

# Jazz Vespers Online

from The Gayton Kirk

March 29, 2026

5:00 pm



"Blue Donkey Door" by Miguel Camarena

**Cathering Music**

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio  
Joe Sarver, Bruce Sullivan, Ross Riddell

**Words of Welcome**

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

**Music**

## Call to Worship

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

“Hosanna!” They shouted. “Save us!”  
“**Hosanna!**” We’re shouting. “**Save us!**”  
Savior, ride into our hearts again,  
**wash us with excitement and hope,**  
give us a reason to praise  
**and to shout again, “Hosanna! Hosanna!”**

## Tonight’s Theme

*We tend to be drawn to power. Jesus chose the donkey.  
Where do you see the donkey road being chosen in the world around us?*

## Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

## Scripture

Sally Wambold

Matthew 21: 1-11

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: <sup>5</sup> “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” <sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” <sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Philippians 2: 5-11

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**“The Poet Thinks About the Donkey”** by Mary Oliver

On the outskirts of Jerusalem  
the donkey waited.  
Not especially brave, or filled with understanding,  
he stood and waited.

*How horses, turned out into the meadow,  
leap with delight!  
How doves, released from their cages,  
clatter away, splashed with sunlight.*

But the donkey, tied to a tree as usual, waited.  
Then he let himself be led away.  
Then he let the stranger mount.

Never had he seen such crowds!  
And I wonder if he at all imagined what was to happen.  
Still, he was what he had always been: small, dark, obedient.

I hope, finally, he felt brave.  
I hope, finally, he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him,  
as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped, as he had to, forward.

**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 come to you this morning with "Hosanna" echoing in our hearts.

We thank you for this day, for the gift of gathering, for the sound of voices joined together, for the ancient story that will not let us go. We thank you for the ones beside us, the neighbor whose name we know, the stranger we are only beginning to learn, the beloved whose presence is itself a gift.

We thank you for a Savior who rides toward us not in power, but in humility, not in distance, but in love, choosing the dusty road, the borrowed colt, the outstretched hands of ordinary people just trying to find their way.

In a world where so many are crying out - where "save us" is not a liturgical phrase but a daily, desperate prayer, we thank you that you hear. That you come. That you do not turn away from the noise of human need and so with all the saints and angels, with the great cloud of witnesses in every time and place, we join our voices in the ancient song of praise:

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

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!

*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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**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.*

## Prayer After Communion

### Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

## Closing Prayer and Benediction

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

### Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

## 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.org](http://www.thegaytonkirk.org) website or scan the QR code.



Would you like to become a member of the Gayton Kirk? Please let the [church office](#) 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." You can also find our weekly calendar in the Kirk Happenings or online at [thegaytonkirk.org/calendar/](http://thegaytonkirk.org/calendar/)

## WORSHIP NOTES

**COVER ART** "Blue Donkey Door" by Miguel Camarena

<https://miguelcamarena.com/products/blue-donkey-door-painting-arizona-canvas-wall-art-phoenix-cave-creek-southwest-art-prints?variant=43370955309223>

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

**IMAGINATIVE WORD** "The Poet Thinks About the Donkey" by Mary Oliver

<https://www.saltproject.org/progressive-christian-blog/2021/3/23/the-poet-thinks-about-the-donkey-by-mary-oliver>

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