



EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GUILFORD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 14, 2024

The prelude is a time of transition, from hurried lives into the eternal presence of God. At the sound of the bells, we invite you to make this a time of prayerful preparation for worship. Our service is live-streamed and recorded. Your participation is your consent to be recorded.

+all are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

You are invited to read aloud the words in **bold**.

*Sing! a new creation* - located in the rack under the pew (green)  
*Glory to God Hymnal* (purple)

**Confession** is a hallmark of the Reformed tradition. We believe that it is important to begin worship by confessing the ways we've fallen short of God's intention for us.

Trusting in the everlasting mercy of God, each confession is concluded by the **Assurance of Pardon**, a liturgical reminder that no sin is so powerful as to keep us from the love of God.

During the **Passing of the Peace** you're invited to greet one another by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you" and responding "And also with you."

The **Prayer for Illumination** is a prayer asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance to help us interpret scripture faithfully with critical minds and compassionate hearts.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

### PRELUDE

+GATHERING SONGS      *Great Are You, Lord* (sing twice)      *Glory to God Hymnal* #614  
   *He Is Exalted* (sing twice)      *Sing! a new creation* #41

### +CALL TO WORSHIP

Doug Campbell

From everlasting to everlasting, you are Lord.

Let the whole earth shout with joy before the Lord;

**We lift up our voices with joy and singing: Great is our Lord!**

Your judgments are true, and all of creation awaits your rightful rule;

**We lift up our voices with joy and singing: Great is our Lord!**

In righteousness will you judge the world and all the peoples, with equity;

**We lift up our voices with joy and singing: Great is our Lord!**

Who is like our God, ruler over all the earth?

**We lift up our voices with joy and singing: Great is our Lord!**

### +CALL TO CONFESSION

#### +PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you made us in your image,**

**with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you.**

**But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, our obedience incomplete.**

**Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.**

**Forgive us when we try to follow our own wisdom**

**and when we are afraid of looking foolish in order to love and serve you.**

**In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

#### +ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

Our gracious God yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us, and bless us.

Friends, believe the good news:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

#### +PRAYER RESPONSE

*We Are Forgiven*

*Glory to God Hymnal* #447

#### +PASSING OF THE PEACE

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-14

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him

this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

Holy wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Be Thou My Vision* Bob Chilcott  
Alicia Reid, soprano

TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Kim Row

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Holy wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON "Take Some Granny Shots" The Rev. Alicia Wilson

**Solomon** was a son of David and the third king of Israel (c. 970-930 B.C.). Shortly after his birth, the boy received the additional name Jedidiah, "beloved of Yahweh," from Nathan the prophet, who had himself received the name from God (2 Sam. 12:24-25). In another passage, the name Solomon is connected with God's promise that he would "grant Israel peace and quiet during his reign." Solomon built the kingdom of Israel to its greatest geographical extension and material prosperity.

**Be Thou My Vision:** These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

**1 Corinthians 1:18-31:** In 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, the Apostle Paul discusses the wisdom of God versus the wisdom of the world. He highlights that the message of the cross may seem foolish to those who are perishing, but it is the power of God for those who believe. Paul emphasizes that God's wisdom surpasses human wisdom, as He chose the foolish and weak things of the world to shame the wise and strong. He reminds the Corinthians that their faith should not be based on human wisdom or eloquence, but on the power of God. Paul concludes by stating that it is through Christ Jesus that believers have become righteous, holy, and redeemed by God's grace.

**Hymn #435:** These stanzas, excerpted from a quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

**Philippians 2:5-11** teaches us to have the same mindset as Jesus Christ. He humbled himself, even though he was God, and became a servant. Because of his humility and obedience, God exalted him and made him Lord

Prayer Cards are available in the pew pockets to be passed to our prayer team. You may drop your prayer request in the offering plate.

Text GPPC to  
73256 to give  
online.



**Hymn #12:** The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

+HYMN #435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* IN BABILONE

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Philippians 2:5-11  
**Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
 did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.  
 And being found in human form, he humbled himself  
 and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him  
 and gave him the name that is above every name,  
 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
 and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:  
 Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

COMMISSIONING OF MASSANETTA CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

OFFERTORY "Nun beut die Flur" from *The Creation* Joseph Haydn  
 Alicia Reid, soprano

+DOXOLOGY *Glory to God* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

+HYMN #12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO

+BENEDICTION

+BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Glory to God Hymnal #543*  
*God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
 God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

+POSTLUDE *St. Denio* Gerald Near

**END OF WORSHIP.....BEGINNING OF SERVICE**

The second pew on the pulpit side is reserved for those who are hearing impaired.  
 Hearing aid devices are available at the sound desk.

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**Rev. Alicia Wilson** is a native of Salisbury. She completed her M.Div. at Columbia Seminary and her M.S.W. at the University of Georgia. She is an ordained Presbyterian minister, currently serving in validated ministry as a clinical social worker within the homeless programs at the VA Medical Center in Salisbury.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Join us for Summer Sunday Snacks** in the courtyard for children and their families at 9:30 a.m. Watch this space for additional dates.

**Monday Night Bible Study**— Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. This coming Monday we will be finishing the Book of Hebrews and looking forward to exploring the Epistles of Peter and John to wrap up our Summer schedule.

