



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H



September 13, 2020

2363 S. Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

**Please stand.*

Please silence electronic devices.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Da pace, Domine, in diebus nostris

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Will Jones

CHIME INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 65)

September Eason

Leader: Praise is due You, O God, in Zion -

People: And to You shall vows be performed.

Leader: O You who answer prayer, to You all flesh shall come.

People: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, You forgive our transgressions.

Leader: Happy are those whom You choose and bring near to live in Your courts.

People: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Your holy temple.

Leader: By awesome deeds, You answer with deliverance, O God of our salvation;

People: You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

ALL: Come, let us worship the LORD!

*CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

Almighty God; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ.

(Time of personal prayer)

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

People: Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO FOREGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI

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.

*SHARING OF GRACE

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please remember those who usually sit near you, and pray for them and contact them later today to share your love for them.)

FIRST GRADE BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Lily Clapper, Samuel Alden Coursey, Lola Fienup, Mary Katelynn Galyean, Jeffrey Joseph Harris, Jr., Everett Fletcher Overbey, Roy Gordon Paris, Susie Annabelle Smith, Adelyn Claire Montague Winer

THE WORD

SOLO

City Called Heaven
Brianna Reilly, mezzo-soprano

African-American spiritual
arr. Charles Lloyd

*I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow. I'm tossed in this wide world alone.
No hope have I for tomorrow. I've started to make it my home.
Sometimes I am tossed and driven, Lord. Sometimes I don't know where to roam.
I've heard of a city called heaven. I've started to make it my home.*

*My mother has reached that pure glory. My father's still walkin' in sin.
My brothers and sisters won't own me because I am tryin' to get in.
Sometimes I am tossed and driven, Lord. Sometimes I don't know where to roam.
But I've heard of a city called heaven. I've started to make it my home.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mr. Tom Sauer

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 18:21-35

Mr. Sauer

²¹Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“It’s Not Fair! Forgiveness”

Mr. Sauer

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles’ Creed

Dr. Jones

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 Spirit, 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 and THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

