



**Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – July 18, 2021**  
**Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**  
**Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.**

**Opening Music**

“It Is Well With My Soul”

**Greeting**

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

I will give thanks to God with my whole heart;

**I will tell everyone of the goodness and grace of God.**

I will be glad and rejoice in your name, O God Most High,

**For God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

Our ancestors knew of the mighty works of God.

**We will tell of your goodness, O God, so that a generation yet unborn  
might rise to praise you.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession** [*together*]

God of things both small and big, you call us to be faithful in our daily living, but sometimes we obsess over inconsequential matters and neglect the weightier matters of life – justice, mercy, and faith. And sometimes we are overwhelmed with the big things of this life, that we ignore the simple kindnesses that could make a real difference in someone’s life, maybe even our own.

Forgive our paralysis of analysis, O God, and help us to walk with you. Give us joy in our living and our giving, and increase our ability to trust you – with everything. Through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

## Assurance of Pardon

### We Listen to God's Word

#### Children's Message

Carolyn Hayes

#### Scripture

The Book of Ruth, selected verses

**1** <sup>1</sup>In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. <sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup>But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup>both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup>The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud.

<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you, or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!" <sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her...<sup>22</sup>So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

**2** <sup>1</sup>Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. <sup>2</sup>And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor." She said to her, "Go, my daughter." <sup>3</sup>So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech.

4 <sup>13</sup> So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son.... They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Wait. There's More.**

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

**Music for Reflection**

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

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

**Finding God in Our Journeys**

Dr. Elsie Gordon

**Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Prayers of the People**

**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 and Passing the Peace**

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

Response: "And also with you."

**Commission & Benediction**

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.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

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.



**Participating in the service:**

Ms. Abby Gordon, Elder Malvin Duncan – Worship Leaders  
Dr. Elsie Gordon – Storyteller  
Mr. Kevin Rose, Guest Pianist  
Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families  
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence