

THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Sunday, November 5, 2023, 11 a.m.

In our worship service today, we are celebrating All Saints day – remembering the faithful of the past who have shaped our lives and our faith. We enter into a time of thanksgiving for their lives, knowing in their absence we also feel loss. So today, we honor the grief while acknowledging the lasting impacts of the saints of God. We celebrate the community that has shaped us, those in our midst, and those in God’s near presence. The liturgy of the day is structured to lead you into prayer and reflection with your heart uplifted to God. May your souls be strengthened for your own journeys of faith. Praise be the Lord.

‘Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely. Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.’ (Hebrews 12:10)

PRELUDE	Prelude in B minor	Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
WELCOME	Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. People: And also with you.	
PRAYERS of INVOCATION	The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.	
Prayer from the 23rd Psalm	The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.	

◆ *You are invited to stand*

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

INTROIT

Hear My Cry, O Lord

Phillip McIntyre

Hear my cry, O Lord,

Turn not away your face from me, O Lord.

Have compassion on me, and hear my cry.

TIME with CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

◆ HYMN 802 (vs. 1 & 4)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St Columba

GRIEF in FIVE MOVEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

DENIAL

Denial serves as an initial coping mechanism to navigate the pain of loss. During this stage, you may feel that life has become senseless, devoid of meaning, and overwhelmingly daunting. You initially resist accepting the reality of the news, leading to a sense of emotional numbness.

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me for ever?

John Marshall

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I bear pain in my soul,

and have sorrow in my heart all day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Psalm 13:1-2

Blessed are you, who feel the wound of fresh loss. Or of a loss...no matter how fresh...that still makes your voice crack all these years later. You who are stuck in the impossibility of it. Frozen in disbelief. How can this be? It wasn't supposed to be this way.

Louise Sumner

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ANTHEM

Kyrie (from Missa I)

Has Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

Kyrie eleison Lord have mercy

Christe eleison Christ have mercy

Kyrie eleison Lord have mercy

ANGER

Anger often emerges as you gradually re-engage with the harsh reality of your situation. During this stage, it is common to wrestle with feelings of "Why me?" and "Life isn't fair!" You may find yourself seeking to assign blame, possibly targeting others as the source of your grief. Sometimes, this anger might even be redirected towards close friends and family. For those with strong faith, this period may include questioning their belief in God, pondering the whereabouts of the Divine and why protection wasn't granted.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

John Marshall

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

Psalm 22:1-2

Blessed are we who come to you, oh God, in the midst of grief and loss,
fear and longing, irritability and anger, gratitude and sweet
remembrance, and so much exhaustion.

Louise Sumner
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Grant me solitude enough for solace, and company enough for comfort,
people to be with who know how to slip quietly under the burden of
this grief and shoulder it with me without much to say.

◆ HYMN 807
(vs. 1 & 2)

When We Must Bear Persistent Pain

Prospect

BARGAINING

Bargaining involves making pleas or promises in the face of adversity. It is when you might find yourself striking a deal with a higher power, saying something like, "Dear God, if you grant my husband healing, I promise to be a better wife." In a sense, this stage embodies a form of wishful thinking, where you attempt to convince yourself that you can circumvent grief through negotiation.

When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears,
and rescues them from all their troubles.

John Marshall

The Lord is near to the broken-hearted,
and saves the crushed in spirit.

Psalm 34:17-18

Blessed are we, the in-over-our-heads, who do all that we can do;
lament honestly and pray continually, and be truly glad for others
when their relief comes, when their relationships are restored, or when
they experience a measure of peace. For we are not diminished by their
fortune. But rather, emboldened to pray: Me too, Lord! God, please
start it now: the promised healing, restoration, redemption. I can't
wait much longer.

Louise Sumner

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ANTHEM

De Profundis

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

From the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord; Hear, O Lord, my voice in supplication. Let thy ears be open to consider my pleading; Hear the voice of my complaining. If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark the things done amiss, O my Lord, who may abide it? For that there is mercy, even pity with thee; And for thy mercy shalt thou be feared much, O Lord, our God. I look for the Lord, for in him is my hope and trusting. My soul doth wait for the Lord God, the God of truth; More than they that await the morning, long for its coming. Hopeth Israel in God the Lord. For with the Almighty there are mercies manifold; Indeed we know that his redemption is plenteous. He shall redeem even Israel and from his sins and his iniquities save him. Glory be now to the Father, Son, and the Spirit most holy; As it was in the beginning, and is now, and ever, And for evermore, world without end. Amen.

