

# Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – September 18, 2022

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

Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.

## Opening Music

“Andante”  
Wade Meyers, organ

Franciszek Walczynski

## Welcome

*Welcome to all! Please register your attendance with the QR code on the back of the bulletin, or with the online link, or on paper in the church Gathering Space. Need help? Ask any usher.*

## Call to Worship *[responsive]*

In the name of God,  
**who created us,  
and who holds us  
and the whole world in holy hands**

In the name of the Son  
**who came into the world,  
and made us new people.**

In the name of the Holy Spirit  
**who fills us with eternal life,  
who joins us with all people of faith,  
we come to offer our thanks and praise.**

Let us worship God together.

## Opening Prayer

## Hymn *[stand]*

“O, Sing to the Lord”

Glory to God, #637

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession *[together]*

God of healing, God of wholeness,  
we bring our brokenness,  
our sinfulness,  
our fears  
and despair,  
and lay them at your feet.

**God of healing,  
God of wholeness,  
in your presence and power  
grant us faith and confidence  
that here broken lives  
are made whole.  
We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.**

*[Silence for Personal Prayer]*

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

God is faithful. God's love is an eternal covenant,  
which will not be broken.

God's grace is the gift which never ends.

**Thanks be to God, we are forgiven and set free.**

**In following Jesus Christ, we become new people. Amen.**

## **We Listen to God's Word**

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**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]*

Glory to God, #547

*"Go, My Children, with My Blessing" verse 1*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

**Ezekiel 3:1-3**

God said to me, O mortal, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel. <sup>2</sup>So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it. Then I ate it; and in my mouth it was as sweet as honey.

**John 10:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own,

he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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

**Sermon**

**Um, Is That You, God?**

Rev. Mary Austin

## **We Respond to God’s Grace**

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**Hymn** [*stand*]

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Glory to God, #187

**Invitation to Generosity**

**Offertory**

“Down to the Water to Pray”  
(9:30) Wade Meyers, piano | (11:00) Chancel Choir

Trad., arr. Pepper Choplin

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**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** “Fugue on the Magnificat Chant Tone in G major” Johann Pachelbel  
Wade Meyers, organ

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### Participating in the service:

Mr. Charles Duncan, Worship Leader (9:30)

Ms. Ninna Nana, Worship Leader (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 Call to Worship is adapted from the worship resources of the Iona Community.

*The flowers in the sanctuary were given by Elisa McClelland  
“in honor of Rob and Elisa McClelland’s 40th Wedding Anniversary”*

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