Rev. Wiggins

OFFERTORY

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Alice Parker

Clara Norell, Brianna Reilly, and Ethan Baskin

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

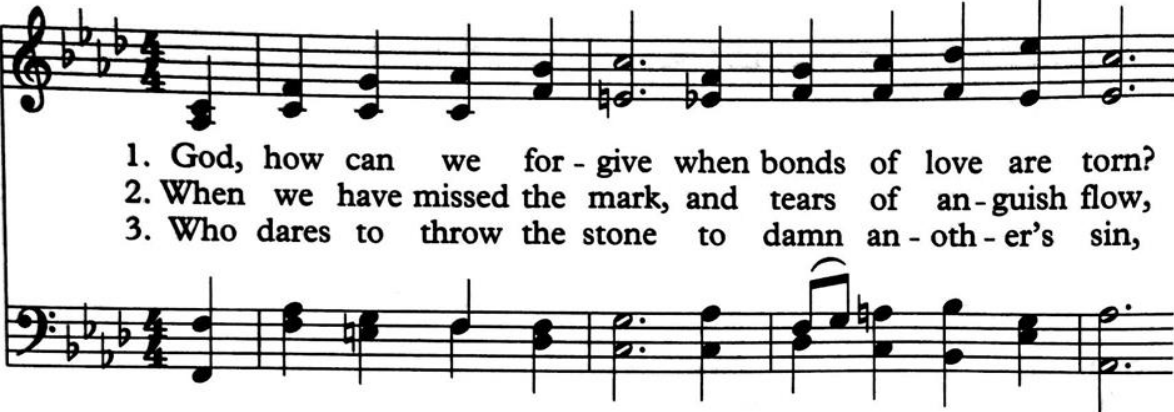
Dr. Jones

SENDING

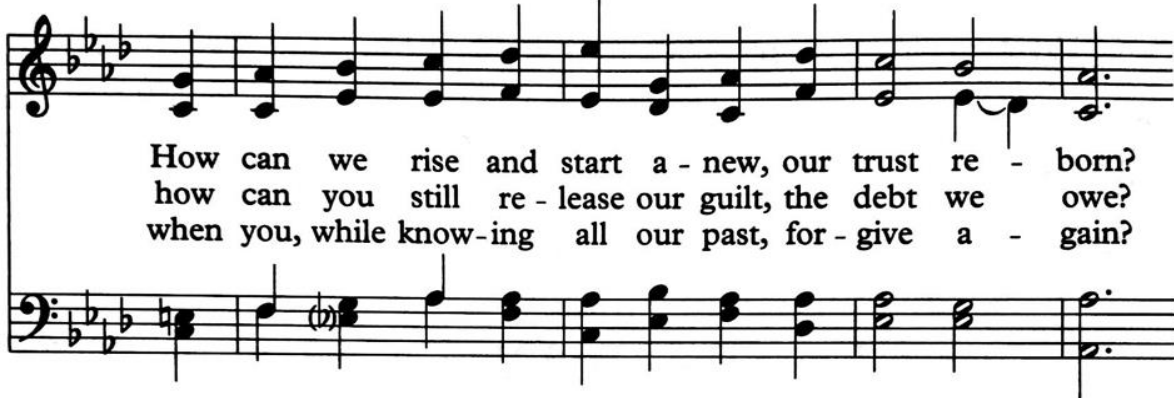
*HYMN

God, How Can We Forgive

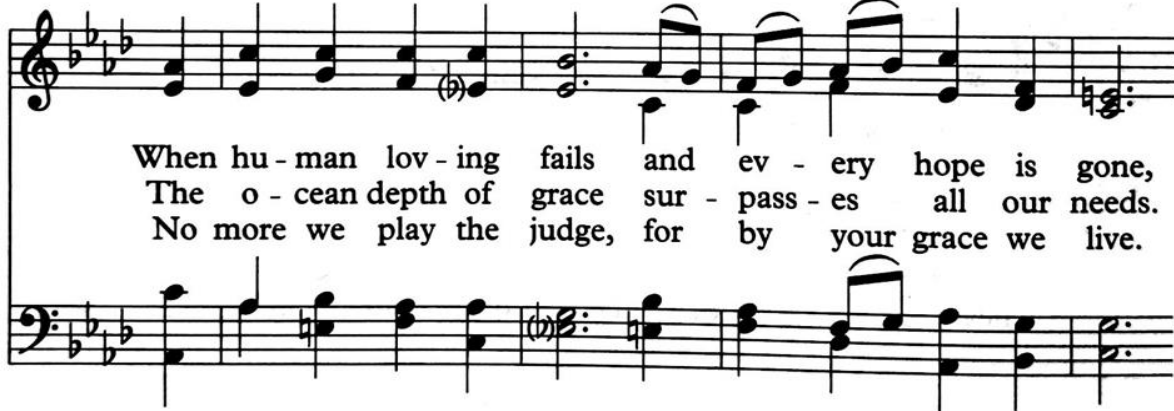
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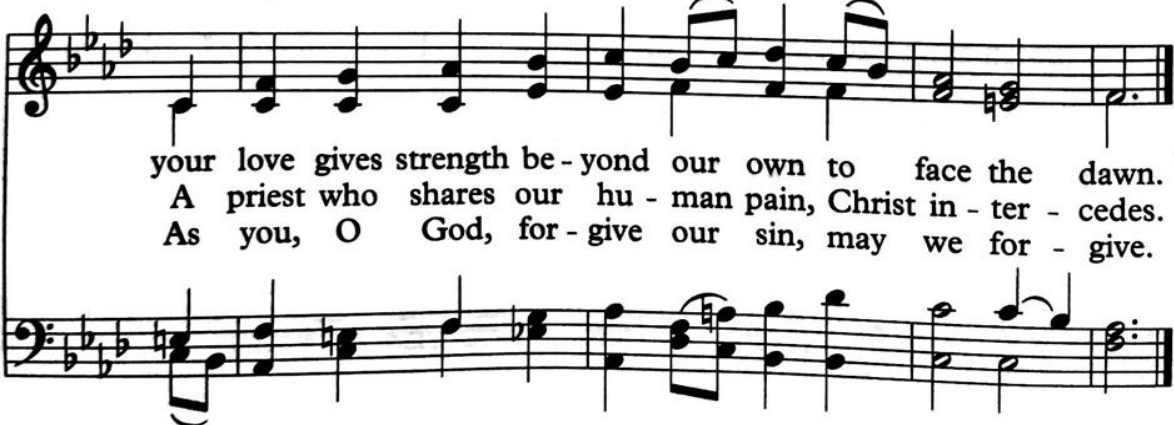
1. God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
2. When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
3. Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.



your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

Thank you to our musicians assisting in worship today: Clara Norell, Brianna Reilly, and Ethan Baskin.

On the cover: Vasconcellos, Josefina de, 1904-2005. Coventry Cathedral, Great Britain. *Reconciliation*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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Welcome to worship online and limited onsite with Germantown Presbyterian Church. Our sincere prayer is that you will find a place here among those who already call GPC home. We know these are difficult days, and we are so glad you can join our service in the way you feel most comfortable. We are truly glad God brought you here!

Interested in joining GPC? *You are welcome here!* For more information on how to join, please contact Kathleen Boyd at 901-833-3413 or kkboyd@comcast.net.

GPC's pastors can always be reached in an emergency or crisis. Please call the church, 901-754-5195, and then press 1 to reach the on-call pastor.

Best wishes to Hannah Melton and Tyler Russell who were married in the sanctuary on Saturday, September 12. Tyler is the son of Karen and Rob Russell.

Bets wishes to Win Burrow and Tyler Bray who were married in the chapel on Saturday, September 12. Win is the daughter of Gaye and Bob Pitts and Wes and Kelly Burrow and the granddaughter of Wes and Erwin Westmorland.

Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements Week of September 13, 2020

The Session has called for a congregational meeting on September 13 after the worship service to dissolve the call between GPC and Rev. Amanda Mackey.

As part of the Church Family Prayer Program, members of the congregation are randomly selected each week to be lifted up. This week please pray for: Jean & Gil Brooks; Lisa & Jeff Cook; Brooke & Anthony Duke, CeCe & Bryce; Susie & Joe Lyle; Billie Martin; Nicole & Judd Peters, Julia; Eileen & Steele Scroggin, Lincoln; Amanda Walters.

In September, please pray for these churches in the Presbytery:

Oakland Presbyterian Church, Oakland TN

First Presbyterian Church, Paris TN

Marl Bluff Church, Reagan TN

1st Presbyterian Church, Rosemark TN

*Note: Any text that is [blue](#) is an active link in the electronic version.
You can click on that to go to a webpage or send an email.*

GPC NEWS

Did you know GPC has 2 video channels? We do! And make sure you subscribe! The more subscribers we have, the more we can post! If you missed any of the videos for any reason, you can catch them at either one of these channels.

- > Check out the Vimeo channel [here](#)
- > and the YouTube channel [here](#).

Help Needed With Worship Services: GPC is looking for volunteers who want to join an ongoing team that will form the core group who works with the audio-visual process of the livestream during Sunday worship services. You do not have to be a “techy” person to do this. Those people already participating will be happy to train you, and all you have to do is learn the user-friendly system. In addition, the volunteer will switch camera views during certain parts of the service for our live-streaming. It’s all very easy, and yet vitally important to our expanding Internet presence. Please consider volunteering, and if you are interested you can contact the church office at communications@germantownpres.org.

GPC family: please be assured that GPCKids, PEACE the Special Needs Ministry, and GPC Youth will all follow the CDC/WHO Covid-19 guidelines to ensure the safety of our participants and our leaders as we resume meeting onsite.

If you’re reading this digitally, you can click [here](#) to read the updated policies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Director of Family Ministry Anna White at family@germantownpres.org.

