

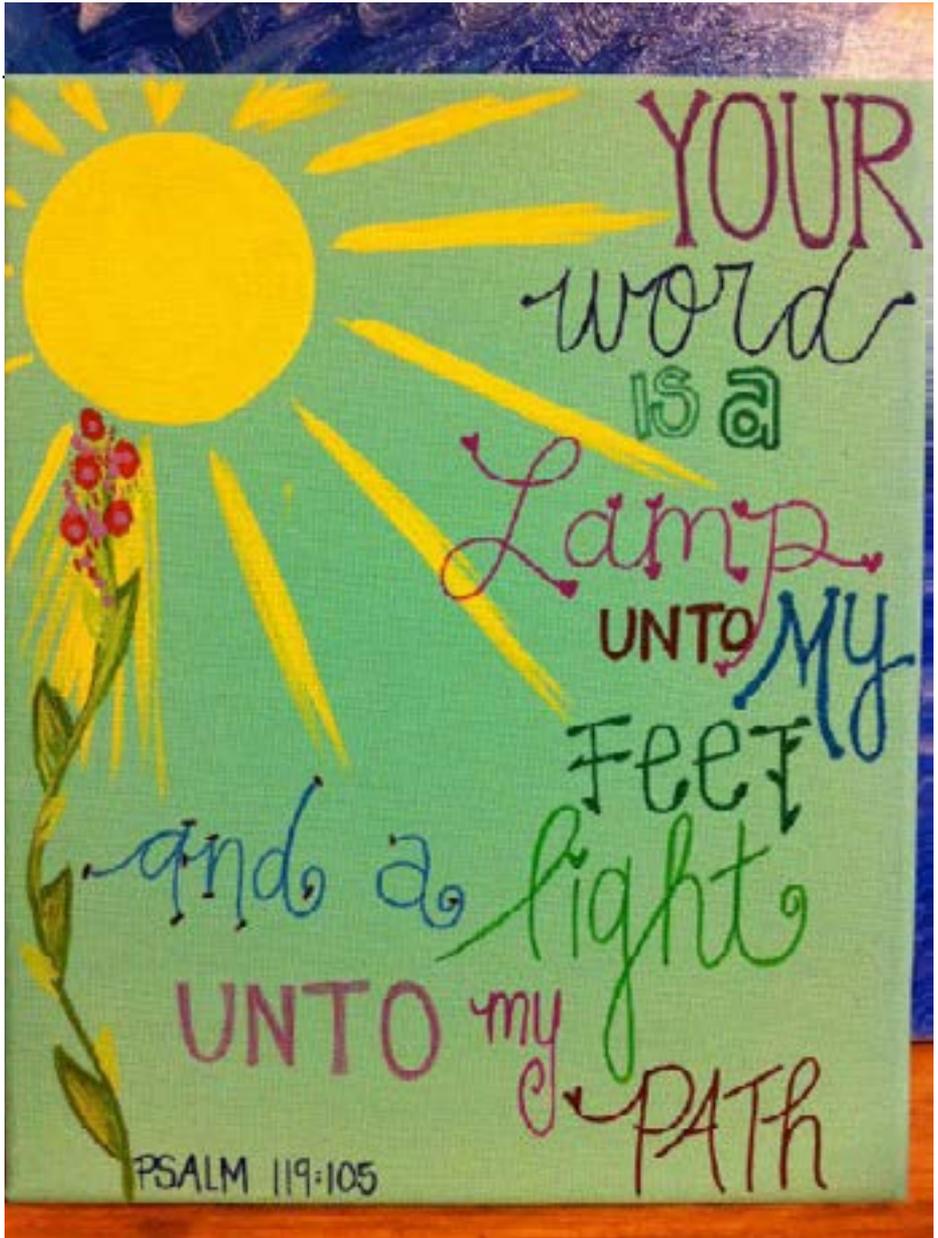
GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

*“A light by the lakeshore”*

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

AUGUST 23, 2020 | WORSHIP 9AM

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



# Order of Service for the Worship of God

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE—Blessed Assurance

Phoebe Palmer Knapp, arr. Mark Hayes

### WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*One:* O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, nor are my eyes raised too high;

*Many:* **We do not occupy ourselves with things too great or marvelous for us.**

*One:* We calm and quiet our souls in your presence, O God.

