

# 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 predicated 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.*

**January 18, 2026**

*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

Rev. Mary Kay Scott  
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

Friends, we gather not because everything is settled, but because God is faithful.

**We gather to remember the stories that shape us, the grace that has carried us, and the love that calls us by name.**

We gather to belong to God and to one another bringing our whole selves, just as we are.

**We gather to follow God together, trusting that the Spirit meets us here and leads us forward, step by step.**  
Let us worship God.

## 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

“A Change is Gonna Come”

Sam Cooke

## IMAGINATIVE WORD

Lyn Hill

### “Night Prayer” by Anya Silver

I talk and talk and hear nothing back.  
You who are neither voice, nor sign,  
nor image. In answer to my pleas,  
not the slightest flutter of humid air  
or pause in cicadas' raspy vespers.  
No stutter of starlight, no pillow  
slipped beneath my knees or swallow-  
tail alighting on my waiting hands.  
No bird pecking up the pain in my chest  
like a handful of sprouting peas.  
The clock's face does not waver;  
neither does matter bend.  
And what I speak remains traceless—  
like a beetle's breath, this *Amen*.

~ *moment of silence* ~

## Psalm 13: 1-6

<sup>1</sup> How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? <sup>2</sup> How long must I bear pain in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? <sup>3</sup> Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, <sup>4</sup> and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken. <sup>5</sup> But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. <sup>6</sup> I will sing to the Lord because he has dealt bountifully with me.

## Ruth 1: 1-5

<sup>1</sup> In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. <sup>2</sup> The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup> But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

## SPECIAL MUSIC

"More Precious Than Silver"

Lynn Deshazo

## HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise, for you are faithful from generation to generation. In times of fullness and in seasons of famine, you remain our refuge and our hope. You called a people to walk with you, and again and again you taught them that belonging is formed through love, through courage, and through choosing one another in uncertain times. You met Ruth and Naomi on the road home, you provided daily bread in the fields, and you shaped a future through ordinary acts of kindness, faithfulness, and care. So we gather at this table to remember your saving love, to belong to one another in Christ, and to follow where your Spirit leads.

With gratitude and joy, we join our voices with the church of every time and place, praising your name and singing:

**SANCTUS** (please see the screen)

*Pastor continues the prayer*

Hear us now as we pray the prayer 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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION IS SHARED**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**EXTINQUISHING 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**

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

**OFFERING**

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.com](http://www.thegaytonkirk.com) or scan the QR code.



If you would like to become a member of the Gayton Kirk, please let the church office know of your desire. For a copy of our weekly newsletter, *Kirk Happenings*, please go to [www.thegaytonkirk.org](http://www.thegaytonkirk.org), scroll down the website's front page, and click the box that says, "Kirk Happenings." You can also find our weekly calendar in the Kirk Happenings or online at <https://thegaytonkirk.org/calendar/>

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## worship NOTES

**PRELUDE** “A Change is Gonna Come” by Sam Cooke  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEBlaMOmKV4>

**LITURGY** <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

**IMAGINATIVE WORD** ““Night Prayer” by Anya Silver | <https://anyasilverpoet.com/>

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “More Precious Than Silver” by Lynn Deshazo  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKmlrlzTHXY>

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