



THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

WORSHIP

January 29, 2017

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

11 a.m.

PRELUDE

Truro

J. Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)

WELCOME

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

People: And also with you.

INTROIT

Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Dwelling Place

Eric Thiman
(1900-1975)

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 27

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

All: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent: he will set me high on a rock.

Leader: Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Let us worship God.

✦HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Festal Song



✦Please stand or sit.

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone and no 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: Lord, we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another in thoughts, words, and actions. We hide your saving love and grace from one another, when instead you call us to be light and salt. We are half-hearted followers, denying your power by our inaction. Yet you call us without ceasing. Open our ears to hear your call, so we may receive your grace, and follow you all our lives.

(Silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

✠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

After Time with Children, ages two years through 5th grade recess with leaders up the center aisle to worship. Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service.

✠HYMN 643 Now Thank We All Our God *Nun danket alle Gott*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Elder John Schuhart

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (pg. 173)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM There Is a Balm in Gilead William Dawson (1899-1990)

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5:1-12 (pg. 4)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *A Word to the Wise* Rev. Dr. Allan Boesak

This morning we welcome Rev. Dr. Allan Boesak as our guest preacher. Dr. Boesak is a South African clergyman who was a leader in the struggle to end apartheid in South Africa alongside Nelson Mandela and Bishop Desmond Tutu. A former president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, he is still active in that organization. He is currently a faculty member of Christian Theological Seminary and Butler University in Indianapolis.

About the music: The Choral offertory this morning is an arrangement, by that great American Composer Aaron Copland, of the gospel hymn “Shall We Gather at the River.” Written in 1864 by Robert Lowry, the tune bears the title “Hanson Place,” a reference to Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn, where Lowry, a Baptist minister, sometimes served. The hymn invites all to gather together in unity, by the shining river that flows by the throne of God.

The flowers in the Chancel today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Rev. Dr. Allan Boesak and his continuing work to promote justice and world peace.

The ushers for January are Alex Bullock, Captain; Elizabeth Avery, Karl Mattison, Lewis Mattison, Russell Porter, David Roll and Nancy Roll.

Today after the service visitors and members are cordially invited to join us in the Georgetown Room for Punch Bunch, hosted this week by the Hospitality Committee.

Assisted listening devices may be found at the back of the sanctuary. Each device comes with a headset, but you may bring your own from home.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated. Blue Bibles may be found at the end of each pew.

Children’s Ministries

During the service, Children’s Worship continues after *Time with Children*.

- 2s-Kindergarten grade, escorted by leader upstairs to the West Worship Room for *Young Children & Worship*
- 1st-5th grade, to Chapel for *Children’s Church*

YCW children should be collected upstairs by their parents immediately after the service. Children’s Church dismisses into the Georgetown Room. All children are welcome to remain with their families in the service and age-appropriate worship bags are available in the narthex.

WELCOME

Our congregation has been welcoming members and visitors to worship on the Lord's Day since March 16, 1780.

If you are visiting this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to introduce yourself to one of the pastors or speak with an usher if you have any questions.

If you are looking for a church home and would like to talk with one of the pastors, please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew today or call the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member Conferences

Thursday, February 2, 6 – 9 p.m.

Saturday, February 11, 9 a.m. – noon

Join us at one of our next two New Member Conferences to review the basics of Christianity and the Reformed Tradition, discuss what Presbyterians believe, and learn how this all comes together at GPC. New members will be introduced to the congregation on **Sunday, February 19**. For more information or to sign up, please email the church office at mec@gtownpres.org.

Call for Shelter Volunteers Dinner or Knitting!

The floating Winter Shelter will be at GPC from **February 19 to March 12**. Sign up on our website to provide one of the nightly meals for this important ministry and have some fellowship with our unhoused neighbors. Also if you crochet, knit, quilt, or sew, we invite you to make a scarf or hat to give to one of our shelter guests. It's a one-time commitment, and can be done together or in your own home. Contact: Shelley at shelleycjennings@gmail.com.

The 237th Annual Meeting of The Georgetown Presbyterian Church

is hereby called for **today, Sunday, January 29, 2017**. The meeting will convene following the 11 a.m. service for the following purposes:

- To receive the Annual Report for 2016;
- To vote on the recommended changes to the pastors' terms of call;
- To elect Trustees of the Corporation, and;
- To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

By order of the Session:

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray, Moderator
Roy M. Henwood, Clerk of Session

Adult Issues

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

Washington Room

February 5

Rev. Sathianathan Clarke, Professor at Wesley Theological Seminary, concludes his series on “Learning from the Wisdom of Religions of Asia: Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism.”

February 12-26

Adrian Vaagenes, Princeton Seminary grad, will speak on the Bible and Flannery O'Connor in a three-week series.

Georgetown Saturday Suppers and Sunday Dinners

Each meal serves about 70 of our DC neighbors struggling with homelessness and food insecurity. Our next meal to host at GPC is on Sunday, February 12. Please sign up on our website.

Young Adult (20s and 30s) Events

Fat Tuesday Feast

Tuesday, February 28 6:30 p.m.

3881 Porter S., NW, #D298

Washington, DC 20016

Join the feast and discussion about Lent. Gumbo/jambalaya, New Orleans drinks and King cake for dessert! RSVP to margaret.mataovich@gmail.com.