*Many:* **In you we find our peace and hope.**

*One:* Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN 450—Be Thou My Vision

*Tune: Slane*

(see bulletin pg.14)

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND SILENT CONFESSION

*Our prayer of confession is followed by a time for silent confession.*

*All:* **God of creation and redemption: you made us wondrous creatures with limits and potential. We confess resisting the boundaries set for our well-being while neglecting the possibilities of our becoming. The complexities of life we flatten into something small and manageable. The struggles of life we deaden by our compulsions and addictions. Forgive us, merciful God, for our rejection of your good creation and the misuse of your gifts. Restore us to a right understanding and use of all creation, that we might embrace life in its fullness and live freely for the benefit of others.**

### DECLARATION OF PARDON

*One:* Amen. If the Lord was not on our side, we would be lost in brokenness and sin. Yet God in Christ chooses us in mercy and forgiveness, to mend and heal and reconcile. Embrace this forgiving God and the new life given to you!

*All:* **Thanks be to God!**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

*One:* The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and always!

*All:* **And also with you!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO FAITHFULNESS—Love the Lord Your God *Tune: Great Commandment*

*We affirm our faithfulness to God by singing Hymn 62, the “Great Commandment.”*

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart.**

**Love the Lord your God with all your soul.**

**Love the Lord your God with all your mind.**

**Love the Lord your God with all that you are.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*One:* We listen now for your word and seek your light upon our path.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, renew our minds and hearts so that we may discern your will and respond with obedience and love. In the name of the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, we pray.

*All:* **Amen.**

### CHILDREN’S TIME

GOSPEL READING—Matthew 6:24

*After each reading:*

*One:* The Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM—I Am Always With You

James Biery

OLD TESTAMENT READING—Exodus 20:4-6

SERMON—No Substitutes Allowed

Mark Diehl

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### INVITATION TO OFFERINGS OF SELF AND GIFTS

*For those who are able, we are grateful for your continued offerings to our ministries. You can donate online using the "Secure Donation Form" link on our website's front page. Your contributions are so important at this time.*

SOLO-The Call (from "Five Mystical Songs")      Ralph Vaughan Williams

## TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

CLOSING HYMN 694- Great God of Every Blessing      *Tune: Aurelia*  
(see bulletin pg.15)

### BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE-I've Got Peace Like a River      Trad. Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

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## WELCOME TO GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

We are a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and one of its growing congregations. As a multi-generational community of faith, we are pleased to offer a host of ministries that respond to the varied interests of our members and friends. **We give thanks to God that you joined us today and we pray you will receive a sense of God's loving Spirit from your time with us.** No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

### A Sermon Series for This Moment in Time (updated 8/23/20)

We live in a moment of significant societal unrest and turmoil precipitated by the present pandemic and long-standing, unresolved discrimination against citizens of our country. Does our faith provide any guidance in this time when wisdom and clear direction are needed to move us toward justice and hope and peace and renewed community life?

One of the valuable treasures of Jewish and Christian faiths is the prominence given to scripture: it is often referred to as the word or words of God. For some, the "word of God" denotes demand and restriction; for others it connotes challenge and courage; still for others it conveys reassurance and comfort and succor. One perspective highlighted in Jewish scripture is God's word, God's Torah or Law, as that which leads the faithful into wisdom and understanding and knowledge.

Our theme for the fall program year of 2020 is "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps 119:105). When faith communities attend God's word by reading and studying and meditating on its meaning and significance, and implement its wisdom, those communities are led to wholeness and fulfillment, righteousness and peace.

The focus of sermons in worship through the end of October will sharpen that theme centering on the Decalogue or the "Ten Words," otherwise known as the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). The Ten Commandments were given to a community that had been enslaved for 400 years in order to provide these newly freed people with relevant patterns of justice and dignity and responsibility. Understood properly, the commandments can guide us in our challenging moment in time as well.

