



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

November 16, 2025

*Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
Commitment Sunday*

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 Petit Canon Nadia Boulanger

Greeting and Announcements

Introit Doug Brown
And he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. - Matthew 25:33

+ Call to Worship [from the Iona Abbey Worship Book]

One: Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day to the rising of this life itself.
The purpose of God be between us and each purpose,

All: the hand of God between us and each hand,

One: the pain of Christ between us and each pain,

All: the love of Christ between us and each love.

One: O God, you brought us to the light of this new day;

All: bring us to the guiding light of eternity.

+ Hymn 377 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Confession of Sin and Praise

Kenyan traditional

Leader: All:

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort and joy. — joy.

One: Eternal Creator of the endless heavens, lowly Christ, befriender of the changing earth,
Holy Spirit, wind over the flowing waters, in earth, sea, and sky, you are ever present.

**All: O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul within all souls,
in everything we touch, in everyone we meet, you are there, and we give you thanks.**

One: But where we have not touched but trampled you in creation,
where we have not honored but avoided you in one another,
where we have not received but rejected your goodness, forgive us and hear our plea for your pardon.

Silent prayer

One: Holy God,

All: holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us. Amen.

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

Matthew 25:31-46 (NRVSUE)

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these siblings of mine, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

Psalm 95

One: O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

All: For the LORD is a great God, and a great Sovereign above all gods.

In God's hand are the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains.

One: The sea belongs to God, who made it, whose hands have formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

All: For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

O that today you would listen to God's voice!

One: Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

All: For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

Therefore in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest."

God has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Carla Pratt Keyes

+ Hymn 70 *What does the Lord Require of You?*

+ Affirmation of Faith

[from the Iona Abbey Worship Book]

We believe in God in whom is power and compassion.

We believe in the Creator, who gave birth to the universe, set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains, and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.

God's power topples tyrants and brings down walls of separation;

God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father, encouraging and caring for us.

We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land –

a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.

He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,

spoke the truth with courage and clarity, forgave his enemies and changed lives.

In his living, dying, and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who sustains, comforts, and empowers us,

opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.

+ 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.

Moment for Mission

Amy Dail Harris

Offering



As the choir sings, you are invited to bring forward gifts of money and pledges to support GPPC's ministry in 2026.

Please place your pledge cards and gifts in the basket.

Ushers will also come down the aisle, in case you would like to make a gift or pledge but would rather not come forward.

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

With What Shall I Come before My Lord?

David Schwoebel

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

God has told you what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God? - Micah 6:6-8

+ 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 751 *From the Nets of Our Labor*

+ Charge and Blessing

+ The Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

+ Postlude

Prelude

Nadia Boulanger

Please come to lunch in the Fellowship Hall!

ABOUT WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: GPPC's Director of Music is Doug Brown, and our Pastor is Carla Pratt Keyes. Today's liturgist is John Carroll, and our lector is Amy Clark. The livestream operator is Alfred Walker. Owen Sharman is lead usher.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available in the Narthex. Please see today's greeter or an usher.

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.

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