

The Gayton Kirk

May 19, 2024

11 AM Service

The flowers for today's service are given in memory of Ken Matze on his birthday



"Day of Pentecost," by Ain Vares

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sally Wambold

RINGING THE HOUR

Marney Titmus

PRELUDE

Dee Lynch, piano

When We Breathe Together
A Blessing for Pentecost Day

**This is the blessing
we cannot speak
by ourselves.**

This is the blessing
we cannot summon
by our own devices,
cannot shape
to our purpose,
cannot bend
to our will.

This is the blessing
that comes
when we leave behind
our aloneness
**when we gather
together
when we turn
toward one another.**

This is the blessing
that blazes among us
when we speak
the words
strange to our ears

when we finally listen
into the chaos

**when we breathe together
at last.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Linda Smiley

Pentecost Prayer

God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit
be our goal and our strength,
now and always. **Amen.**

IMAGINATIVE WORD

Linda Smiley

Feather on the breath of God
by Sarah Rossiter

*“The feather flew, not because of anything
in itself but because the air bore it along.”*
—Hildegard of Bingen

It could have landed anywhere,
swamp or forest; instead, floating
on the quiet air, the tiny feather
down drifted, weightless, from
the open sky, into my cupped and
waiting hands. Cream-colored,
fragile, soft as milkweed,
a wordless message from beyond,
reminding me, how like the feather,
we’re carried on the breath of God.

CHILDREN’S TIME

Stacy Deyerle

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

Lily Titmus

Open us, Holy One, to your Word and your Way. Clear our minds of daily distractions. Fill our hearts with the humility we need to hear and receive the message you intend for us today. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (from *The Message*)

Marney Titmus

^{1,2} GOD grabbed me. GOD's Spirit took me up and set me down in the middle of an open plain strewn with bones. He led me around and among them—a lot of bones! There were bones all over the plain—dry bones, bleached by the sun.

³ He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Master GOD, only you know that."

⁴ He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones: 'Dry bones, listen to the Message of GOD!'"

^{5,6} GOD, the Master, told the dry bones, "Watch this: I'm bringing the breath of life to you and you'll come to life. I'll attach sinews to you, put meat on your bones, cover you with skin, and breathe life into you. You'll come alive and you'll realize that I am GOD!"

^{7,8} I prophesied just as I'd been commanded. As I prophesied, there was a sound and, oh, rustling! The bones moved and came together, bone to bone. I kept watching. Sinews formed, then muscles on the bones, then skin stretched over them. But they had no breath in them.

⁹ He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath. Prophesy, son of man. Tell the breath, 'GOD, the Master, says, Come from the four winds. Come, breath. Breathe on these slain bodies. Breathe life!'"

¹⁰ So I prophesied, just as he commanded me. The breath entered them and they came alive! They stood up on their feet, a huge army.

¹¹ Then God said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Listen to what they’re saying: ‘Our bones are dried up, our hope is gone, there’s nothing left of us.’

¹²⁻¹⁴ “Therefore, prophesy. Tell them, ‘GOD, the Master, says: I’ll dig up your graves and bring you out alive—O my people! Then I’ll take you straight to the land of Israel. When I dig up graves and bring you out as my people, you’ll realize that I am GOD. I’ll breathe my life into you and you’ll live. Then I’ll lead you straight back to your land and you’ll realize that I am GOD. I’ve said it and I’ll do it. GOD’s Decree.’”

Acts 2:1-4

Lily Titmus

¹⁻⁴ When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Exhale”

Stacy Deyerle

HYMN # 263

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

Dee Lynch, piano

CALL TO OFFERING

Sally Wambold

Having heard the good news and being assured of God’s love and grace, our only response is one of gratitude. Let us give thanks with what we have and who we are. Let us give our offering.

It is appropriate to respond to God with our time, talents, and money. Your offering can be placed in the offering plate along with prayer concerns written on the card attached to the bulletin (program) or through the chat feature online. Please use first names only.

Financial offerings can also be made by mail to P.O. Box 29635, Henrico, VA 23242 or donate by PayPal on The Kirk’s website www.thegaytonkirk.org website or use the QR Code below.



OFFERTORY

Dee Lynch, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Stacy Deyerle

You are invited to sit, stand, kneel, stretch, or move as best suits you during this time of prayer.

Breathe in silence

Gracious Lord, we gather in community today to celebrate the gift of your Holy Spirit to the Church. Guide us as we seek to serve you. Fill us with your Spirit, that we might be your voices, hands, and presence in the world, and draw others into your beloved community.

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We pray for the Church that we may be renewed by the gifts of the Holy Spirit and reach out to one another as true disciples with faith, love, and hope. Help us to understand our weaknesses and our differences, so we can build a strong and loving community. We pray for those who follow the ways of Jesus everywhere, that they may be united as one Church through the action of the Holy Spirit . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

The Holy Spirit gave the apostles the gift and power of forgiveness. Grant us that gift, so we may use it to heal a broken world . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

Most Holy Spirit, grant an extra measure of Your gifts to all who serve and lead in your Church, as they strive to guide our collective spiritual journey through these trying and uncertain times . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We pray for all those who fear for their lives, for the victims of violence and war, and for those weighed down by troubles and anxieties. We pray that we may reach out to others with hope and care . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We pray for all who are lonely, weak, and vulnerable. We pray to be made agents of Your comforting and loving presence for them . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We pray remembering those who are sick, hurting, broken, dying, mourning. We pray for patience and peace for all who struggle in their bodies . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We pray for those who struggle to find adequate food and clean water, clothing and shelter and the other basic needs of life. We pray that governments, agencies, and the Church, will reach out to change the course of their history, sharing from the abundance held by others. Grant us the courage and generosity to be part of the solution . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

Give loving hearts, wise minds, and generous hands to elected and appointed leaders, in government and in all walks of life where they are given authority and power. Help each of us to notice our neighbor's distress, and give us the grace and the willingness to show active compassion . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

We remember all who are forgotten and neglected, abandoned and abused, who suffer at the hands of prejudice. Grant us the boldness to be used as agents of healing and change . . .

