



October 11, 2020

2363 S. Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

WWW.GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG

**Please stand.*

Please silence electronic devices.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Ad coenam agni providi
(The Lamb's high feast we await)

Jehan Titelouze

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIME INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Matthew 21:1-14)

Ms. Kirsten King

Leader: From the streets and boulevards, you've been called to the banquet!

People: With joy and gratitude, we humbly come, O Lord.

Leader: Put on the clothes of Christ, live as one of His, and then come.

People: With joy and gratitude, we robe ourselves in Christ, and humbly come.

Leader: This is the feast of life and light; one and all are invited!

**People: With joy and gratitude, we come to the banquet that has no end.
Let us worship the Lord our God as those who humbly come.**

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*CONFESSION OF SIN (in unison)

O God, you invite us to your feast, and we do not come. You beg us to give thanks for life, and we fail in our thanksgiving. You call us to respond to your graciousness by loving you with our whole hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, and we pass by our neighbor on the other side of the street, neglecting them and abandoning you.

Forgive us for neglecting the very gift of your salvation for us and failing to live obedient lives of gratitude. Forgive us for our complicit and complacent behaviors.

Turn us round right, we pray, O God; be our guide and conscience. Turn our feet and hands to your will so that all we do might give glory to you.

(Time of personal prayer)

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,

People: Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

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

Ms. King

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.)

THE WORD

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
T. J. Turner, tenor

arr. Moses Hogan

He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got all the power in His hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands. He's got you and me, sister, in His hands. He's got the little baby in His hands.

He's got mother and father in His hands. He's got the stars and the moon right in His hands. He's got ev'rybody in His hands.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

Praise for Deliverance from Oppression

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And He will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸He will swallow up death forever. Then the LORD God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of His people He will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, so that He might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 22:1-14

Rev. Wiggins

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Enemies of Gratitude: We're Not the Only Ones Invited!

Rev. Wiggins

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed

Dr. Will 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 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 and THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY

The Lord is my Strength

G. F. Handel

Althea and Christina Crouse, sopranos

The Lord is my strength and my song. He is become my salvation, my strength, my song.

*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

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE



1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my
3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing



1. wretch like me! I once was lost, but
2. fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
3. hope se - cures; He will my shield and
4. read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
5. as the sun, We've no less days to



1. now am found, Was blind but now I see.
2. grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
3. por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
4. safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

WORSHIP ARTS TODAY

Thank you to our musicians assisting in worship today: Althea and Christina Crouse and T. J. Turner.

On the cover: JESUS MAFA. *The Poor Invited to the Feast*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

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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.

Germantown Presbyterian Church Announcements Week of October 11, 2020

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: Alex & Jennifer Benford; Martha & Tom Drannon; Paula & David Hopkins; Betty McCallen; Teresa & Tim McCaskill; Dale & Mike Rowland; Cynthia Shaw; Anne & Mike Zachry.

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

First Presbyterian Church, Savannah, TN
Bethesda Presbyterian Church, Selmer, TN
First Presbyterian Church, Selmer, TN
First Presbyterian Church, Somerville, TN
Tiptonville Presbyterian Church, Tiptonville, 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.

3RD QUARTER STATEMENTS OF GIVING, SHOWING YEAR-TO-DATE ACTIVITY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30TH, WERE EMAILED (OR MAILED IF THAT WAS YOUR PREFERENCE) IN EARLY OCTOBER. IF YOU PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED YOUR STATEMENT BY EMAIL AND YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED THIS STATEMENT, PLEASE CHECK YOUR JUNK MAIL FOLDER. IF THAT DOESN'T RESOLVE THE SITUATION, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL FRED TURVEREY IN THE CHURCH OFFICE (901-754-5195/FREDT@GERMANTOWNPRES.ORG) SO WE CAN BE SURE YOU RECEIVE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED.

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 morning and evening worship services. The 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 livestreaming. 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 6:30am. 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 their meetings, so if you'd like to be plugged into that group, please contact Anthony Duke at anthony.duke@ipaper.com.

Onsite Sunday morning adult class: Coffee and Conversations is an onsite 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 27 as Pastor Susie Wiggins shares with the class as well as leading everyone in a devotion connected to what your children are learning in Sunday School.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Jump on Board!! The Special Needs Elementary Sunday School Class needs you! We need 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

AMPLify Has Begun! **AMPLify** is one of our PEACE Ministry programs. It is a music program which allows students who are differently abled to showcase their gifts and talents through rhythm, melody, and spontaneity. It is led by the very talented, Noel Wilkins. Even though **AMPLify** looks a bit different this year because we are having temperature checks, wearing masks, and social distancing, there is still lots of fun and learning going on. **AMPLify** takes place each Thursday at 10:00am, and we will wrap up the semester in December with a winter performance in the sanctuary. We have room for more, so if you'd like to participate or volunteer, please email specialneeds@germantownpres.org. We'd love you to join us as we amplify our hearts, voices, and witness for the glory of God!

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 specialneeds@germantownpres.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS & CHILDREN

GPC's *Breathe* Parents' Night Out (PNO) is in full swing! There is no PNO in October due to Fall Break, but watch for future dates. Typically, on the second Friday of each month (with some exceptions) *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.

