

THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Sunday, September 24th, 2023, 11 a.m.

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

PRELUDE Ein Feste Burg Ist Unser Gott Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

WELCOME Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
 People: And also with you.

INTROIT Give Ear to My Words, O Lord Melvin West (1930-2019)

CALL to
WORSHIP Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
from Psalm 107 **People: God's love endures forever!**
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord for the wonderful things
 God has done for us.
 People: God's love has no ending!
 Leader: Let us worship God.

◆ HYMN 41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above! Lyons

◆ *You are invited to stand*

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone and refrain from flash photography during the service.

PRAYER of
CONFESSION

Leader: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

People: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Leader: Let us pray:

People: We want to follow Jesus, but fail to embody him at work, school, and home. We commit to serving others, but end up meeting only our needs. We confess that the gospel can transform, but struggle to open ourselves to true change. Forgive us. Instead of grumbling, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of withholding, let us share God's mercy with everyone we meet.

(silence)

ASSURANCE of
PARDON

Leader: Friends believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen!

◆ GLORIA PATRI
Glory to God, #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

TIME with CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

◆ HYMN 649

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Elder Tracy Davis

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 145:1-8

Pg. 643

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings

John Rutter (b. 1945)

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:21-30

Pg. 209

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Worthy of the Gospel

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

◆ HYMN 826

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

◆ THE APOSTLES'
CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS *of the*
PEOPLE

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.

COMMISSIONING
of the
2024
CONFIRMANDS

SOPHIE BUCKLEY
GRACE CANNON
AIDEN COLLIER
ALEX DAVIS
JULIAN DURBIN
LUCAS FERRO
BARTON HOLMES
WILL KROKOWSKI
NADIA McATEE
JAMES PIERCE
GEORGE SUMNER
SHANNON WILSON
MEGAN YOST

OFFERING *and*
OFFERTORY

Blessed Assurance

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Passing of the Fellowship Books

◆ DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

◆ HYMN 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am

◆ BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

Melvin West (1930-2019)

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)

About Today's Service

About Today's Music: The anthem this morning is John Rutter's "O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings." Drawing inspiration from Psalm 84 and the Book of Common Prayer, this piece encapsulates the spiritual longing for divine communion and sanctuary. Rutter's masterful blending of harmonies and melodic lines evokes a sense of both nostalgia and transcendence.

Flowers: The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of the marriage yesterday of Betsy Byrne and Beau Brewer

Ushers: Dwight Smith (Captain), Judi Crowson, Nancy Kuhn, Roy Henwood, Tyler McGreevy, Paige McDermott, and Alexis Williams

Punch Bunch: Please join us in the Georgetown Room following worship for Punch Bunch hosted by the DC East Circle

Children's Worship Leaders: Pastor Meghan, Esther Wisdom, Priscila Rodriguez, Casey Nolan, and Liza Boyd

Nursery Caregivers: Gamage Perera and Swarna Nawarantha

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 24

- 9:45am Nursery
- Confirmation Kick-Off
- 10:45am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Punch Bunch
- 5:00pm Yoga*

Tuesday, September 26

- 11:00am GPC Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 27

- 7:30pm Psalms Bible Study (Virtual)

Sunday, October 1

- 9:45am Nursery
- 9:50am Confirmation Class
- 10:40am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Punch Bunch
- 4:00pm Blessing of the Animals
- 5:00pm Yoga*

**Event will be conducted virtually.*

***Both virtual and in-person options will be available.*

Announcements

Nominations for New Class Officers

The Nominating Committee invites recommendations for candidates to the new Class of Elders and Deacons that begins January, 2024. Please submit your nomination of a member of the Congregation, or a self-nomination, by completing the Nominating forms available in the sanctuary - or the online form at gtownpres.org/committees. The deadline for nominations is Sunday, October 15th. Contact the nominating team chair, Roy Henwood, with any questions.

Blessing of the Animals

The Blessing of the Animals service will be held on Sunday, October 1st at 4:00 pm. Bring your pets to a brief outdoor service in the courtyard. Then remain for mingling with other pet lovers and treats for your furry friends.

Joyful Noise

Joyful Noise, GPC's children's singing group, will begin rehearsals for our fall performance on September 24th. We will rehearse in the chapel at 10:40 on Sunday, September 24, October 1, 8, and 15, to prepare to perform on October 15. Joyful Noise is open to all children who want to participate. Please plan to join us for as many rehearsals as possible so you are ready to sing.

Worshipping with Infants

One of the ways we live into our baptismal vows is to welcome babies and their parents into our midst with true hospitality. As such, we are refreshing the Bride's Room to be ready for our youngest families who may need to step out of the service from time to time. We are seeking the following items for that space to reduce our shopping list: bottle warmer, disposable nursing pads, nursing pillow, diaper changing pad, wipes, newborn and infant diapers, and an infant seat. If you have any of these, please bring them to Jennie's office during the week or on a Sunday morning by October 1st. Thank you!

Multi-generational Women's Small Groups

You're invited to join a small group for women of all ages. Together, groups will explore their faith through Biblical study, while also growing in fellowship and prayer. Groups will meet regularly on a bi-weekly basis starting in the next few weeks. Please contact Pastor Meghan if you are interested in joining a group.

GPC Young Adult Kick off

Thursday, October 5th from 6:30-8:30 PM.
Come for Dinner, Drinks, and Discussion in the home of Sheldon and Mary Beth Ray. Together, we'll explore our values-both individual and group-as a foundation for discerning who we are, where we are, and what we want to become. Mary Beth, an International Coach Federation PCC-level leadership coach, will help facilitate our discussion. Please RSVP by emailing Pastor Meghan if you plan to attend! Pastor Meghan will follow up with a list of values to guide our conversation. We look forward to seeing you- forming new friendships, rekindling old friendships, and exploring and deepening our faith together.