Breath of Life, Hear Our Prayer

Breathe in silence

Good and gracious God, send your Spirit into our hearts. Tear down the walls that divide us, and make us one. Help us to use your gifts wisely as we witness to your Love. We ask this in the name of Jesus our brother who showed us the Way. **Amen**

Let us now pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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.**

HYMN # 66

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Dee Lynch, piano

BENEDICTION

Stacy Deyerle

Worship Liturgists:

First Sundays: **Betty Doll**, Mike Doll, Robert Evans, Cathi Thornton
Second Sundays **Susan Trulove**, Lilly Craddock, Norma Smith, Beverly Evans,
Third Sundays **Sally Wambold**, Barbara Crump, Lily Titmus, Marney Titmus
Fourth Sundays **Linda Smiley**, Patti McCloskey, Xavier Rivera, Juan Rivera
Fifth Sundays, **Betty Doll**, Lilly Craddock, Xavier Rivera, Sally Wambold

Would you like to become a member of the Gayton Kirk? Please let Janet James, pastor, know of your interest.

For a copy of our weekly newsletter, *Kirk Happenings*, please go to thegaytonkirk.org, scroll down the website's front page, and click the box that says, "Kirk Happenings."

The Gayton Kirk Staff

Brendan Donahue, Audio-Visual Director
Dee Lynch, Pianist
Janet James, Pastor
John Donelson, Musician in Residence
Marilyn Johns, Zoom Master
Maya Collins, Music Intern
Russ Kerr, Parish Associate
Stacy Deyerle, Pastoral Assistant
Yonan Shehata, Sexton
Flutists-Outdoor/Midday Prayer Service: Allen Burris, Deb Saidel, Myrick Crampton,
The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio: Joe Sarver, Ross Riddell, Bruce Sullivan

COVER ART "Day of Pentecost," by Ain Vares <https://ainvaresart.com/products/original-painting-day-of-pentecost-acts-2>

CALL TO WORSHIP by Jan Richardson,
<https://paintedprayerbook.com/2013/05/14/pentecost-when-we-breathe-together/>

PENTECOST PRAYER: Book of Common Worship, PCUSA

IMAGINATIVE WORD: "Feather on the breath of God," by Sarah Rossiter From
<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/poetry/feather-breath-god>

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*Please note: The Gayton Kirk livestreams the 11 AM Worship Service. Our camera captures the worship leaders at the front of the sanctuary. We do not film the congregation during communion. **Photography notice:** Please be aware that photographs are taken at things happening around the Kirk. These are used in various ways, including social media and print publications. If you are uncomfortable having your photo taken or shared, please let us know, either by notifying anyone you see taking a photograph or a church leader on site, or by emailing stacydeyerle.thegaytonkirk@gmail.com.*

THE GAYTON KIRK WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY MAY 19 - PENTECOST SUNDAY (Wear red!)

- 8:30 AM - Celtic Worship Service in-person and Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 9:45 AM - Outdoor Worship (weather-permitting) - in-person
- 9:45 AM - Adult Class - "The Devil You Say" - in-person (*led by Norma Smith*)
- 9:45 AM - Orff for Kidz - in-person (*led by Maya Collins*)
- 11:00 AM - Worship Service in-person, live streaming, and on Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 5:00 PM - Jazz Vespers in-person, live streaming, and on Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 5:45 PM - Jazz Vespers Discussion - in person and Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 6:00 PM - Jazz Vespers Fellowship - in-person
- 7:30 PM - River City Players Rehearsal

MONDAY MAY 20

- 11:00 AM - Coffee & Scripture - Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 1:30 PM - Creative Expressions - in-person (*Sandra O'Neill*)
- 6:30 PM - River City Players Rehearsal

TUESDAY MAY 21

- 11:55 AM - Ukelele Group - in-person (*Kay Cox and Tina Bechtle*)
- 1:00 PM - Bridge and Learn to Play Bridge - in-person (*Ellen Welthy and Tina Bechtle*)
- 7:00 PM - River City Players Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY MAY 22

- 12:30 PM - Midday Prayer (*in the spirit of Taize*) - in-person
- 7:00 PM - Writer's Circle - in-person (*led by Russ Kerr*)
- 7:00 PM - River City Players Rehearsal

THURSDAY MAY 23

- 9:30 AM - Tai Chi - in-person (*Steve Sawyer*)
- 10:30 AM - Chair Yoga - in-person (*Robin Ricketts*)
- 5:30 PM - Handbell Practice
- 7:30 PM - River City Players Rehearsal

SUNDAY MAY 26 - CENTSABILITY SUNDAY

Please note: services will not be streamed for this Sunday only

- 8:30 AM - Celtic Worship Service in-person
- 9:45 AM - Outdoor Worship (weather-permitting) - in-person
- 9:45 AM - Adult Class - "The Devil You Say" - in-person (*led by Norma Smith*)
- 9:45 AM - Orff for Kidz - in-person (*led by Maya Collins*)
- 11:00 AM - Worship Service in-person
- 5:00 PM - Jazz Vespers in-person
- 5:45 PM - Jazz Vespers Discussion - in person
- 6:00 PM - Jazz Vespers Fellowship - in-person
- 7:30 PM - River City Players Rehearsal