



**Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – September 26, 2021**  
**Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**  
**Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.**

**Opening Music**

“Prelude in B-flat major”

by C. Heinrich Rinck

**Welcome**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

Hear, O chosen people of God,

**The LORD our God, the LORD is not divided,**

and God calls us to undivided love.

**This is our rule for living:**

**to love God, with full heart, complete spirit, whole mind.**

These words shall be on your heart,

carried in the deepest part of you.

**We promise to teach them to our children,**

**to talk about them at home,**

**to hold them close through the day,**

**and when we rest at night.**

God tells us to remember these words.

**We will remember.**

Let us worship God together.

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn** [*stand*]

“What Is This Place”

Glory to God #404

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession** [*together*]

Good and Gracious Lord,  
You hold us in the palm of your strong hand,  
working all things for our good and to your glory.  
There is no place we can go  
that escapes your notice.  
Still, we cover our sin,  
thinking we can hide from you.  
We try to run our own lives,  
and the lives of others,  
attempting to be our own gods.  
We love you too little,  
and we love others hardly at all.  
Forgive us, we pray.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

**Assurance of Pardon**

**We Listen to God's Word**

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**Children's Message**

Carolyn Hayes (9:30)

Natalie Jorges-Castellano (11:00)

*Children and youth leave for class. Children can be picked up after church in Room 30/31 or Room 32/33. At 11:00, youth will be released from class to find you.*

**Sung Response** [*seated*]

"Live in Charity"

Glory to God #205

**Scripture**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup>Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, <sup>9</sup>and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

## Mark 12:28–34

<sup>28</sup> One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’  
<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, ‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup>you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” <sup>31</sup>The second is this, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’ <sup>32</sup>Then the scribe said to him, ‘You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that “he is one, and besides him there is no other”; <sup>33</sup>and “to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength”, and “to love one’s neighbor as oneself”, — this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.’ <sup>34</sup>When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, ‘You are not far from the kingdom of God.’ After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**                      **Do You Have Something Easier I Could Do?**      Rev. Mary Austin

### **We Respond to God’s Grace**

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**Hymn** [*stand*]                      “Where Charity and Love Prevail”                      Glory to God #316

**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

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## Announcements

**Sending Song** [*stand*]      “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”      Glory to God #366

## Passing the Peace

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

## Closing Blessing

**Closing Music**      “Fugue on the Magnificat 8<sup>th</sup> Tone, No.3”      by Johann Pachelbel

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## Participating in the service:

Ms. Sarah Mecklenburg and Mr. Andy Polack, Worship Leaders (9:30)

Ms. Schola Muluh, Worship Leader (11:00)

Natalie Jorges-Castellano, Children’s Message (11:00)

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the writing of Richard Herman.



Please sign the guest  
book by using your  
smartphone camera  
to scan the QR code

[gpchurch.org/guestbook](http://gpchurch.org/guestbook)