Mark is providing a study guide for the congregation to use during the series which can be found and downloaded from GPMC's website. You are encouraged to read the scripture and engage the questions from each week's study prior to the sermon. This week will be Study #3. All sermons will be recorded and broadcast at 9 am on Sundays, and can be found on the website or our YouTube channel.

## ABOUT WORSHIP AT GPMC

**Leading and Assisting in Worship:** Mark Diehl, Sarah Godbehere, Carol Marks, Lisa Turner; The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Virtual Choir; James Biery, organ and piano; Kenneth Shepherd, baritone; Joe Masinick and Nathan Turner, worship service production.

### What's Happening Today, August 23, 2020

9am Worship Service Pre-Recorded (Livestreamed)  
5pm Worship Service Trinity Terrace by Reservation

*Weekly Livestreamed Services will be available on GPMC's Website.*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Children's Sermons:** This summer during Sunday morning worship, the children's sermons have been based on different themes from the Bible. This month the stories will center around animals. Each week in the "Families First" email, activities and faith questions will be available for families to download and to do prior to the service. This weekly email is available to all members of the congregation. Please contact Lisa Turner at [ltturner@gpmchurch.org](mailto:ltturner@gpmchurch.org) to sign up.

**Youth Groups for middle school and high school students are done meeting for the summer!** We'll see you again on September 15 at 7pm as youth group starts up for the school year. Due to the ongoing pandemic and changes in the public schools, our programs look a bit different this year. 5th and 6th grade students at GPMC will be part of a new youth group called FLAME, which stands for Fellowship in Love And Ministry Everlasting. This year, FLAME (5th and 6th grades), LIFE (7th and 8th grades) and TUXIS (high school) will continue to meet regularly on Tuesday nights from 7-8pm, even when the weather turns colder. Since many of our young people will be on computers all day for school, we are trying to facilitate a youth program that allows for in-person interaction while mitigating the risks. We're going to meet on Trinity Terrace dressed for the weather, with masks and social distancing. We'll have a fire pit for each group to gather around to help everyone stay warm. During our meeting we will share our highs and lows from the week, read a Bible verse and discuss it, play some active games, and pray. If the weather is really terrible, we'll meet online for a similar program via Zoom. Change and uncertainty are hard for everyone. Our prayer is that GPMC continues to be a place of support, connection, and real relationships for our youth in this season.

**Please check emails, the bulletin, and the website for Adult Education updates.** **A Note About Zoom Links in the Bulletin:** Zoom links which you find in the bulletin are not "live" links. You must either copy and paste them into your browser, or you can also type them into your browser. The links in the weekly congregational email are live links, and a convenient means of connecting to various Adult Education offerings. Questions, or help "signing up?" Contact Susan Mozena, [susanhmozena@gmail.com](mailto:susanhmozena@gmail.com), or 313.204.4875.

**Preacher's Workshop** meets August 24th at 10am via Zoom with Mark Diehl. The preaching text is Exodus 20:7.

**Women's Bible Study**, Tuesdays, 7-8am. Meeting remotely via Zoom. If you are not now a participant, but wish to join, contact Susan Mozena.

**Men's Bible Study**, Wednesdays, 7-8am. We're now meeting on Trinity Terrace. Please contact Steven Voorhees at [captaingadget@comcast.net](mailto:captaingadget@comcast.net) with any questions.

**Adult Bible Study**, first and third Wednesday nights of the month. 7:30-9pm. via Zoom. If you are not now a participant and wish to join, please contact Susan Mozena.

**Novel as Theology in September:** "Novel" returns on Sept. 23, 7:30pm, via Zoom after a bit of a summer break. Don Ditmars has chosen *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain as our first read for the new "school year," and will be guiding the discussion. It has been a long time since most of us have read that wonderful piece, published in the U.K. in 1884 and in this country in 1885, by one of America's most talented and observant writers. Join others in reading and discussing this American classic. If you haven't yet been part of the "Novel group," and wish to join the September discussion, please contact Susan Mozena.

**Scripture and Conversation for Women**, meets each Wednesday morning, 11:15am-12:15pm, via free conference call (1.978.990.5000, access code 658374). If you are not a participant, but wish to join, contact Susan Mozena, so you can be updated as needed regarding details.

