



Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – August 8, 2021
Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.

Opening Music

“Give Me Jesus”

Greeting

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

God has set this day before us,
A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.
God has set our lives before us,
A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.
God has set God’s seal upon our hearts,
So that we might live fully in deep love.
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Opening Prayer

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

Gracious God, source of all life,
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.
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

God the Creator brings you new life,
forgives and redeems you.
Take hold of this forgiveness,
and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Carolyn Hayes

Scripture

Acts 16:16–24

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

This is the witness to God's word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

How to Upset the Apple Cart

Rev. Mary Austin

Music for Reflection

Glory to God #298

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

We Respond to God’s Grace

Finding God in Our Journeys

Mansa Leighton-Armah

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

**This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.**

**This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
his hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.**

**This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heaven be one.**



Participating in the service:

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts
Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence and Rev. Mary Austin

The Call to Worship is from the Iona Community.