**TREE OF GIVING**— During the remainder of June and throughout the months of July and August, we invite our GPPC congregation to donate items to **Backpack Beginnings' Food, Clothing, and Comfort Programs**. More information can be found at [www.backpackbeginnings.org](http://www.backpackbeginnings.org). See your weekly eNews for the list of items requested.

**Buddy and Me** are monthly activities for children grade 2 and under along with their favorite buddy. We meet on the second Saturday for fellowship and support at church or a scheduled field trip. **Check email and the enews/bulletin for a mid-summer event.** Make sure you are on the email for upcoming activity details. Contact Kim Row, [krow@guilfordpark.org](mailto:krow@guilfordpark.org) or Kay Owen [72kowen@gmail.com](mailto:72kowen@gmail.com) to get on the B.A.M.! email list.

**VBS Dates and Theme are set!** Children can register as town participants and adults can register as shop keepers. August 5-8. Check it out below. Can't come but want to help? We would love to borrow your pop-up tent canopy. Let Kim Row know if you have one we can borrow. Register now at <https://vbspro.events/p/guilfordpark>.

**NEW!** The Children and Youth Ministry Committee is putting together a directory of babysitters for our church parents. There will be 3 sections: volunteers who can watch children for 2 or 3 hours occasionally, church approved and background checked caregivers with the fees they charge for longer or more regular care, and parent helpers at a reduced rate who come help while the parent is also at home or for an outing with the parent present. If you would like to be included in this directory, please contact Kim Row at [krow@guilfordpark.org](mailto:krow@guilfordpark.org).

**Attention Presbyterian Women**- Our Fall Retreat is scheduled for the weekend of September 20--23. The planning committee includes Sally Beck, Maggie Styers, Ashlyn McLellan, Ellen Weiner, Linda Fitts, and Sandi Otwell. We have reserved three houses (one for 3 nights, two for 2 nights). Mark your calendars and watch for further information. This is a wonderful, relaxing getaway, and we hope you can join us.

**A note from your Property Committee:** Beginning July 16, our cherished Oak Tree will be removed. It has provided much to many and will certainly change the landscape of the Park lot and our Church.

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, July 14

9:30 a.m. Sunday Summer Snacks— courtyard  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

### Monday, July 15

9:00 a.m. Librarian— Library  
6:30 p.m. Circle 17  
7:00 p.m. Monday Night Bible Study— Library

### Tuesday, July 16

*MS Massanetta departs*  
5:00 p.m. Circle 5— Parlor

### Wednesday, July 17

7:00 a.m. Men's Book Study— Green Joe's  
6:30 p.m. Circle 1  
7:00 p.m. Finance— Westminster

### Thursday, July 18

2:00 p.m. Treasurers— Library

### Friday, July 19

*MS Massanetta returns*

### Sunday, July 21

*KidsJam Mt. Shepherd departs*  
9:30 a.m. Sunday Summer Snacks— courtyard  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

## Great Are You, Lord

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just; by your power we trust in your love.  
Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true; by your mercy you prove you are love.

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice: great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

## He Is Exalted

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high: I will praise him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise his name!

He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign; heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

## Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou, mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

## Nun Beut Die Flur

Fresh greenery has now appeared on the meadows Offering delight to the eyes.  
The lovely view is Lifted higher by the gentle decoration of the flowers.  
Herbs smell of balm here; The cures for wounds are sprouting here.  
The branches bend down under the weight of golden fruit;  
The group of trees forms a vault here and offers cool protection,  
The steep mountain crowns a thick forest

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!



### Wanna Get More Out of Our August Sermon Series?

We'll be using the following book as our guide for this four-week sermon series: **“The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery”** by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile. You're encouraged to read this own your own during or prior to our worship services in August.

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

**Ushers:** Bo Rodenbough, Ed Bonkemeyer, James Kirkpatrick

**Liturgist:** Doug Campbell

**A/V operator:** Dylan Lewellyn

**Opening/Closing:** John Parker/Scott Moore

**Flower Visitation:** Judy Campbell

**Bread Delivery:** Karen and Halstead McAdoo

**FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S TABLE** today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Judy Campbell's birthday, by Dan and Katherine Glasgow.

**Ministers: All the members of the Church**

**Pastor:** Stephen Fearing

**Parish Associate:** Kit Schooley

**Parish Associate:** Fred Beck

**Christian Educator for Children and Youth:** Kim Row

**Director of Music Ministries and Organist:** Bill Allred

**Music Director for YES Worship Service:** Brian Fitts

**Church Administrator:** Jane Sharpe

**YES Accompanist:** Jordan Hart

**Preschool Director:** Rebecca Willoughby

**Missionaries we support:** Jan Feliciano in Mexico, and Tracey King-Ortega in Nicaragua

Guilford Park is an Earth Care Congregation. Today's bulletins are printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper. Please recycle in the baskets at each exit from the sanctuary.

### GPPC Elders:

#### Class of 2024

Mary Bruce

Kay Cheshire

Lisa Jones

Jansen Lasley

Kay Owen

Don Yelton

Owen Beale— Youth Elder

#### Class of 2025

Katherine Glasgow

Bill Hickling

Brad Kemmerer

Leslie Loyd

Jim Lumsden

Tim Peck

#### Class of 2026

Heather Amick

Mike Bivona

André Conway

Rita Jennings

Jill Moore

John Parker

### GUILFORD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2100 Fernwood Drive | Greensboro, NC 27408 | 336-288-5452

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