DEPRESSION

Depression often emerges as a response to the profound emptiness felt when we confront the reality of loss or the conclusion of a significant chapter in our lives. During this stage, you may find yourself retreating from daily life, enveloped in a pervasive numbness or a persistent mental haze, making it difficult to muster the energy to rise from bed. The world may appear exceedingly daunting, and facing it may seem an insurmountable task. The desire to isolate from others, coupled with a sense of speechlessness, can be overwhelming, and feelings of hopelessness may pervade your thoughts. In some cases, you might even grapple with thoughts of despair, questioning the purpose of carrying on.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. John Marshall

I say to God, my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?'
As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.
Psalm 42

This world. Impossible. Unthinkable. We are brought to our knees. Louise Sumner
God, today, there is no true north. And when I last checked, the sun Pg. 75
did not rise at all. Today, the innocent still suffer, buildings still fall,
families still grieve.
We do not know what to feel, what to do, how to grieve.
Blessed are we who ask and wait, and ask again, for answers that may
not come, for hope that seems hard to find, for comfort that is not
easily offered.

ANTHEM

Surely He Hath Borne Our Griefs

Antonio Lotti

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows.

(1667-1740)

ACCEPTANCE

With acceptance comes a stabilizing of your emotions and a gradual reintegration into the realm of reality. It's the point where you acknowledge that the "new" reality is irrevocable – whether it means accepting that your loved one will never return or that you may confront the progression of your illness. It's not characterized as a "good" development, but it's a milestone from which you can begin to move forward, embracing the reality and finding ways to navigate it.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Blessed are you who, when you've come to the end of what is possible, find the courage to live there too. Accepting the things that are unchangeable. And finding that beauty and meaning and love live there too. You know what it means to have a life held together by so many loves...by so much to lose.

Blessed are we who are learning how to hope. And how to let go. When to act. And when to stop. Holding together irreconcilable truths: that our lives are so valuable precisely because we have so much to fear with this much to love.

Louise Sumner

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◆ HYMN 833

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

St Margaret

PRAYERS *for the* SAINTS

Rev. Meghan Brown

TIME *of* REMEMBRANCE

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

ANTHEM

I Believe

Mark Miller (b. 1967)

I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God, even when God is silent.

ANTHEM

The Gate of Heaven

Craig Courtney (b. 1965)

Lord of the cloud and fire, my heart is in Your hand. From the darkness, lift me to the Light. Your will my soul command. Lord of the cloud and fire, lead me to the worlds unknown. Light eternal You alone can change the darkness into dawn. From the darkness to the Light, led by the Lord of cloud and fire, at Heaven's gate I stand. From the darkness to the Light, led by the Lord of cloud and fire, By faith I stand at heaven's gate, the house of God. Rise, shine, Give God the glory. Lord of the cloud and fire, I bow before Your throne. By faith at Heaven's gate I stand, and find it home.

OFFERING *and*
OFFERTORY

In Green Pastures

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

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 326 (vs. 1, 4, 5)

For All the Saints

Sine Nomine

◆ BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

They That Wait Upon the Lord

Ernest Bullock (1890-1979)

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C Major, BWV 531A

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

About Today's Service

Flowers: The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God

Ushers: Gerardo Martinez (Captain), Hery Adrianasy, Gillian Auger, Jack DiMatteo, Mary Margaret Hart, Shelley Jennings, Matt Lavin, Casey Nolan, Priscila Rodriguez, Nat Semple, Gopal Shangari, and Laura Welch

Punch Bunch: Please join us in the Georgetown Room following worship for Punch Bunch hosted by the Hospitality Committee

Children's Worship Leaders: Kathleen Jennings and Liza Boyd

Nursery Caregivers: Gamage Perera and Swarna Nawarantha

The prayers used in today's service come from the Book of Blessings by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie, The Lives We Actually Have - 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days.

