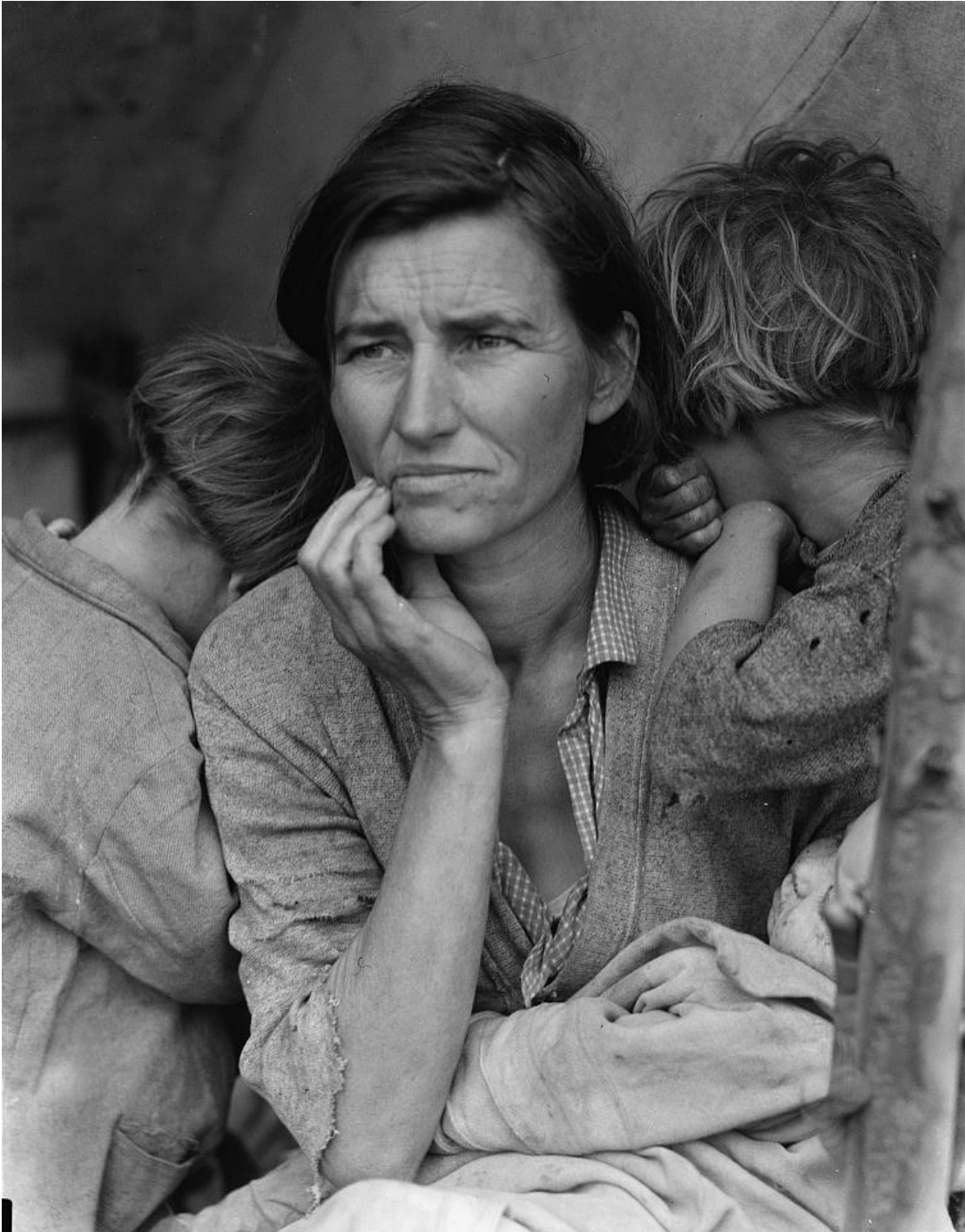


# The Gayton Kirk

September 29, 2024

11 AM Service



“Migrant Mother,” Dorothea Lange

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Betty Doll

RINGING THE HOUR

Marney Titmus

PRELUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

OPENING WORDS

Betty Doll

We have walked with you, O God,  
from many parts of the world to this time and place.

**And we will walk with you, O God,  
into the world to serve all people.**

We leave behind our old securities;  
we leave behind our reliance on worldly goods.

**And we will walk with you, O God,  
into the world to live with all people.**

We leave behind all which holds us back;  
we leave behind all which keeps us from following you.

**And we will walk with you, O God,  
into the world to work with all people.**

We leave behind the fears which bind us;  
we leave behind the hurts which damage us.

