

# Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – November 14, 2021

## Blue Shirt Sunday

Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.

**Opening Music**      “French Suite No. 6 in E major, BWV 817, Polonaise”      J.S. Bach

### Welcome

### Call to Worship [*responsive*]

A love that never ceases,  
A creativity that designed the universe,  
A hope that cannot be quenched,  
A pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost:  
These are the things that are of God,  
Then let us worship God.

### Opening Prayer

**Hymn** [*stand*]      “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”      Glory to God #435

### Minute for Mission



Lisa Whitehead (9:30)  
Fletcher Tukes (11:00)

Mission Video

“When We Are Living”

Roberto Escamilla, trans. Elise Eslinger

Andrew Bahls, instruments

Lucille Baur, voice

Laura Baxter, voice

Donna Dannels, voice

Claudio Ferreira, voice and producer

Wade Meyers, voice

### Children’s Message

Carolyn Hayes

*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*]      “The Steadfast Love of the Lord”      Glory to God #59  
[*please sing refrain twice*]

## We Listen to God's Word

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### Scripture

### Psalm 51:1–12

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**<sup>4</sup>Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

**<sup>6</sup>You desire truth in the inward being;<sup>[a]</sup>  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**

<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

**<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right<sup>[b]</sup> spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing<sup>[c]</sup> spirit.**

### Luke 18:9–14

<sup>9</sup>Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or

even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

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

**Sermon**

**Other People Are Terrible Sinners**

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

**Call to Confession** [*together*]

Lord God of justice,  
you know no favourites and show no partiality;  
but you have given us assurance  
that the prayers of the lowly pierce the clouds,  
their petitions reach the heavens.  
Look upon us who come before you  
as did the penitent tax collector,  
and grant that we may open ourselves with confidence in your mercy,  
and be justified by your grace.  
We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Prayer of Confession in Song** [*seated*]

"Create in Me A Clean Heart" *verse 1*

Glory to God, #423

[*Please sing twice*]

**Create in me a clean heart, O God;  
create in me a clean heart, O God;  
create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

**Assurance of Pardon** [*responsive*]

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.  
**God's mercies never come to an end.**  
Because of the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ,  
and the power of the Holy Spirit,  
**We know that we are forgiven and that we are given new life.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

## We Respond to God's Grace

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### Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Offertory**                    "Seek Ye First"                    Karen Lafferty, arr. Douglas E. Wagner  
The Chancel Choir

### 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

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### Announcements

**Sending Song** [*stand*]    "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"    Glory to God #546

### Passing the Peace

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

### Closing Blessing

**Closing Music**                    "French Suite No. 6 in E major, BWV 817, Gigue"                    J.S. Bach

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### 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

The Call to Worship comes from the *Follow Me* curriculum.  
The Call to Confession comes from *David Beswick's Home Page*.



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