**Men's Bible Study**, Saturdays, 8-9am. Meeting remotely via Zoom. If you are not now a member and wish to join, contact David Asker at [davidasker@outlook.com](mailto:davidasker@outlook.com).

**Short Story as Theology:** The Short Story group will reconvene on September 9th, 7:30pm, via Zoom. Stay tuned for the story! If you have not yet been a part of the Short Story group but wish to join in, please contact Susan Mozena.

**Created in God's Image: The Way Forward for Justice and Peace:** Please plan to join us during Middle Hour on August 30th (10:10am) for our next conversation in the series "Created in God's Image: The Way Forward for Justice and Peace." Our own Sue Stanley, the principal of Salina Elementary School in Dearborn, is going to share with us her experience of stepping out of her comfort zone, in the process making connections with the predominantly Yemeni immigrant community in Salina's neighborhood, and building trust with her staff, the kids, and their parents. She will show a wonderful video that was created to tell the school's story (and part of Sue's story, too), and she will help us to welcome one of her closest colleagues, Norieah, who also will join us via Zoom. We will have a chance to discuss the video, ask questions, and hear more about building community across what can be very real ethnic and religious divides. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88537836722>

## OUTREACH

**Drive Thru Food Drive Update:** A big shout out of THANKS to everyone who volunteered and supported our food drive!! 4,770 items were donated!! Approximately 2/3 of the items were donated to Second Mile Center, and 1/3 to the Manistique Community Treehouse. All volunteers wore masks, socially distanced, and collected items from donors' trunks. Special thanks to Denise and Dave Asker, Ruth Azar, Wendy Beal, Sue Buckler, Anne Burke, Holly and Mark Cory, Nancy Gandelot, Kathy Kurap, Scott Matthews, the Tengler Family, Doris Vantiem, and Luke Yoshida.



**Small world, big need.** When the warehouse in the Port of Beirut, Lebanon exploded, the blast cost lives and damaged buildings for a 6 mile radius. Terrible news for our friends at the Near East School of Theology (NEST) in Beirut; their building is just 2 miles from the port. No lives were lost at the seminary, but the damage is severe. Many of you will remember that Ray Kiely, Pastor Emeritus of GPMC was the Interim President of the school in the 80s, after his tenure here and Mary Mikhael, President of NEST from 1994-2011, was one of our Ecumenical Pastors. Because of these relationships and the ecumenical nature of the college, the Outreach Council has contributed annually to the school and has moved forward its 2020 donation. If you would like to add to this gift to NEST, we will accept donations through August 31 and forward them to the seminary. Use the Weekly Offering link at GPMChurch.org (choose "Other" and put "NEST" in the comments) or send a check noting NEST on the memo line).



Our neighbors in the 313 area code have been among the most affected in Michigan, documenting half of the state's deaths from COVID-19 and facing 50% unemployment as of June 2020. To help, GPMC is joining with other Presbyterians to become a Matthew 25 church (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>) and make a difference in peoples' lives. We aim to work with the community to perform 313,000 acts of kindness over the next year.

**The August Hunger Offering will go to the Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS).** They are one of the largest providers of housing to homeless families in the City of Detroit – sheltering more than 100 homeless children nightly. Please give generously. The Outreach Council continues to match your donations up to \$2,000 each month. You can make an online donation through the church website or drop off a check to the church with COTS or Hunger Offering on the memo line. Thank you again for your generosity.

**Attention Golfers!** GPMC is one of the Detroit area churches supporting the Second Mile Center of Detroit in their annual fundraiser. It is a scramble format at the Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills on Sunday, September 20, 1 pm start. The fun will include dinner and awards too. Not a golfer? Come for just the dinner or sponsor a hole. For all details and to sign up, go to [secondmilecenter.org/golf-outing](http://secondmilecenter.org/golf-outing). Please help by signing up by September 14!

