

Celtic Worship

The **bodhrán** is a frame drum of Irish origin. A goatskin head is tacked to one side (synthetic heads or other animal skins are sometimes used). The other side is open-ended for one hand to be placed against the inside of the drumhead to control the pitch and timbre. One or two crossbars, sometimes removable, may be inside. The bodhrán is considered to be the native drum of the ancient Celts and was possibly used originally for winnowing or wool dying, with a musical history that predated Christianity, native to southwest Ireland. It is also called a poor man's tambourine.



*Embracing the example of Jesus,
our welcome knows no boundaries
and is extended to ALL people.*

Sunday, August 25, 2024

*Welcome to worship!
If you are worshipping at home, and would like to participate in
Holy Communion,
please have bread and wine or juice set aside.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janet James
Keith Parkhouse
(has set the table)

We gather at God's feast. We listen to Holy Scripture. We hear music that connects our hearts. We are fed the nurturing grace of God through the brokenness and poured out life of Jesus the Christ. The table is set. All are welcome.

BODHRAN CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

Rusty Deyerle

Come, let us put on the garments of the Holy!

Truth-telling—
even when decorum asks for our silence.

Righteousness—
we will be courageous in our care for one another.

Peace—
not the absence of tension but the presence of Justice.

Faith—
because together, all is not lost.

Salvation—
we seek The World to Come in ordinary acts of solidarity.

Come, let us put on the garments of the Holy,
that Divine Wisdom may clothe us in Her blessings.

Guiding Love,
connect with us through spiritual practices—
breath, movement, song, prayer, touch.
Commune with us through rituals—
when we light candles or dip our hands in water.
Accompany us that we might be a people
grounded in compassion and tuned in to the ways of salvation.

In a world of empire and overwhelm,
bless us with your hope
like a crown of wildflowers placed upon our heads.
Amen.

BAPTISMAL WATERS

Rusty Deyerle
Nancy Parkhouse

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death.
We were buried so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, we
too might walk in newness of life.
(Water is poured into the font.)

PRELUDE

“Peace in Christ”

McKenna Hixson

IMAGINATIVE WORD

Lyn Hill

The Gospel of Peace, by Carol J. Grace

I love the Word.

I am not talking about vocabularies,
though I love those, too.
No, I mean I love the Word of God,
Scripture made flesh,
flesh made into sacrifice
for my redemption and yours.

When I feel the fabric of the carpet
against my knees, I know
I am reaching out and touching
Someone not just greater than I,
but someone who loves more,
cares more, gives more grace,
shows more mercy
than I ever will.

If I could only keep my feet
shod with the preparation
of the gospel of peace
all of my waking hours,
then I would leave footprints
of peace wherever I go.

Then, I, too, would care more,
grace more, and mercy more
than I ever have before.

~ moment of silence ~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE

Bland Weaver

Open our ears and humble our hearts
as we approach your Word read and proclaimed today, Great God.
May we listen, discern and follow the path you intend for us. **Amen.**

Ephesians 6: 10-20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

John 6: 56-69

⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Janet James

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Eat This Bread”

Jacques Berthier

HOLY COMMUNION

The Rev. Janet James

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Community of saints,

beloveds of God,

we are invited to come and gather at the table of love and liberation,

to feast on the dreams of God,

to be nourished by but a taste of what God desires to do among us.

God calls us from institutional halls of power,

From shelters and the streets;

God calls us from classrooms and pulpits,

Gay bars and prison cells.

God calls us as we are, from wherever we are,
to come and be in solidarity with Christ,
who lives and loves on the margins.

God whispers “come”
and live abundantly,
turning from all that claims blessings
flow from money, power, or control.

SANCTUS (please see the screen)

Come, and love relentlessly;
following Christ on paths of uncertainty,
taking risks for one another,
calling down unjust power from its throne
and lifting up the lowly,
the impoverished,
the burdened.

To answer the call of Christ is to find ourselves,
no matter our social location,
choosing to align ourselves with the causes
of the marginalized, the oppressed,
the outcast, and the isolated,
with the faith that
together,
we might en flesh new possibilities
of healing,
of connection,
of freedom from all that destroys.

