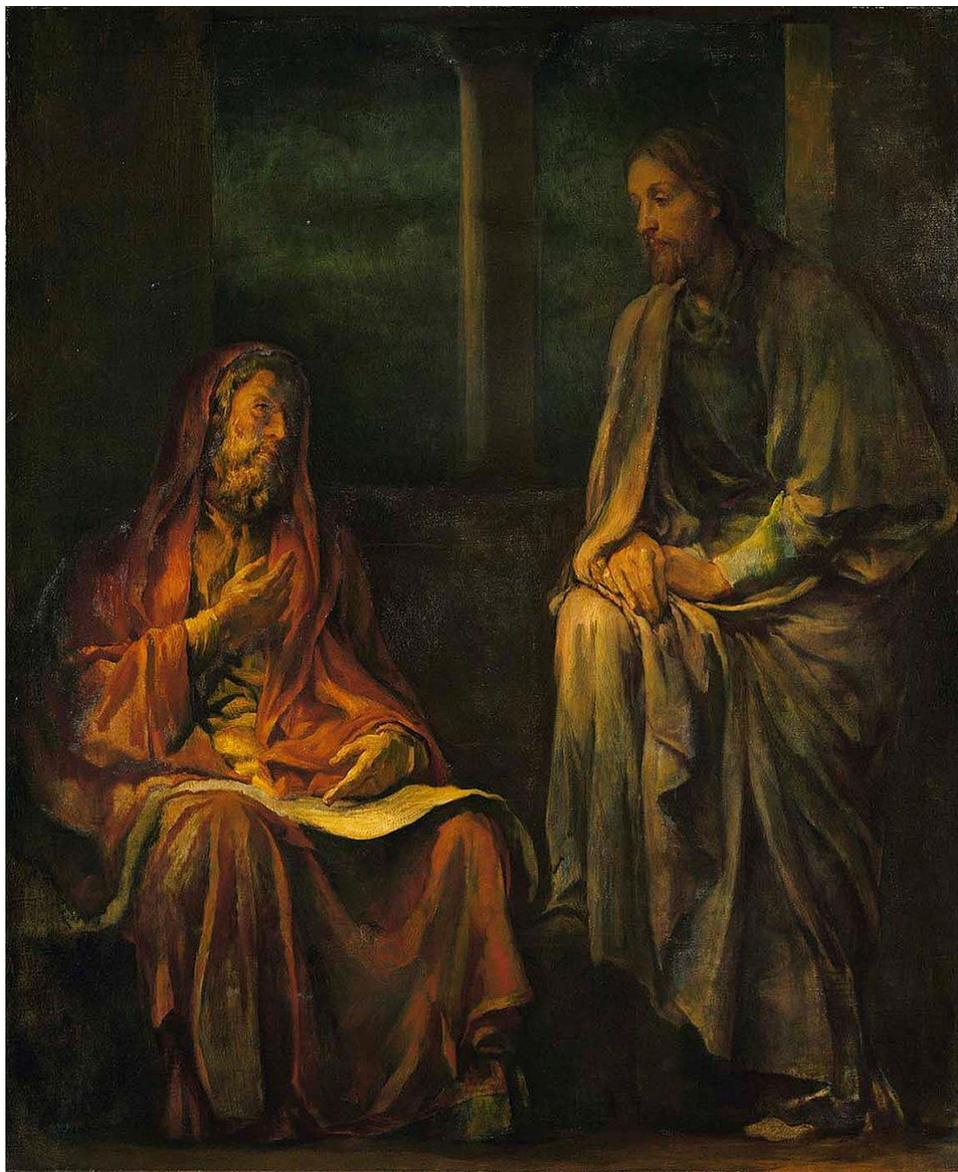


The Gayton Kirk

March 1, 2026

11 AM Service



“Visit of Nicodemus to Christ” by John La Farge

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

RINGING THE HOUR

Marney Titmus

PRELUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

I lift up my eyes to the hills
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

HYMN # 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Margaret Storti, piano

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are aware of our need for your presence, your love, your guidance on life’s journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don’t run deep enough and don’t last. We come to your well this Lent desperate and thirsty for Christ’s living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace.

Hear now the prayers that silence draws from our hearts...

IMAGINATIVE WORD

Cathi Thornton

The Call to Worship by Bob Hicok

The possibility that the zero gave birth to the universe,
that all our somethings come from nothing, the fear
of being alone like that, children of chance, orphans
down to our atoms, is mother to the idea of god. God
is a dress we slip over solitude, a mask
for oblivion to wear, a rule-giver in a world
where no flower or bear cares that we are here
or what we do.

I prefer a theology of silence, the eschatology
of the shrug, a religion of holding my wife’s hand
for now.

But, if the industry of the church is what it took
to give me bells ringing Sunday mornings,
to which crows sometimes rise and deer turn,
I’m grateful for a sound that pulls me out of myself,
lifts my head toward sun and clouds, into the up
and all, the blue, the on and on of it, when I bend
the only knee I have to bend, feel
happily small, contingent, and held, by what
I can’t say, short of everything.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE READING

Mike Doll

Romans 6: 3-11

³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Teri Ott

HYMN # 189

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair”

Margaret Storti, piano

CALL TO OFFERING

Betty Doll

We are invited 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.

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 scan the QR code.



OFFERTORY HYMN

Margaret Storti, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Betty Doll

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us from the dust of the ground and breathed into us the breath of life. When we wandered in wilderness places and trusted in comforts that do not last, you remained faithful. You sent prophets to call us home. You sent your Son not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. In Jesus Christ, you showed us what it means to be born from above; to live by the Spirit, to trust beyond understanding, to love without fear.

And so, with all who have been born of water and Spirit, with saints in every time and place, we join our voices in praise:

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

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. 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!

Pastor continues in 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.

COMMUNION IS SHARED

You are invited to come forward to receive a piece of gluten-free bread and a cup of juice. We are invited to drink the cup together after all are served.

COMMUNION HYMN # 769

“For Everyone Born”

Margaret Storti, piano

HYMN # 828

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

Margaret Storti, piano

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Dr. Teri Ott

POSTLUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

VISITING PREACHER BIOGRAPHY

The Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott is Editor/Publisher of *The Presbyterian Outlook*, leading its mission to foster courageous conversations and creative witness in the church and beyond. An ordained Presbyterian minister, she has served in a variety of pastoral roles and as Dean of the Chapel at Monmouth College, IL.

Her book, *Necessary Risks: Challenges Privileged People Need to Face*, grew out of her work with college students and volunteer teaching in a men’s prison. Teri is married to the Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Ott, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Union Presbyterian Seminary, and together they have two children.

WORSHIP NOTES

Would you like to become a member of the Gayton Kirk? Please let us know of your interest by contacting the church office.

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." You can also find our weekly calendar in the Kirk Happenings or online at <https://thegaytonkirk.org/calendar/>

COVER ART "Visit of Nicodemus to Christ" by John La Farge

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:John_La_Farge_-_Visit_of_Nicodemus_to_Christ_-_1909.7.37_-_Smithsonian_American_Art_Museum.jpg

LITURGY <https://pres-outlook.org>

IMAGINATIVE WORD "The Call to Worship" by Bob Hicok

<https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2024/9/10/the-call-to-worship-by-bob-hicok>

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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 gaytonkirk@gmail.com.*

The Gayton Kirk Presbyterian Church
Mail to: P.O. Box 29635, Henrico, VA 23242
Physical Address: 11421 Gayton Road, Henrico, VA
gaytonkirk@gmail.com 804-741-5254