Weekly Men's Bible Study

You're invited to participate in a small group for men of all ages. Each week we will dedicate time to Biblical study and discussion, sharing developments in our spiritual lives, and prayer. The group will meet weekly on Tuesday nights at 8 pm at Warner Lamar's house: 1518 Caroline Street NW. Please contact Warner (ewarnerlamar@gmail.com) or Pastor Meghan for more information.

Psalms: Bringing Our Whole Self to God

The writers of the psalms brought all their emotions to God: their joys and sorrows, their hopes and fears, their anger, their guilt, their wonder. Reading the psalms gives us confidence that God hears us when we feel the same. This Virtual Bible study continues every Wednesday until October 25. We'll reflect on Psalm 103 on September 27th. All are welcome-each week is a stand alone study on a Psalm-so join us for some or all sessions! Contact facilitators Esther and Alan Wisdom or Pastor Meghan to join.

YCW Volunteers

With the start of a new school year, Young Children and Worship (YCW) is looking for new volunteer greeters and storytellers for our PreK through second grade children. Greeters and Storytellers serve during the worship hour when their schedules allow, sometimes once a month, sometimes more. If you are interested in working with GPC children, and would like to be trained in this Montessori-based form of worship, please reach out to Liza Boyd or Jennie Lopez.

Worship

gtownpres.org/worship

Welcome to Georgetown Presbyterian Church, where people have gathered to worship for over 240 years. We worship each Sunday at 11:00am.

Serve

gtownpres.org/serve

Sign Up to Be a Greeter

You may have noticed the smiling faces of GPC's greeters, volunteers who welcome members and visitors each Sunday with a friendly word and a warm handshake (or elbow bump!). This is a great way to meet people in the congregation and help bring warmth and community to our congregation. To volunteer for this fun and important role, visit gtownpres.org/connect.

Georgetown Saturday Suppers

The last Saturday of every month, GPC members meet at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church to serve dinner to 30-60 neighbors who are hungry. The move inside means a return to seated suppers and hot food. It also means a jump from 4-5 volunteers to 10-12 volunteers every last Saturday. Email info@gtownpres.org if you would like to get involved. To support, visit gtownpres.org/give.

Learn

gtownpres.org/learn

Children's Programming on Sunday Morning

Education Hour 10:00 - 11:00 am

Sunday School: Children ages 3,5 - fifth grade are invited to attend as often as you are able at 10:00 am in the third floor classrooms. The Sunday School teachers will walk children down to the chapel for singing at the end of class.

Singing with Ms. Regina: Children of all ages are welcome to sing along with us in the chapel beginning at 10:45. Parents are invited to stay and sing together.

Confirmation Class: Confirmation class runs weekly from September through February for interested Youth in sixth grade and up. Class is led by Pastor Meghan at 10:00 am in the Youth Room.

Worship Hour 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Young Children and Worship: Following the Time with Children in the worship service, children in PreK-2nd grade are led upstairs to participate in this Montessori-based worship program. Parents should plan to walk upstairs to pick their children up from the classrooms.

Children's Church: Following the Time with Children in the worship service, children in 3rd - 5th grade are led to the chapel to participate in age-appropriate worship, led by one of our pastors and Ms. Regina. Children are dismissed back to the sanctuary or to punch bunch when Children's Church is over.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets a couple of Sunday evenings each month. If you're interested in receiving emails about youth group programming, please reach out to Jennie to be added to the list (JDL@gtownpres.org)

Nursery

Our church nursery is open every Sunday from 9:45am-12:15pm. You can drop off children ages 0-3, and they will receive excellent care from two of our three nursery caregivers, Deepa, Gamage, and Kumudini. gtownpres.org/childrens-programs.

Adult Education

A Conversation on Prayer with the GPC. Next Sunday, Adult Education will host members of GPC's prayer group for a conversation on the power and importance of prayer. Join us at 9:45am in the Washington Room or on Zoom! (Meeting ID: 832 4436 8712 //Passcode: 457026)

Connect

gtownpres.org/connect

Join Us For Yoga Online Sundays at 5 pm!

Sunday morning worship is great for your soul- why not add Sunday evening yoga to care for your mind and body? Join your GPC friends for an hour of easy flow yoga and breath work with certified instructor Charlotte Adamo. Classes are on Zoom and cost \$25 each (payable by Venmo or check). Charlotte sees the best in everyone, and she meets you where you are, offering prompts for beginners, and challenges for the more advanced. For more info, feel free to email [Mary Beth Ray](mailto:MaryBeth.Ray) or [Charlotte Adamo](mailto:Charlotte.Adamo). Namaste, we hope to see you soon!

New Member Conference

Interested in joining GPC? Learn more about membership and what it means to be a Presbyterian at our next New Member Conference on Saturday, Oct 28, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

Give

gtownpres.org/give

Your gifts enable the mission and ministry of this church. To manage a current pledge or make a one-time gift, visit gtownpres.org/give or scan the QR code below.

To give of your time and talents, visit gtownpres.org/timeandtalents.



Happy Birthday!

September 24 Scott Burrell
Greer Kimsey
William Brooks Lopez

September 26 Betsy Emes

September 27 Jane Lewis
Kara Sanstrom

September 28 William Howe

September 29 Tory Ge

Daily Lectionary

Monday Matthew 5:21-26
Tuesday Matthew 5:27-37
Wednesday Psalms 125; 91
Thursday 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Friday 1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Saturday Psalms 122; 149

Church Staff

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