## STEWARDSHIP

GPMC FINANCIAL UPDATE 7/31/2020		
	Budget	Actual
Pledge & Plate Receipts	\$ 723,700	\$ 713,912
Endowments & Other		
Income & Gifts	\$ 362,867	\$ 353,353
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 1,086,567</b>	<b>\$ 1,067,265</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,077,043</b>	<b>\$ 1,014,546</b>

Thank you for your on-going support of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church! We are so thankful for your generosity during these uncertain times and your unwavering commitment to GPMC continues to power our "Light by the Lakeshore." Giving by members makes up most of our budgeted income every year and we are grateful for the generosity

of our members so far in 2020. Your continued financial support and partnership is critically needed and appreciated now more than ever in the present new reality we all face together. The opportunities to share the eternal love of Jesus through ongoing ministry within our community are only increasing in these days. We know times are difficult for many, but if you are prayerfully able to step forward for those who can't, please do so. Just this past month, several unexpected gifts helped reduce our shortfall! Within and beyond the walls of GPMC (and on Trinity Terrace), we will continue to provide meaningful programs and outreach - be it virtually or otherwise - that enable us to witness as fully as possible God's love. Ongoing Christian Education efforts will make sure our children know there is always love and hope, even in a world that often demonstrates to them otherwise. "Livestream" Worship will continue to bring us together at a time when we seem far too apart, separated by space, lacking human touch, and seemingly divided as ever in America. Our Music programs continue to provide us a beautifully poignant and emotional release from the concerns that fill our days. Now more than ever, GPMC needs and appreciates your gifts, no matter how large or small.

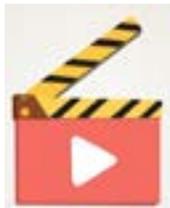
Grace and Peace, The Stewardship Council and The GPMC Staff

## AND MORE



The interim committees continue their work. The Mission Study Team needs your input by way of their Congregational Survey. Please take a few minutes and answer the survey online found here: (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GPMCSurvey2020>).

**Calling all Grosse Pointe Memorial members!! The HOST Committee needs your help!** We would like to hear your stories to include in the Living History project we are preparing. Are you a long-term member who sang in the choir as a youth or a new member who is excited about your Outreach participation? Do you know about some of the ways that GPMC has made an impact in the Grosse Pointe and surrounding communities? We want to highlight the memories and experiences that have contributed to making GPMC the *Light by the Lakeshore*. Whether you feel comfortable submitting a short video or sending in great photos, we need to hear from as many members as possible.



If you would like to submit a video, we have some general guidelines to share. See pages 18-19 of bulletin for Home Recording Standards. If you would like to make a video but need some help with the technology, we have the ability to assist. You can contact Tamara Gilbert at [gilby21471@aol.com](mailto:gilby21471@aol.com) or any member of the HOST committee if you have questions. HOST members: Michelle Deland, Tamara Gilbert, Sarah Godbehere, Jay Lady, Lois Palazzolo, Martha Speer, Chick VanDusen and Joe Masinick.

**Congregational Conversations:** The Mission Study Team continues leading our congregation's self-study and is learning about our community. We are moving toward the culminating Mission Study Report that will be submitted first to our Session, and then to Presbytery's Commission on Ministry for approval. The Mission Study Report will be informed by the six key activities of our mission study: Congregational Gatherings, Congregational Survey, Financial Review, Demographic Study, and Community Study. **Thank you to those who participated in our Congregational Conversations** and in helping to discern God's voice and mission for our church. Our process involves careful and prayerful consideration of who we are and who God is calling us to be, as well as the identification of our collective experiences, gifts, passions, perspectives, and the strengths and needs of our community.

**Stephen Ministers** are here for you during these challenging times to listen, encourage, and to pray for you ~ it's what we do, and we would be happy to talk with you. If you would like a confidential phone conversation with a Stephen Minister, just let us know and we will set one up for you. Call Carol Marks (313.882.5330 ext.127) or one of our Stephen Leaders: Debby Owen (313.549.9644) or Lois Ann Hernquist (586.945.0094).

