



Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – August 15, 2021
Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.

Opening Music

“Aria from the Goldberg Variations”

by J.S. Bach

Greeting

Call to Worship [*responsive*]

For the joy of human company, with shared stories,
friendly laughter and conversations that change us,
thanks be to God.

For a place that spans ages and cultures,
and is home to all who gather,
thanks be to God.

For the wonder of life,
and the decision of God to be here with us,
thanks be to God.

Let us worship together.

Opening Prayer

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

Almighty God,
we ask for your righteous judgment against others,
but do not see the sin in our own lives.

We worship you with our lips,
and dishonor you with our actions.

**We pray for you to end the suffering in our world,
yet we do not practice compassion.
Our religion is a source of quarreling
rather than a testimony to your grace.
Forgive us, we pray, and set us on the right path.**

[Silence for Personal Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon *[responsive]*

This is the good news of the gospel,
and it is for you and for all.
Whatever you have done, whatever you have failed to do,
whoever you are, whoever you wish you were but are not:
You are accepted, you are welcomed.
You are washed clean, you are raised up.
You are forgiven, you are set free.
In the love of Jesus Christ, you are loved forever.
**In the waters of baptism we are set free
to let go what is old and broken,
to live a new life in the resurrection,
and to follow together after Jesus Christ, our loving Savior.**

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Carolyn Hayes

Scripture *[responsive]*

Psalm 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ **God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**
- ⁶ The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ **The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
¹⁰ **'Be still, and know that I am God!**
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'
¹¹ **The LORD of hosts is with us;**
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Jesus is Coming! Look Busy!

Rev. Mary Austin

Music for Reflection

"Variation No.29 from the Goldberg Variations" by J.S. Bach

We Respond to God's Grace

Finding God in Our Journeys

Michael Pratt

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

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Commission & Benediction

Closing Music "We Are Marching in the Light of God" Glory to God #853, v. 1 & 4

Verse 1

We are marching in the light of God (4x)

We are marching in the light of,
the light of God.

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching

We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of,
the light of God.

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching.

We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,

we are marching in the light of God.

Verse 4

We are singing in the light of God (4x)

We are singing in the light of,
the light of God.

we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing

We are singing , singing ,
we are singing , singing ,
we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of,
the light of God.
we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing.

We are singing , singing ,
we are singing , singing ,
we are singing in the light of God.



Participating in the service:

Deacon Kofi Kumi, Worship Leader (9:30)

Ms. Joelle Pokam, Mr. David Fofuh, Mr. Daryl Fofuh, Worship Leaders (11:00)

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.