**And we will walk with you, O God,  
into the peace you offer to all people.**

HYMN # 396

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Margaret Storti, piano

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Betty Doll

Bless to us, O God,  
the tenderness of your heart.  
Wherever the stories of Jesus are told,  
wherever gifts are offered in service,  
wherever hope is a part of healing,  
wherever songs of joy are sung,  
in every land, in every heart,  
in every village, and every place.

Bless to us, Christ of Peace,  
the path which people walk  
seeking to follow you:  
    worn smooth by the feet of pilgrims,  
    yet still rocky in places;  
    the destination unknown to many,  
    yet the way to life and hope.

Bless to us, Salty Spirit,  
the companions you give to us:  
    mentors and mischief-makers,  
    curmudgeons and gigglers,  
    builders and believers,  
    brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles;  
    neighbors and strangers  
who gather in dusty villages  
and centers of power  
to feast on the goodness of your grace.

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Sally Wambold

Sometimes our words and actions show how we are salt for the world. But then come those moments when we lose our flavor and our way. Let us confess our sins to our God, so we might be restored and forgiven.

## UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

**Called to be your people, Living God - why do we find it so hard to answer? You ask us to speak out against injustice, and we whisper because we are afraid someone might hear us. You ask us to see the pain and poverty around us, but we close our eyes. You tell us that everyone, and each one, is created in your image, yet we persist in noticing the differences between us and others.**

**Forgive us, God of the Past and Creator of the Future. May we be the ones who go out into the world, bearing your gifts of peace, of hope, of healing, of joy to every one who is broken, even as we have been made whole through the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

*Silence is kept*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Touched by the healing hands of our Lord, filled with the grace of our God, led by the compassion of the Holy Spirit, our hearts are opened and we discover we are forgiven and at peace with God.

**Those who are created to love the unlovable; those who are created to bear grace; those who are created to embrace all people: we receive our forgiveness, giving thanks to our God. Amen.**

## IMAGINATIVE WORD

Lilly Craddock

A poem by Marian Wright Edelman

We pray for the children  
Who sneak popsicles before supper,  
Who erase holes in math workbooks,  
Who can never find their shoes.  
And we pray for those  
Who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire,  
Who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers,  
Who never "counted potatoes,"  
Who are born in places we wouldn't be caught dead,  
Who never go to the circus,  
Who live in an X-rated world.

We pray for children  
Who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions,  
Who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money.  
And we pray for those  
Who never get dessert,  
Who have no safe blanket to drag behind them,  
Who watch their parents watch them die,  
Who can't find any bread to steal,  
Who don't have any rooms to clean up,  
Whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser,  
Whose monsters are real.

We pray for children  
Who spend all their allowance before Tuesday,  
Who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food,  
Who like ghost stories,  
Who shove dirty clothes under the bed, and never rinse out the tub,  
Who get visits from the tooth fairy,  
Who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool,  
Who squirm in church or temple and scream in the phone,  
Whose tears we sometimes laugh at and whose smiles can make us cry.

And we pray for those  
Whose nightmares come in the daytime,  
Who will eat anything,  
Who have never seen a dentist,  
Who aren't spoiled by anybody,  
Who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep,  
Who live and move and have no being.

We pray for children who want to be carried  
And for those who must,  
For those we never give up on and for those who don't get a second  
chance.  
For those we smother...and for those who will grab the hand of anybody  
kind enough to offer it.

Faithful God, how blessed are those  
who hunger and thirst for righteousness.  
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit  
so that we may glorify you  
in the company of the faithful;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**James 5: 13-20**

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. <sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

**Mark 9: 38-50**

<sup>38</sup>John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup>"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.

<sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

The Rev. Janet James

**HYMN # 753** “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Margaret Storti, piano

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Betty Doll

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,  
to present yourselves as a living sacrifice,  
holy and acceptable to God.  
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

*Romans 12:1*

*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](http://www.thegaytonkirk.org) website or use the QR Code below.



OFFERTORY HYMN # 822

“When We Are Living”

Margaret Storti, piano

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Betty Doll

May we open our hearts and offer our gifts to others so, that as the hungry are fed, the homeless are housed, the grieving are comforted, and the lost are led home, may they bring healing to your heart which breaks at all the brokenness in our world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

The Rev. Janet James

*(Our communion bread is gluten free, and we use juice in lieu of wine. Those at home are encouraged to set aside bread or bread substitute and wine or wine substitute to join us for communion)*

**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.**

God of all glory.

It is our heart's true longing  
to praise and glorify you.

You shaped us in your image,  
so we might reflect your grace;  
you breathed the Spirit into us,  
so we might live your hope.

But we were wiser than you  
and so chose another path.

You spoke to our grandparents of the faith  
in a shrub burning with the cries of captives;  
in the thunder of stuttering prophets;  
in the still, small voice of a weeping mother.

Yet we persisted in our stubbornness,  
hardening our hearts towards you.