ADULTS

Women: Membership in Presbyterian Women (PW) is open to all women and strives to help develop the gifts and talents of all women in our church. It’s a great way to meet the other women of the church and grow in your faith. Please consider joining in as we unite with other women of the church and commit to helping every woman develop into the person God intends her to be and grow spiritually through prayer, Bible study, and mission work, keeping our hearts open to God’s call to action and involvement. Individual Bible Study Circles meet the first Tuesday of every month on Zoom for now. For more information please call Nancy Halter, Moderator, 901-454-3268 or Bonnie Algee, Vice Moderator, 901-674-2613.

Men: The men of GPC currently Zoom their Sunrise Men’s Breakfast Friday mornings at 7am. If you’d like to be involved in that fellowship and Bible study, contact Drayton Mayers at draytonmayers@gmail.com. In addition, the men’s lunch devotion group is deciding how to resume those meetings, so if you’d like to be plugged into that group, please contact Anthony Duke at anthony.duke@ipaper.com.

New Sunday morning adult class: Coffee and Conversations is a new class designed to educate you about opportunities for education and church life within GPC. C&C meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room in the elementary hallway following worship. Join the class this Sunday, September 13 as Pastor Will shares his vision for GPC including our new worship service to start on September 20! Zoom Meeting ID: 972 8455 2323. Coming in September: September 20 - Pastor Tom Sauer, September 27 - Pastor Susie Wiggins.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Jump on Board!! The Special Needs Elementary Sunday School Class needs you! We are in need of 2 teacher assistants. You would be helping under the guidance of our exceptional teachers, Mary K. Grantham or Julie Lindow! You would be teaching on a rotational schedule!. This way teachers, assistants and students get the best of both worlds.

You get to touch the lives of our special friends and you can still attend adult SS class! If you'd like to volunteer or ask questions please email me at specialneeds@germantownpres.org or call 901-626-3380. Thanks, Helen Warren

Are you artistic, creative, and like to paint? Friendship Circle needs a Bob Ross of GPC - a person to lead us in a small canvas painting. If this is you, please email me at specialneeds@germantownpres.org or call 901-626-3380. Thanks, Helen Warren

Our Friendship Circle program's mission statement is: *"Friendship Circle at GPC exists for the special needs community to facilitate building God-like character through Bible study and creative outlets all while developing sincere and lasting friendships."*

WHO: Any individual with exceptional needs and their caregiver(s)

WHAT: Lunch (BYOB), character-building curriculum, and a creative activity within a circle of friends

WHEN: Wednesdays from 12:00 till 3:00 starting August 12

WHERE: Germantown Presbyterian Church-Warren Hall, 2363 S. Germantown Road, Germantown/Zoom

WHY: Because GPC has chosen to embrace the special needs community as if they were embracing Jesus Himself!

HOW: Registration is now open, and you can go to our website (<https://germantownpres.org/friendship-circle/>) for more info and to register to secure your spot. Have questions? Contact Helen Warren

@ specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming special needs events. If you would like to be on the Special Needs Ministry email list, please email special_needs@germantownpres.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS & CHILDREN

GPC's *Breathe* Parents' Night Out (PNO) is wants you! *Breathe* exists to provide a quiet night out for parents and a fun Bible experience with friends for kids. For the 2020-21 school year the theme is *Parable Quest* - the fun and excitement of exploring the Amazon rainforest is combined with the discovery of what it means to "follow Jesus on a life-changing adventure." The Bible focus verse for the year is: John 13:13 - *You call me teacher and Lord and rightly so for that is what I am.*

Make plans for your children to attend! Remember we include little ones as young as one year old through fifth grade as well as children with special needs. Visit our website at www.germantownpres.org/breathe to register for the first time and/or to make a monthly reservation. We will look for you in the months to come. (Please note: reservations for this event close at noon on the Monday prior to the event.) The cost is \$15/child per event night (includes a pizza dinner). Scholarships are available upon request. If requesting a scholarship, while checking out choose the "cash" option and contact 901-754-5195 to speak with Anna or Helen.

CHILDREN

Today, Sunday, September 13 is a special day in the Children's Ministry. It's the day GPC presents all our first-graders with their Bibles. Join with the GPC family in celebrating the first-grades as they receive their Bibles from GPC.

