



*The mission of GPPC is to embody God's love
by cultivating community, practicing hope, repairing harm, and doing justice as Jesus did.*

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday after Epiphany

11:00am

+ indicates you are invited to stand

Bold print indicates congregation in unison

We are grateful to be gathered here in the Almond Creek-James River watershed, which we share with a diversity of plants and creatures, including the flowering dogwood, butterfly milkweed, striped bass, northern cardinal, and red fox.

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Powhatan Confederacy. May we nurture our relationship with all our neighbors, and our shared responsibilities to this watershed where we gather today.

GATHERING

*The act of assembling in Jesus' name bears witness to the Church's identity and mission as Christ's body in the world.
Gather your thoughts and feelings. Entrust yourself to God's saving grace.*

Prelude

Prelude on "We Shall Overcome"

Adolphus Hailstork

Greeting and Announcements

Introit

Doug Brown

Jesus said to them, "Come and see." John 1:39a

Call to Worship

One: God of presence, your love always seeks us out in our joy, in our suffering and in our silences

All: Come and meet us

One: You are our God of might and your arm rules for us

All: Come and strengthen us

One: You tend your flock like a shepherd and you gather the lambs in your arms

All: Come and lift us up

One: You carry them in your bosom and gently lead those that are with young

All: Come and guide us

All: We have come and we wait on you

Renew our strength so that we can walk in your ways again

+ Hymn 11 *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud*

Confession of Sin and Pain

Kenyan traditional

The musical notation is for a hymn in 3/4 time. The key signature is G major. The melody consists of two staves of music. The top staff is for the Leader, and the bottom staff is for the All. The lyrics are: "Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing, (1. lis - ten) (2. of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. joy.)". The notation includes various note heads, stems, and rests.

Merciful God, you have made known to us your son Jesus who came to take away our sins. Through his coming he also bore our sorrows, our sufferings and identity with our pain. But we falter by trusting in our own strength and we fail to rely on you for refuge. We seek convenience by turning our gaze away from following you and from those who bear your image among us- the poor, the lonely, the stranger. We go and do what our selfish motive desires even when we hear your call. Forgive us for failing to hear you, for not walking in the ways you expect us and not following the path you have made known to us. As we seek your name, renew us in your love and turn our hearts toward you to live according to your will.

Silent prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness and Healing

+ Gloria (Hymn 582) *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

WORD

Where the scriptures are read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ, the living Word, is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit also evokes our response. Through singing, affirmation, and prayer, with the help of God's Spirit, we discern Jesus Christ, receive Christ's grace, and resolve to follow Christ's way.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Isaiah 49:1-7 (NRSVUE)

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD and my reward with my God."

And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Psalm 40:1-11

One: I waited patiently for the LORD, who inclined to me and heard my cry.

The LORD drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.

All: The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

One: Happy are those who make the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

**All: You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.**

One: Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.

All: Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

One: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.
I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

**All: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;**

One: I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;

All: Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;

Let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

John 1: 29-42 (NRSVUE)

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel. "And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Nenio Pfuzeh

+ Hymn 688 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

+ Affirmation of Faith

(Adapted from Heidelberg Catechism)

One: Why is he called Christ, meaning anointed?

All: Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

One: What do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

All: First, that the Spirit is with the Father and the Son, is eternal God Second, that the Spirit is given also to me so that, through true faith, the Spirit makes me share in Christ and all God's benefits, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

One: But why are you called a Christian?

All: Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

+ Somos Uno (Hymn 322)

We are one in Christ Jesus, all one body, all one spirit, all together.

Somos uno en Cristo, somos uno, somos uno, uno solo.

We share one God, one mighty Lord, one abiding faith, one binding love,

One single baptism, one Holy Comforter, the Holy Spirit, uniting all.

Prayers of the People

EUCCHARIST

Though we are not sharing the bread and cup today, we remember with thanksgiving (eukharistia) the grace (kharis) with which Jesus welcomes us to sit at his table, eat what will satisfy our deepest hungers, and feed others as we've been fed. We offer ourselves in response to Christ's wonderful offering of love.

Offering



Everyone is invited to place tithes, offerings, visitor cards, or any other communications to the Pastor or staff in the designated wall boxes beside each door at the back of the Sanctuary or signal an usher to bring you the offering plate.

Monetary gifts and pledges to GPPC may also be given online at <https://www.ginterparkpc.org/giving>, or by using the QR Code to the left.

Offertory

MLK

U2/arr. Chilcott

*Sleep, sleep tonight, and may your dreams be realized,
If the thundercloud passes rain, so let it rain, rain down on him.*
Kenneth Wood, tenor

+ Doxology (Hymn 607)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

SENDING

Our worship and service do not end with the postlude; we go forth to love and serve God in our daily lives.

+ Hymn 69 Here I Am, Lord

+ Charge and Blessing

+ The Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

+ Postlude

Postlude on "We Shall Overcome"

Adolphus Hailstork

ABOUT WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Our guest preacher today is Nenio Pfuzeh. Director of Music is Doug Brown. Today's liturgist is Rosalind Banbury, and our lector is Helen Roybark. The livestream operator is Bob Roybark. Owen Sharman is lead usher.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES AND LARGE PRINT HYMNS are available from an usher in the Narthex.

PLEASE TAKE THE PAPER BULLETIN YOU HAVE USED home for reference and/or recycling. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS about events in the life of GPPC are available through a weekly e-newsletter. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact Karen Mitscherlich at ginterparkpc@gmail.com.