And so, you whispered to us one morning  
in the borning cries of a Child  
in the dirt and grime of a stable.

Therefore, we join our voices  
with our sisters and brothers in all the world,  
and with those of every time,  
singing songs of joy to your heart:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**      Tune: Tracy Fedke, b. 1975 arr: Koiné

The musical score is written on seven staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of heav-en - ly hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na! Ho-san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho-san - na! Ho-san - na! Bless-ed is he who comes! Bless-ed is he who comes! Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of heav-en - ly hosts.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of heav-en - ly hosts.  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na!  
Ho-san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho-san - na!  
Ho-san - na! Bless-ed is he who comes! Bless-ed is he who comes!  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

We praise you in this congregation, Holy God,  
and bless your Son, Jesus our Lord.  
Stamped with your image,  
he walked among us  
so we could see who we could become.

When he spoke your Word of peace,  
he shattered the walls of war and violence.  
When he was offered the easy way out  
of his suffering and death,  
he carried his integrity to Calvary,  
where he was broken to make us whole,  
where he died so we might live with you.

We remember, and in remembering,  
we would tell others of your wonderful love,  
and would be peacemakers for the world,  
even as we live out that mystery we call faith:

**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

Pour out the Spirit of the Prince of Peace  
not only on us  
and the gifts of the bread and the cup,  
but on all your children throughout the world:  
who gather around war-scarred tables  
and at the tailgates of Humvees  
to pass the Bread of Life  
from hand to hand  
until all the hungry are fed;  
and who stand on both sides  
of those walls built of our fears and hurts  
and dare to offer the Cup of peace  
to those known only as 'the enemy'  
unto all are graced  
and embrace one another in love.

Through your Son, Jesus, who is our peace;  
through the Spirit, who empowers us to be weak;  
we honor and glorify your hopes  
for all people in all creation,  
Great God our hope and our joy,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION IS SHARED**

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

**COMMUNION HYMN # 543**      "God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"  
Margaret Storti, piano

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**HYMN # 692**      "Spirit, Open My Heart"      Margaret Storti, piano

**POSTLUDE**      Margaret Storti, piano

**BLESSING AND CHARGE**      Janet James

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Worship Liturgists:

First Sundays: **Betty Doll**, Mike Doll, Cathi Thornton, Deb Kuhn

Second Sundays: **Susan Trulove**, Lilly Craddock, Beverly Evans, Norma Smith

Third Sundays: **Sally Wambold**, Barbara Crump, Lily Titmus, Marney Titmus

Fourth Sundays: **Linda Smiley**, Patti McCloskey, Janice Baldwin, 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](http://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

Janet James, Pastor

Russ Kerr, Parish Associate

Margaret Storti, Pianist

John Donelson, Musician in Residence

Marilyn Johns, Zoom Master

Chrestine Shehata, Child Care

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** "Migrant Mother," Dorothea Lange

<https://guides.loc.gov/migrant-mother>

**LITURGY** ©Thom Shuman

**IMAGINATIVE WORD** A poem by Marian Wright Edelman

<https://echosofcoaching.wordpress.com/2011/09/03/a-poem-by-marian-wright-edelman/>

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# **THE GAYTON KIRK WEEKLY CALENDAR**

## **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29**

- 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 SEPTEMBER 30**

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

## **TUESDAY OCTOBER 1**

- 10:00 AM - What If. . .? Class - in-person (*led by Ross Riddell and Janet James*)
- 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*)

## **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 2**

- 9:45 AM - Class: Life After Doom - in-person (*led by Bland Weaver*)
- 12:00 PM - Tuckahoe Kiwanis Club - in-person
- 12:30 PM - Midday Prayer Service (*in the spirit of Taize*) - in-person
- 1:00 PM - Creative Fellowship Art Class (*led by Robin Ricketts*)
- 7:00 PM - River City Community Players Rehearsal

## **THURSDAY OCTOBER 3**

- 9:30 AM - Tai Chi - in-person (*led by Steve Sawyer*)
- 10:30 AM - Chair Yoga - in-person (*led by Robin Ricketts*)
- 5:30 PM - Handbells

## **FRIDAY OCTOBER 4**

- 6:45 PM - Celtic Harp Circle Rehearsal

## **SATURDAY OCTOBER 5**

- 10:30 AM - Ria Springer Memorial - visitation with light refreshments
- 11:30 AM - Ria Springer Memorial Service

## **SUNDAY OCTOBER 6**

- 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 - "Silencing White Noise" class - in-person (*led by Barbara Crump*)
- 11:00 AM - Worship Service in-person, live streaming, and on Zoom (*host, Marilyn Johns*)
- 3:30 PM - Artist's Reception: Margo Titmus and Sandra O'Neill - in-person
- 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