Gary United Methodist Church
Sunday, July 30, 2023, 9 a.m.
9th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude
Rondo from Concerto in D Major
Jean-Baptiste Barrière

Welcome
Pastor Daniel Cochran

Introit
Sonata for Two Cellos in G Major, Allegro prestissimo
Jean-Baptiste Barrière
Ariyo Akinyemi
Wren Page

Call to Worship

Hymn
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
stanzas 1, 2 and 4
Hymnal 66

Scripture Readings
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
JoAnne Chase

Hymn
For the Beauty of the Earth
stanzas 1-4
Hymnal 92

Reflection
Pastor Chris Pierson

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory
Cloud Sailing
Wren Page††

Please consider making a gift online and/or by text-giving to 844-928-1220. Enter a dollar amount and the word “GARY.” Checks may also be mailed to the church at the address below.

Doxology
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Hymnal 94

Hymn
Forth in Thy Name, O Lord
Hymnal 438

Benediction

Postlude
Divertimento for Three Violoncellos, Allegro
Niso Ticciati

†Cello Ensemble: Ariyo Akinyemi, Tayo Akinyemi, Adrian Daigle, Jeanne Johannesen, Carol Ourada, Wren Page, Gerrit Vanderschoot, and Ashley Wilkinson, with Kevin Lange, piano

††Wren Page is the winner of ILMEA Student Composition Contest, Middle School Instrumental Division
Gary Church Announcements

Stay Connected to the Gary Church Family

Our sympathy to:  
Mike, Brooke, Luke and Drew Oswald on the death of Mike’s grandfather, Clifford Fromm, on July 12.  
Jeremy Hicks, Christy Claus, Riley and Isabell on the death of Jeremy’s uncle, Randall (Randy) Roberts, on July 17.

Congratulations to:  
Jeremy, Heidi and Cameron Keske on the birth of their son and brother, Connor Alexander, on July 22. Grandparents are Marty and Melinda Keske. Great-grandmother is Virginia Blackwell.

Today, Sun., July 30, at Gary Church:

- **In-Person Worship**: 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Livestream and recorded worship are available at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).
- **Nursery care**: 8:50 a.m.-10 a.m. Childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the Nursery (lower level).
- **Special Blend Fellowship**: 10 a.m. in the Commons.

**Fill up offering plate (even electronic givers)**: All churchgoers can participate when the offering plate goes by, even electronic givers. In the pews, you’ll find an *I give electronically* card. Place it in the offering plate and think about how you contribute to the mission of Gary Church. To find out all the ways you can give, go to [garychurch.org/give](http://garychurch.org/give).

**Summer Supper this week**: Thurs., Aug. 3, 5:30–7 p.m., in the Courtyard (if inclement weather, then the Commons). Gather for a potluck at Gary before the 7:30 p.m. concert in Memorial Park. You may recognize one of the percussionists, Gary member John Plate! Bring a dish to share, plus your chair, place setting, drink and whatever else you need. Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).

**A sweet welcome**: Sun., Aug. 6, 10 a.m. in the Commons (note new date). Let’s officially welcome Pastor Daniel Cochran with lots of sweet treats! Bring a dessert to share for this special fellowship time.

**Sign up for golf outing**: Sun., Aug. 6, first tee time 1 p.m., at Klein Creek Golf Course. The 26th annual Gary Golf Outing to support Gary Youth will be a four-person scramble format with a meal and refreshments afterwards. All skill levels welcome. Register to play and/or sponsor a hole at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org).

**Worship in the Park and Picnic**: Sun., Aug. 20, 10 a.m., Memorial Park (note time and location). Let’s enjoy the last days of summer with worship in Memorial Park. Bring a lawn chair or use the theater seating provided. After the service, we’ll have chicken and lemonade. If you’re able, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

**Blood drive**: Wed., Aug. 23, 2-6 p.m. in the Commons. Each time you give blood, you could save up to three lives. Register at [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org), and tell your friends.

**All-church training**: Sun., Aug. 27, 2 p.m. Learn about the new theme for the year, what’s happening in the ministry area(s) you serve, plus all-church policies.

**Newly-imagined 11 a.m. service**: Beginning Sun., Aug. 27, in the Sanctuary. The Worship Visioning Team has reviewed all aspects of worship, including accessibility, technology, style, flow and more. You may notice some tweaks to worship at 9 a.m., and you’ll want to try the new 11 a.m. worship experience.

**Give flowers for the altar**: Many Sundays are available to provide flowers for the altar. If you’d like to give flowers, fill out the form on the registrations page of [garychurch.org](http://garychurch.org) or contact the Church Office (office@garychurch.org). The cost of the flowers is $35.

**Lectionary readings**

- **This week’s readings**: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39 and Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
- **Next week’s readings**: Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5 and Matthew 14:13-21

Stay Connected to the Mission

**Fifth Sunday Appeal for United Voices for Children**: Today, Sun., July 30. Your gift will provide support for at-risk children, youth and families in Northern Illinois. You can also give online at [garychurch.org/give](http://garychurch.org/give).

**Stuff, stuff and more stuff**: Check out the two labeled rooms in Gamon Hall for treasures to take home. Donations appreciated at [garychurch.org/give](http://garychurch.org/give) or through the Church Office.

**Help make Gary gardens gorgeous**: Anyone can join the Gary Gardeners team. Contact Barbara Wernicke through the Church Office (office@garychurch.org).