are here, listening for God.

Hear these words: "See, I am making all things new."

Let us worship together.

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

Lord of mercy and grace, hear our prayer.

We come before you in need of healing:

The healing of our bodies and souls,

The healing of our relationships,

The healing of our pride and fear and apathy.

We know that with you, nothing is impossible,

not our healing or the restoration of the whole world.

We pray that you will heal us, that you will heal our world,

So that we will be freed to serve and love,

as Christ calls us. Amen.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Assurance of Pardon [*responsive*]

God is our security, a place of safety in hard times.

God is our refuge, and our way forward.

By grace, we are forgiven and made new.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

Music for Reflection

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Wade Meyers, vocalist

We Listen to God’s Word

Children’s Message

Carolyn Hayes

Scripture

Psalm 34:1–10, 22

- ¹ I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ² My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
- ³ O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.
- ⁴ I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- ⁶ This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,
and was saved from every trouble.
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- ⁸ O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.
- ⁹ O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
- ¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
- ²² The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Matthew 25:1–13

¹Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." ¹²But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

Sermon

Jesus Gives a Final Exam

Rev. Mary Austin

We Respond to God's Grace

Invitation to Generosity

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer [*together*]

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."

Closing Blessing

Closing Music

"Canzonetta"
Wade Meyers, organist

by Dietrich Buxtehude

Participating in the service:

Elder Lucy Nzelle and Oscar Ndive-Mongo, Worship Leaders

Mrs. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Call to Worship is from the writing of Rosie Venner.