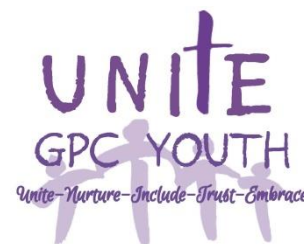
CHILDREN

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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

Sunday mornings: Youth meet from 10:45 – 11:45am onsite and on Zoom. For information and the Zoom link, contact Anna White or Erin Bowden at youth@germantownpres.org. Fall Break is this Sunday, October 11, so no morning or afternoon youth events. Have a great Fall Break, and we'll see you back next week on Sunday, October 18.



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!

Room in the Inn (RITI) Memphis is resuming a regular, limited schedule this fall to be evaluated on a month-by-month basis. Please see below for the details about the upcoming 2020-2021 season and how they plan to offer shelter as safely as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. We'll host on Saturday evenings.

Quick rundown of how RITI will work moving forward (re-evaluated on a month-by-month basis):

- GPC will join with Emmanuel Methodist hosting this year.
- We will host every other Saturday night starting in November.
- We will be back at The Cottage at Germantown Methodist Church.
- RITI Memphis (Carpenters House) will send the same eight guests to that location for the entire week, and the guests will sleep in the same bed every night, so that they can be better contact traced should the need arise.
- Emmanuel Methodist will provide the transportation and van driver every time.
- We will need only one person to spend the night and one person on call who lives close by.
- We will need four hands-on volunteers at night along with people who will make and drop off the food and take-away sacks for the following day.
- We will also need one person to do a quick clean-up and possibly some laundry (TBD).

To sign up and/or volunteer to help, email Susan Shirley Hurt [here](#).

UKirk Memphis is a ministry serving the campuses of Rhodes College, the University of Memphis, and beyond. UKirk is a nationwide campus ministry affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and in partnership with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We seek to reach, love, and teach college students to be lifelong followers of Jesus Christ. In the season of COVID-19, we have pivoted from our normal in-person events to holding our weekly gatherings online for a time of fellowship, conversation, and prayer. We are holding some small socially distant gatherings outdoors, along with providing opportunities for one-on-one conversation with the campus minister. We have also sent care packages to our students as tangible reminders that they are loved! Although we are doing ministry differently this year, its importance in the spiritual lives of our students has not waivered, nor has our need for support from congregations and individuals.

We ask for your prayers for our students as they navigate life in this time. And if you feel called to donate financially, you can do so online at www.ukirkmemphis.com under the "Support Us" tab. There you can also sign up for our quarterly newsletter. If you would rather write a check, you can make it out to the Presbytery of the Mid-South with UKirk in the memo line and send to the Presbytery office at 449 Patterson St. Memphis, TN 38111. UKirk Memphis sends a big thank you to Germantown Presbyterian Church for their continued support of our ministry!


Upcoming UKirk virtual fundraiser: UKirk Memphis presents a virtual concert on Facebook live, Friday, October 30 from 6:30-8pm. Suggested donations are \$10 and proceeds benefit UKirk. This is a concert by Bailey and Wyly Bigger; Bailey's a current UKirk Memphis student, and her brother, Wyly, is a UKirk alum of Mississippi State.

Questions? Contact Rev. Elizabeth Doolin, the UKirk Campus Minister, at ukirk-memphis@gmail.com.

Follow us on social media! On Instagram and Twitter @ UkirkMemphis, and Facebook @ UKirkatMemphis

The Rising Together Foundation (RTF) has an amazing opportunity. We are excited to be selected to participate in the *USA Today* "**A Community Thrives**" Challenge, a program that offers an opportunity for nonprofits to share great ideas for how they are improving their communities. It also provides a national platform and a chance at \$2,000,000 in grants to get them off the ground and running. Our campaign is the "**RTF Education and Opportunity Fund.**" This fund provides financial assistance so that disadvantaged students from under-served communities may participate in our academic enrichment programs, events, and summer camps.

When we raise the required minimum of \$3,000 between now and October 16 at 11:00am, RTF automatically qualifies for at least a \$2,500 grant. There are also Bonus Challenges each of the four weeks of the ACT Challenge that present the opportunity to receive additional grants that I will focus on now. As Team RTF we're going to focus on the last two weeks of the challenges which I think we can win.

 Bonus Challenge 4 is Monday, October 12 11:00am - Friday, October 16 at 11:00am. Eight organizations with the most eligible donations (total dollars raised) during the time period on its Official Fundraising Page will receive \$4,000.

There are three important rules in the challenge:

1. the minimum donation is \$5;
2. all donations must be made through the [Challenge Website](#); and
3. "unique donations" in Bonus Challenge Week 3 is determined by unique email addresses.

Our average donation through the Challenge to date is \$220, so I'll use that number in my example. In week 3 use all of the email addresses in your family to make as many \$5 donations as possible. Let's assume you have four email addresses and you make four \$5 donations totaling \$20. The fourth week you would donate the remaining \$200 for a two-week total of \$220.

Thank you in advance for playing the game, supporting Rising Together Foundation, and serving disadvantaged students in Shelby County. If you have any questions about the Game Plan and the role that you can play, please email or call me (judd@risingtogetherfoundation.com or 901-378-3251). Gratefully, Judd Peters

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.