When these are the desires of our hearts,
we open ourselves to God.

Blessed are those, Jesus said, who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

And so let us come to the table,
expectant,
eager,
open
to tasting the rich blessings of heaven
born from unexpected places, and people, and experiences.

In this meal,
we remember the life, death, and resurrection of
the One who still takes on flesh among us today.

On the night he would be arrested,

Jesus gathered his friends and companions.
In the midst of a tense and dangerous time,
they found each other at table,
connecting over the story of God-enfleshed among them.

And as they did so, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread and
shared it with his disciples saying,

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of
me.”

When the supper was over, he also took the cup, gave thanks to God, and shared
it with his disciples, saying,

“Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant. Do this, as often
as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so we pray,
Come Holy Spirit,
Breath of God,
Renewer of life,
settle on these gifts and all who gather here,
that we might be transformed in our remembrance
of your radical love,
your eternal embrace,
and your grace that makes all things news.

For the sake of our shared lives,
the life of this land on which we live,

and the lives of those yet to come,
nourish us and renew our hope
that soon Christ may rise again among us. **Amen.**

Let us 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.**

COMMUNION IS SHARED

*After we receive the bread and the cup,
let us hold the cup and drink together.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT

Rusty Deyerle

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world,
we extinguish the lights here that
represent the presence of the Holy in our midst.
**But we will carry the light in our hearts,
and we pray that as we go about our work in the world,
we will shine with the love of God.**

BLESSING

Janet James

OFFERING

It is appropriate to respond to God with our time, talents, and money. Financial offerings can be made by mail to P.O. Box 29635, Henrico, VA 23242 or [click here](#) to use PayPal on The Kirk's website or use the QR Code below.



If you would like to become a member of the Gayton Kirk, please let the pastor, [Janet James](#), know of your desire.

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

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 gaytonkirk@gmail.com.

WORSHIP NOTES

worship leaders

Bland Weaver

Keith Parkhouse

Lyn Hill

Nancy Parkhouse

Rusty Deyerle

Brendan Donahue, Audio-Visual Director

Janet James, Pastor

Margaret Storti, Pianist

John Donelson, Musician in Residence

Marilyn Johns, Zoom Master

Russ Kerr, Parish Associate

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

LITURGY <https://enfleshed.com/>

PRELUDE "Peace in Christ," McKenna Hixson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2zLMPvTd4w>

IMAGINATIVE WORD "The Gospel of Peace" by Carol J. Grace

<https://www.authorsden.com/visit/viewPoetry.asp?AuthorID=106870>

SPECIAL MUSIC "Eat This Bread," Jacques Bertier

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_QTrePmuLg

THE GAYTON KIRK WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY AUGUST 25 – CENTSABILITY SUNDAY

- 8:30 AM – Celtic Worship Service in-person and Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 9:45 AM – Outdoor Worship (weather-permitting) – in-person
- 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

MONDAY AUGUST 26

- 11:00 AM – Coffee and Scripture – Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 1:30 PM – Creative Expressions – in-person
- 7:00 PM – River City Players Rehearsal

TUESDAY AUGUST 27

- 11:55 AM – Kirktown Ukes – 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 – Zoom Book Group – on Zoom *Tom Lake*, by Ann Padgett (*led by Lynn Dowdy*)
- 7:00 PM – River City Players Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 28

- 9:45 AM – Class: Life After Doom – in-person (led by Bland Weaver)
- 12:30 PM – Midday Service of Music and Silence (*in the spirit of Taize*) - in-person
- 7:00 PM – River City Players Rehearsal

THURSDAY AUGUST 29

- 9:30 AM – Tai Chi – in-person (*led by Steve Sawyer*)
- 10:30 AM – Chair Yoga – in-person (*led by Robin Ricketts*)
- 7:00 PM – River City Players Rehearsal

FRIDAY AUGUST 30

- 10:00 AM – Art Show Set-up
- 12:00 PM – 10:00 PM – River City Players Tech

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1

- 8:30 AM – Celtic Worship Service in-person and Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 9:45 AM – Outdoor Worship (weather-permitting) – in-person
- 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