New Sunday morning adult class: Coffee and Conversations is a new class designed to educate you about opportunities for education and church life within GPC. C&C meets from 10:45-11:45am in the blue Noah's ark room in the elementary hallway following worship. Join the class this Sunday, September 13 as Pastor Will shares his vision for GPC including our new worship service to start on September 20! Zoom Meeting ID: 972 8455 2323. Coming in September: September 20 - Pastor Tom Sauer, September 27 - Pastor Susie Wiggins.

Keep watching this space, the website, and social media for upcoming children's events. If you would like to be on the Children's Ministry email list, please contact Family Ministry Director Anna White at children@germantownpres.org.

YOUTH

This year, as we start a new season of Youth, we want to focus on **U**nity, **N**urturing of faith, **I**ncluding all, **T**rusting God and each other, **E**mbracing our faith. Therefore, we will U.N.I.T.E. In all of our activities, we will **UNITE!**



The Youth Mess Fest is today, Sunday, September 13 from 12pm-2pm.

Youth Group Meals Update - For the foreseeable future, all meals will be ordered in and distributed to the youth by an adult in mask and gloves. This will also be done in a way to keep youth physically distant. (Bring a beach towel so that we can picnic on the south field if the weather allows.) Thank you for your patience as we navigate the safest ways to minister to our youth.

If you would like to be on the Youth Ministry email list, please email youth@germantownpres.org.

MISSIONS

In case you missed it. (ICYMI)

Resources to help the homeless: There are some terrific ways to help the homeless in the Germantown/Memphis area. If you want to help, please donate and/or give out the numbers listed here:

1. Hospitality Hub - 901-522-1808 info@hospitalityhub.org
2. Room in the Inn (RITI) - 901-395-3329 innkeeper@roomintheinn-memphis.org
3. MIFA - 901-527-0208 jseacat@mifa.org

Remember – don't give out anyone's personal number!

Our Ghana missions team asks that you pray for good health and safety for our friends in the Upper Presbytery as well as the country of Ghana. Our committee remains in contact with the Upper Presbytery, as they too are being impacted by Covid19. They are behind us in numbers of confirmed cases; however, as we have all witnessed, these numbers will climb.

The Upper Presbytery sends their prayers and well wishes to all members of our GPC church family. Our Ghana missions committee will share their needs as we come to know them. If you feel called to support them, we will share more details soon of how you can. If you have questions, please contact team members Erin Bowden (901-371-7884) or Beth Brock (901-355-0262).

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

GPC Prayer Ministry - These times are filled with anxiety and unrest. We as a church want to pray for all our members. There are several ways to request prayer. The website has a prayer request link toward the bottom of the homepage page with praying hands graphic. We also have replenished the pew prayer cards. Just fill them out and put them in the offering plate. Another way is the email that church member Margaret Owens oversees. The address is margaretowens1@aol.com. Or you can also send a prayer request to the pastors at prayers@germantownpres.org. The pastors also pray over all confidential prayer requests. This is a great way for us to get renewed strength during these uncertain times.

GPC offers a Grief Support Ministry. The Grief Support Group isn't meeting together currently, but if you or someone you know needs to talk to someone, note your options below. Contact the church office (901-754-5195) or Stephanie Wall, Certified Grief Counselor, American Academy of Grief Counseling and Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, Grief Recovery Institute (901-494-7786) or Beth Brock (901-355-0262) or Linda Oakes (901-237-6566).

GIVING

Even if you're not here physically, you can give to support the ministries of GPC during this time. For more information please call Fred Turverey in the church office at 901-754-5195.



Set up a recurring or one-time donation by texting the amount you wish to give to 901-295-0202.



Download the "GivePlus Church" app to set up recurring or one-time donations. You can also manage and view your giving from the convenience of your smartphone!



Visit germantownpres.org/giving or scan the QR code on the left to set up and manage your recurring or one-time gifts.



**Mail checks to:
2363 S Germantown Rd
Germantown TN 38138.**