**Sabbatical Leave:** Sarah Godbehere, our Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families, will be on an extended professional leave from September 16 - December 16. GPMC's extended professional leave policy allows for 12 weeks of leave for renewal and professional development after six years of full-time ministry, much like the sabbaticals offered by other institutions. Carol Marks, Lisa Turner, Jim Biery, and Peter Henry have all received extended professional leave since the establishment of this policy. Sarah Godbehere was granted this leave by the Session at its June meeting. Sarah will spend this time as a "sabbath-ical," engaged in study and experience of the Biblical practice of sabbath rest. She will be out of the office, away from her email, and unavailable for pastoral services and duties during her sabbatical. We wish Sarah rest and renewal and we are thankful for the wonderful staff and youth program advisors team who will keep everything moving in her absence.



**We are not collecting returnables at this time.** Many of you have been very generous about donating your cans and bottles to our youth mission trip fundraisers in years past. Thanks to your generosity, we've raised about \$2,000 a year in support of our youth mission trips at home and abroad. This year our mission trip planning is on hold as we wait to see if a vaccine will be widely available by next summer, so we don't have a team of youth to handle returnables. Please do not bring any cans and bottles to church at this time. The bin is full and we cannot return them. Thank you!

**In-Person outdoor worship service at 5pm on Trinity Terrace!** Seating will be limited to 50 people and registration is required. We expect to hold this service every Sunday that weather permits us to be outside. Please make yourself comfortable by wearing cool clothing and bringing a hat or umbrella and a water bottle. Reservations will open the Monday prior to worship at 9 am and will close at 4 pm each Friday. Reservations can be made either online through our church website (see the green button on the bottom right side of this page) or by calling the church office at 313.882.5330 Monday through Friday between the hours of 9am to 4pm. There will be 5 reserved parking spots for people who are at high risk. Each spot is for 1 vehicle to worship from within your car. **Please note, several handicap spots are also available near Trinity Terrace. No reservation is required for these spots.**

## PRAYING FOR OTHERS

*The congregation and staff of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church believe that prayer is very important. If you would like to add a person to our prayers, please call Carol Marks 313.882.5330 ex. 127 or e-mail her at cmarks@gpmchurch.org. May God continue to surround you with love and care.*

**Please continue to pray for all who mourn, especially the family and friends of those who have recently died in our congregation:** Holly Burns, Timothy Wynn Butler, Jr., John Cobau, Jane Johnson, Gladys Hunter, Margaret Odell, Joseph Pehrson, Donna Johnston, Marnie Oakman, Cristy Hyde and Audrey Ruth Eckert.

**RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS:** Carrie Devlin (Peg Carpenter's niece), Paul Diehl (Mark Diehl's brother), Jean Hodges, , Sandy Jackson (Sarah Godbehere's in-law's co- worker), Perry Kent (Phyllis May's son), Alex Scapini (Fran McCabee's nephew), Susan Stapleton (friend of Joan and Tom Coyle).

**ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS:** Adam Bolton, All who are on the frontlines of the war against Covid-19, Jean Carmichael, Arlene Cobau, Joan Coyle, Thomas M. Coyle, Jr. (Tom and Joan Coyle's son), Shawn Cunningham (Cheryl Littleton's friend), Lynne Doyal (Guy and Marilyn Doyal's daughter-in-law), Barbara Flood, Dale Foote (Dan Aggas' partner), Andrew Godbehere (Sarah Godbehere's brother), Dick Heglin (friend of the Van Dusens), Janet Hooper (Jim Hooper's sister), Leonard Hooper (Jimmy Hooper's brother), Linda Jaafar and Louise Winters (Ken Shepherd's wife's neice and Ken's sister) Tina Kilates (Kathie Morinelli's friend), Jack Liang, Jane McFeeley, JC Robinson (Christina Robinson's husband), Barbara Wratchford and Margaret Kumar (Kenneth Shepherd's aunt and mother-in-law).

**FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Maria Marable (friend of Elizabeth Tengler), Phoebe Piku (advanced training in U.S. army), Salvador Zúñiga (Janice Zúñiga's son), Bart and Amanda Ward.

**FOR OUR HEALTHCARE WORKERS:** Keith Bellovich, Anna Brucker, Heather Frahm, Matt Koral, Lauren McCabee, Rebecca McCoy, Chris and Rosa Moore, Blake Sanford, Karlyn McCoy Schoen, Karol Swenson, George Williams, Erin Hepler Worrell.

