

# The Gayton Kirk

April 5, 2026

11 AM Service



"Easter Morning" by Frank Wesley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

RINGING THE HOUR

Marney Titmus

PRELUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

The tomb is empty!

**Christ Is Risen!**

The soldiers have returned home.

**Christ Is Risen!**

The anger of the crowds is gone.

**Christ Is Risen!**

The time of grieving has ended.

**Christ Is Risen!**

Violence, fear, and death have disappeared!

**Christ Is Risen!**

Come, let us go to the house of the Lord!

**Christ Is Risen! Christ Is Risen Indeed!**

## HYMN # 245

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today, Alleluia!”

Margaret Storti, piano

## CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Betty Doll

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Lord, hear now the confessions that silence draws from our hearts...

## IMAGINATIVE WORD

Cathi Thornton

“Easter Blessing” by David Whyte

The blessing of the morning light to you,  
may it find you even in your invisible  
appearances, may you be seen to have risen  
from some other place you know and have known  
in the darkness and that that carries all you need.  
May you see what is hidden in you  
as a place of hospitality and shadowed shelter,  
may that hidden darkness be your gift to give,  
may you hold that shadow to the light  
and the silence of that shelter to the word of the light,  
may you join all of your previous disappearances  
with this new appearance, this new morning,  
this being seen again, new and newly alive.

John 20: 1-18

<sup>1</sup> Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup> Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the cloth that had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to their homes. <sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, <sup>12</sup> and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>14</sup> When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ ” <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

HYMN # 236

“The Strife is O’er”

Margaret Storti, piano

CALL TO OFFERING

Cathi Thornton

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



OFFERTORY HYMN

Margaret Storti, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cathi Thornton

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.**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God: You have promised us a new creation of peace and joy, where the wolf and the lamb will dwell together and no one will hurt or destroy on your holy mountain. Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

### 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! -



# 2026 Gayton Kirk Staff and Officers

## **Kirk Staff**

Mary Kay Scott - Interim Pastor  
Annie Junker - Office Manager  
Margaret Storti - Pianist  
Brendan Donahue - AV Tech  
Yonan Shehata - Sexton  
Chrestine Shehata - Child Care

## **2026 Kirk Officers**

### **Session**

Mary Kay Scott - Moderator  
John Donelson - Clerk of Session

Janice Baldwin - Personnel/Operations  
Jan Simpson and Ross Riddell - Building and Grounds  
Norma Smith - Christian Education  
Sandra O'Neil - Membership  
Linda Smiley - Missions  
Barbara Crump - Pastor Nominating Committee  
Marion Brown - Worship

Carol Woodcock - Treasurer  
Bland Weaver - Finance

### **Diaconate**

Tina Bechtle  
Sandra Gellings  
Lavinia Johnson  
Dave Richardson  
Leah Viar  
Ellen Welthy