

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE. THE GAYTON KIRK. OCTOBER 20, 2024

ART BY MOLLY COSTELLO



FLUTE

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

IMAGINATIVE WORD

A fixer (author unknown)

A fixer has the illusion of being causal.
A server knows he or she is being used
in the service of something greater,
essentially unknown

We fix something specific.
We serve always the something:
wholeness and the mystery of life.

Fixing and helping are the work of the ego.
Serving is the work of the soul.

When you help, you see life as weak.
When you fix, you see life as broken.
When you serve, you see life as whole.

Fixing and helping may cure.
Serving heals.

When I help, I feel satisfaction.
When I serve, I feel gratitude.

Fixing is a form of judgment.
Serving is a form of connection.

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SCRIPTURE

Mark 10: 35-45

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace, nourish us this day through Word and worship. Strengthen our desire to discern and do your will. Focus us on your path of righteousness so we can walk steadily under your direction. Bend your ear to us, God of love, as we pray not only for ourselves but for people everywhere.

God of mercy, hear our prayers.

We pray for those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, for the lives, homes and businesses destroyed by hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes. We pray for those who are exhausted, those struggling to pay bills and put food on the table, those overwhelmed by suffering and in need of a lighter load. We pray for those living in war zones, for the people of Israel and Palestine, Ukraine, Syria, and Sudan, people desperate for peace.

God of mercy, hear our prayers.

We pray for leaders, administrators and decision-makers who cannot please everyone, yet still strive to do what is just and right. We pray our nation's leaders uphold those in need, defend the oppressed, and do not succumb to idols of money and power. We pray for disputes to end, for people to work together, for our nation to know peace rather than polarization.

God of mercy, hear our prayers.

We pray for those who are ill and their caregivers. We pray for those struggling with depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses. Free us from any shame or stigma that keeps us from acknowledging our need and getting the help all deserve. Instill in us a sense of mutual responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all your children.

Finally, O God, mold us for service so we can be the answer to the prayers we pray, according to your Word and inspired by the One who saves, Jesus Christ our Lord. United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers up to you, God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Finally, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying,

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.

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BENEDICTION

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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IMAGINATIVE WORD "A fixer," author unknown <https://medium.com/the-liberators/a-poem-about-servant-leadership-8dc37f07809>

THE GAYTON KIRK WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY OCTOBER 20

- 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)
- 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 OCTOBER 21

- 11:00 AM - Coffee and Scripture - [Zoom](#) (host, Marilyn Johns)
- 1:30 PM - Creative Expressions - in-person (led by Sandra O'Neill)

TUESDAY OCTOBER 22

- 1:55 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 - [Zoom](#) (led by Cecelia Fitzgerald) - The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store, by James McBride

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23

- 12:30 PM - Midday Prayer Service (in the spirit of Taize) - in-person

THURSDAY OCTOBER 24

- 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 25

- 9:30 AM - Art Show Take Down/Set-Up

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 - CENTSABILITY SUNDAY

- 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)
- 12:30 PM - Lunch and Learn - "Keeping Yourself Safe" - in-person (led by Cheryl O'Connell)
- 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