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## In Memoriam

**Margaret Kingsley Odell**

(December 16, 1949 - August 15, 2020)

A memorial service will be held in New Jersey. Please pray for Margaret's husband, Tom Billy, daughter, Victoria, brother, Jim, and all who love her.

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## THIS WEEK AT MEMORIAL

Monday, Aug. 24: Preacher's Workshop 10 - 11am via Zoom  
Session Meeting 7-8pm via Zoom

Tuesday, Aug. 25: Women's Bible Study 7 - 8am via Zoom

Wednesday, Aug. 26: Men's Bible Study 7-8am Trinity Terrace  
Script. & Conv. for Women 11:15am via phone

Thursday, Aug. 27: Yoga 6 -7pm Trinity Terrace

Friday, Aug. 28: No Scheduled Activities

Saturday, Aug. 29: Men's Bible Study 8 - 9am via Zoom

Sunday, Aug. 30: Worship Service 9am via Livestream  
Middle Hour 10:10am via Zoom  
Worship Service 5pm Trinity Terrace  
by Reservation

## 450

## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F#) (A7) (D)  
 Eb Ab Eb/G Bb7 Eb

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)  
 Bb Eb Ab Bb

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
 Ab Eb Gm7 Ab Bb

thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F#) (G) (D)  
 Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

## 694 Great God of Every Blessing

1 Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,  
 2 Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,  
 3 Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,

you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.  
 in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.  
 trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
 In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:  
 For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:

sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

## An Update from Mark Diehl, Interim Pastor, Head of Staff August 19, 2020

“How long will this go on?”

That is a reasonable question among all of us whose patience is legitimately stretched by precautionary restrictions imposed by Covid-19 prevention. And as we all are aware, the answer is unknown as to when a safe resumption of normal life can return. All of us want it to be soon, and some of us are willing to take more risks than others to engage a “more normal life” now.

At the same time, many people have resumed life as if no pandemic exists, or they never took it seriously to begin with. The results of disregard for public health protocols are surfacing in the widespread surges of C-19 in the South and in rural areas, once considered “exempt” from the disease. Colleges attempting to return for fall classes with in-person instruction and residential living on campus are rolling back those expectations because of outbreaks. Tentative attempts to return to some sense of normality are being undermined by the perniciousness of this contagion.

A few innovative and experimental approaches to childcare and early childhood education are being implemented in the US; these focus on limited risk exposure by class size restrictions and careful separation of groups into “pods” which remain together with the same teacher and children and room and equipment, and do not intermingle with any other pod or physical area. Using these educational- and health department-approved protocols, our Mornings At Memorial program will attempt reopening September 14.

“What is the plan for GPMC?” people want to know.

The plan determined by the Session at its June meeting remains in place and, after nearly two months of implementation, seems wisely prepared in retrospect. For those who may have missed the publication of these plans, here is a summary:

- Worship will continue to be offered indefinitely by remote recorded and/or streamed video through our website at 9am Sunday mornings.
- Communion will be resumed (and has now restarted). It is scheduled to be observed the first Sunday of every month from this point on.
- Trinity Terrace may be used for in-person gatherings provided that specific health protocols and restrictions are followed. Maximum number of persons allowed on Trinity Terrace is 50. Several GPMC groups and outside groups are using the Terrace now.
- Outside groups may be permitted and scheduled to use Trinity Terrace provided they comply with church requirements and restrictions (see requirements and restrictions immediately below). The church office will coordinate these requests.

- Requirements and restrictions for attendees at any in-person event held on the property: practice social distancing, wear masks, answer relevant health questions, have temperature taken, and provide info for contact tracing.
- Events threatened or interrupted by inclement weather on Trinity Terrace will be cancelled.
- A 5pm Worship Service was authorized (and has resumed).
- Baptisms will be considered for the 5pm service, or if necessary, as a small group inside the facility which will be recorded and included in the following Sunday’s recorded service as part of the liturgy.
- Any wedding or funeral schedule for Trinity Terrace will be permitted inside the building in the event of inclement weather, adhering to strict limits on number of persons and health protocols.
- No dates for a projected return to in-person worship or educational events within the church facility or the opening of the church offices were determined. Return dates for in-person use of the church facility will be assessed in light of current conditions.