Church Staff

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 5

- 9:45am Nursery
- 9:50am Confirmation Class
- 10:00am Sandwich Making for GMC
- 10:40am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Punch Bunch
- 5:00pm Yoga*

Tuesday, November 7

- 11:00am GPC Staff Meeting
- 6:30pm Deacons Meeting
- 8:00pm Men's Bible Study

Sunday, November 12

- 9:45am Nursery
- 9:50am Confirmation Class
- 10:00am Sunday school
- 10:40am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Punch Bunch
- 5:00pm Yoga*

**Event will be conducted virtually.*

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

Announcements

Stewardship 2024: Sharing God's Story

Please show your appreciation for your many blessings, and your dedication to this Church with a Stewardship gift for 2024. We ask everyone to participate, especially those who have not given before. If you are particularly blessed this year, please increase your intent. The Bible asks us to joyfully give thanks to God. Let us also be joyful givers so we can continue to "Share God's Story." Please fill out the intent card in the pews and return it to the offering plate or fill out the online intent form at gtownpres.org/stewardship.

Georgetown Ministry Center Dinners

GPC is joining with the Georgetown Ministry Center and other local churches to prepare and serve hot meals for approximately 40 guests during the fall and winter months. GPC's dates are November 27-December 1, December 4-8, and December 11-15. Stay tuned for opportunities to volunteer. Be in touch with Pastor Jessica if you are interested in helping.

Advent Readers

Children's Ministry is looking for Advent readers and candle lighters for our worship services over the four Sundays in Advent. If your child in grades K-12 is interested in reading, please reach out to Deacon Louise Sumner, louise.sumner@gmail.com Children will practice their reading in the sanctuary on the Sunday before they read during the worship service.

Christmas Pageant Casting

We're looking for children young and old to join in the tradition of GPC's Christmas Pageant! This year's pageant will take place on Christmas Eve during the 11:00am service. Our 8:00pm Christmas Eve service will also have opportunities for our older youth to read and participate. Please use the Google Form sent out in the Children's Min newsletter to sign up.

GPC Young Adults Friendsgiving

Saturday, November 18th at 4:30 pm. Please join us for a time of fellowship as we celebrate the holidays together. Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy and Drinks will be provided. Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving side dish or dessert! Hosted by Priscila Rodriguez and Gerry Martinez.

Save the Date for the St. Nick's Dinner!

Join us on Saturday December 2nd, 5:00pm to 7:30pm at GPC for the annual St. Nick's Dinner to kick off the season of Advent! Come enjoy Christmas festivities and fellowship with GPC friends!

For the kids: Crafts and a visit with Santa!

For the adults: Wine and Fellowship

For everyone: Dinner and Carols!

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

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.

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.



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 our two nursery caregivers, Gamage Perera and Swarna Nawarantha. gtownpres.org/childrens-programs.

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!

Requests for Prayers

Scan here or visit gtownpres.org/connect to fill out the care and support form. Responses will go directly to the GPC Care Committee. Thank you for helping us care for yourselves and the broader GPC community.



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. Be in touch with Pastor Jessica for more information.

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.

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>November 5</i> | Lauren Metelski
Christy Cardenas |
| <i>November 7</i> | Timothy May |
| <i>November 9</i> | Jill Kerr |
| <i>November 10</i> | Roger Hard |
| <i>November 11</i> | Anna Edwards
Darla Jackson
Ashley Craft |

Serving Our City, United in Christ

Welcome to the Georgetown Presbyterian Church

If you are here for the first time, we extend a special welcome to you. Please take a moment to read through the bulletin which contains important information for the life of this congregation.

- Ushers are wearing red lapel tags and are in the back of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask them.
- Please join us after worship for refreshments and fellowship in the Georgetown Room.

Children are always welcome!

- Worship bags are available for children who wish to stay in the worship service. Children can pick these up under the bench in the Narthex, and return them after church
- For our youngest children through three years old, nursery care is available upstairs beginning at 9:45am.
- After the Time with Children in the service, children can remain with their families or exit the Sanctuary with our Children's Worship leaders to continue age-appropriate worship. Please feel free to escort your children to their classroom to meet the leaders.

Navigating the Service

- Stars ♦ indicate when you are invited to stand if you are able.
- Bold text indicates that the congregation says this together, in one voice.
- Hymns can be found in the purple hymnals. Bibles are located at the end of the pews. Large print hymnals are available in the back of the Sanctuary.
- We receive communion once a month, and all are welcome.



THE
GEORGETOWN
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The Georgetown Presbyterian Church has been a steadfast presence in our nation's capital since 1780, ministering to generations of Washingtonians, serving our city, united in Christ. For more of our history, visit gtownpres.org/us/history.

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