Dinner and Discussion with visiting preacher Dr. Brian Blount President, Union Seminary Saturday, March 4

At the home of Tracy Davis and Ralph Voltmer (1815 24th St. NW). RSVPs: zoe.ellen.williams@gmail.com.

Tables of Eight

Enjoy old friends and get acquainted with newer GPC folks. Open to all: singles, couples, young and young-at-heart, members and friends. The more, the merrier! Just two Saturday evenings (**February 4 and March 18, 2017**). No need to sign up for both dates, only those you can attend. Contact: Judi Crowson at (202) 333-1603 or jdcrowson@verizon.net.

Crying Room and Nursery

If your baby needs a place to make a bit of noise and stretch out, we have a professionally-staffed nursery upstairs or, if you prefer, the crying room is located adjacent to the narthex where the service can be viewed on a TV screen. A bottle warmer and toys are available and changing stations are in both restrooms. If you have questions, the ushers will be glad to help you.

2016 Annual Report

Copies of the 2016 Annual Report may be picked up in the narthex.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 29

11am Worship – Rev. Boesak
11:15am Young Children & Worship
11:15am Children’s Church
12pm Congregational Meeting
12:15 pm Punch Bunch
12:15pm Youth Group
4pm Yoga
4pm G’town Sunday Dinner

Tuesday, January 31

9:30am Staff meeting

Wednesday, February 1

7pm Officer Training

Saturday, February 4

6:30pm Tables of Eight

Sunday, February 5

9am Choir rehearsal
9:15am Nursery opens
9:45am Children’s Music in Chapel
9:45am Adult Issues
10am Sunday Morning Bible
11am Worship – Lord’s Supper
11:15am Young Children & Worship
11:15am Children’s Church
12pm Lunch Bunch
4pm Yoga
4pm G’town Sunday Dinner
5pm Youth Group

Daily Readings

Sunday **Matthew 5:1-12**
Monday Genesis 35:1-15
Tuesday Jeremiah 1:4-10
Wednesday Matthew 12:15-21
Thursday Isaiah 49:1-7
Friday Psalm 40:1-11
Saturday 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Sunday **John 1:29-42**

 Georgetown Presbyterian Church is a founding member and supporter of the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington.

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray
ccm@gtownpres.org

Associate Pastor/Christian Education

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes
rlv@gtownpres.org

Associate Pastor/Mission

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen
ccs@gtownpres.org

Parish Associate

Rev. Katie Francis
katherinewfrancis@gmail.com

Director of Music

Mark Willey
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Office Manager

Mary Ellen Cain
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Finance

bookkeeper@gtownpres.org

Contract Custodian

Clifford Ford
cxfnite@comcast.net

Happy Birthday

January 29 Laura Blood
Jennifer Hillman
January 30 Jimmy Wilson
February 1 Virginia Boatwright
February 2 Samuel Jordan
February 4 Siena Del Sontro
February 5 Alexander Scott
John Scott

2017 Chancel Flower Donations

There are many available openings in the flower schedule in the coming months. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one by contributing to the Chancel Flowers, please fill out a donation sheet (located in the narthex) and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

OUR HISTORY

The Georgetown Presbyterian Church began in 1760 as a small group of worshipers and organized into a church in 1780 under the eminent Stephen Bloomer Balch, Revolutionary War soldier and pupil of religious leader John Witherspoon. It was the first Presbyterian Church in what was to become modern-day Washington, DC, and is the oldest DC church of any denomination with an unbroken ministry. Until long after the national capital was established, many of Washington's baptisms, weddings and funerals were solemnized in our church. People of all denominations worshiped with us, including many leaders of the young republic.

In 1782 our congregation erected the first – and for many years the only – Protestant church building in Georgetown. Additions were made in 1794 with Thomas Jefferson among the contributors. A rare charter, still in effect, was granted in 1806 to “the Presbyterian Congregation in George Town” by an act of Congress signed by President Jefferson. In 1810 our seal, with its seven stars and Bible, was given to the church by the superintendent of the Mint. In 1821, President Monroe laid the cornerstone for the beautiful Bridge Street building which was moved fifty years later to our present site, where President Grant laid the cornerstone. This is the building which we have since restored and in which we now worship.

Our church pioneered in both the religious and cultural life of this community. In 1781, Dr. Balch became headmaster of the Columbian Academy to which George Washington sent his nephews and wards, and later a school for girls was founded. Dr. Balch wrote the first book published in the District of Columbia and he helped found the first public library. Out of our church and under Dr. Balch's broad-minded leadership, Episcopal, Methodist and Presbyterian churches were established in Washington and Maryland.

Our church bell tolled all day when President Washington died. In our church George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington and father-in-law of Robert E. Lee, delivered a speech on Napoleon's defeat. Memorial services for President William Henry Harrison were conducted here in 1841. During the Civil War, our building became a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers, including casualties from the Second Battle of Manassas and the Battle of Fredericksburg. In these and in other ways, this church identifies with the history of the nation it continues to serve.

THE GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray, Senior Pastor

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes, Associate Pastor for Christian Education

Rev. Christopher Chatelaine-Samsen, Associate Pastor for Mission

Rev. Katie Francis, Parish Associate

Mark Willey, Director of Music

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