A concern among all of us in this period of isolation is preserving and encouraging connection and community as much as is safely possible. To that end, an additional outdoor morning worship service is being explored for the remainder of the warm weather season, as well as other events and studies that bring people safely together for interaction and fellowship. If you have other ideas for accomplishing this, please direct them to our staff and our council leaders.

The interim committees continue their progress and we expect the completion of their tasks later this fall. Once that is complete, Presbytery will authorize GPMC to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and the search for the new head of staff will commence.

The Nominating Council will make its report later this fall and elders, deacons, and trustees will be elected and positions on the Councils will be filled. Our Outreach Council and the 313 Calling team continue to address needs within our community through food drives and other opportunities for support. A Stewardship Program, along with budgeting for 2021, will be scheduled. Sunday School Classes will kick off in September.

I hope you are challenged by our Fall theme “Your Word is a Lamp to my Feet and a Light to My Path,” and engaged by the series on the Ten Commandments along with the study guide offered on GPMC website. God’s word feeds our souls and directs our paths in all we encounter along our journeys.

So much is taking place at GPMC, and I hope you will find a place to grow and be nurtured and serve!



# GPMC Home Recording Standards – Cell Phone

## Cell Phone Recording

Record inside, in a quiet space.

- 1** Find a place inside to set your cell phone horizontally. So it is stationary while recording. Friends may have trouble holding the phone steady.



- 2** Make sure you are standing or seated in a way that your head is in the center of the video and that there are no windows or lights behind you.



- 3** Press record, set the phone in its position, and take your place. Do a test to make sure you are heard and seen correctly.



- 4** Now it's time to record. Repeat step 3 and once in position take a deep breath and smile. You can have people off screen prompt you with questions but please leave space between question and answer. Watch and listen to your recording to ensure quality!



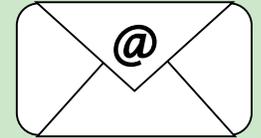
Please contact [joe.masinick@gmail.com](mailto:joe.masinick@gmail.com) with any questions



# GPMC Home Recording Standards – Cell Phone

## Sending Your Video

- A** Email your video to [joe.masinick@gmail.com](mailto:joe.masinick@gmail.com)



- B** Upload your video to Google Drive Folder [here](#)



- C** Share a link. Links can be sent to the email above or by text 313-919-3012.

<https://link...>

- D** A Thumb Drive, sealed in an envelope with your name and address on it, dropped off in the Mail Slot of:

1100 Grayton St. Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

Your Thumb Drive will be returned.



Please contact [joe.masinick@gmail.com](mailto:joe.masinick@gmail.com) with any questions



### **Pastoral and Program Staff**

The Reverend Mark E. Diehl, Interim Pastor and Head of Staff  
The Reverend Sarah Godbehere, Associate Pastor  
Susan Acton, Coordinator of Outreach Ministries  
James Biery, Minister of Music and Organist  
Marie Calcaterra, Director of Mornings at Memorial  
Carol Beltz Marks, Director of Pastoral Ministries  
The Reverend Susan Mozena, Minister of Adult Education  
Jim Schultz, CPA, Director of Finance and Operations  
Lisa Turner, Director of Children's Ministries

### **Administrative Staff**

Dan Aggas, Head Sexton  
Donna Hartzell, Administrative Assistant for Worship,  
Communications and Music  
Fran McCabe, Administrative Assistant for Membership  
Janet Ruthven, Administrative Assistant for Christian Education  
Dan Ryan, Engineer  
Joe Warnez, Sexton

### **Social Media and Online Communications**

[gpmchurch.org](http://gpmchurch.org)  
Facebook - Grosse Pointe Memorial Church  
Twitter - GPMCNews  
Wireless Network in Sanctuary is "gpmchurch,"  
password [bibles@gpmchurch](mailto:bibles@gpmchurch)

### **Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm



## **GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH**

*"A light by the lakeshore"*

16 Lake Shore Dr. | Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236  
313.882.5330 | [gpmchurch.org](http://gpmchurch.org)