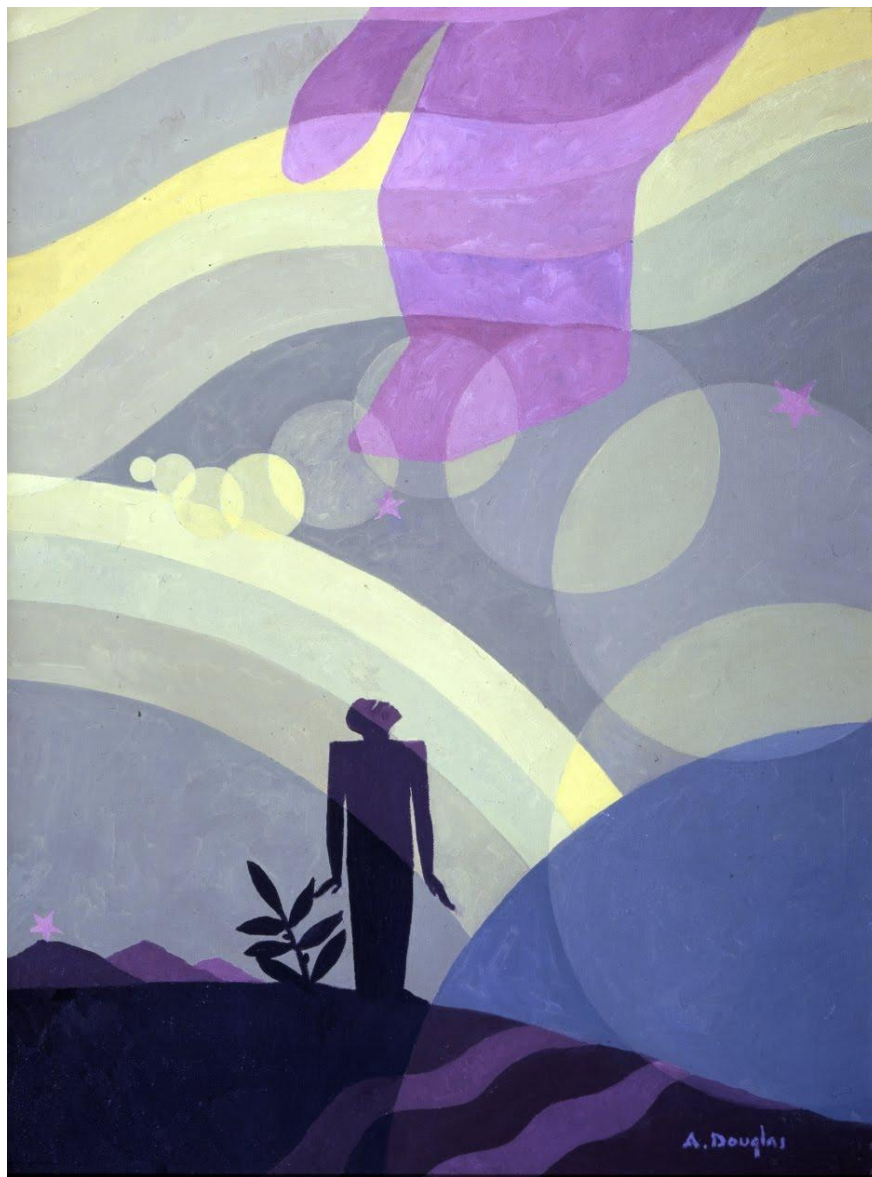


The Gayton Kirk

May 17, 2026

11 AM Service



“The Creation” by Aaron Douglas

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

RINGING THE HOUR

Marney Titmus

PRELUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

We have come to this place again, the place where we have met God before, where we have sung and prayed and been still, where we have told each other what we see when we peer into the darkness together.

We come because this is where we learn who we are.

We come with our faces turned upward, like the disciples on the mount, like empty cups that only one presence can fill.

We come watching. We come waiting. We come hoping.

The promise has not been rescinded. The Spirit is not finished with us. And so -

Let us worship God.

HYMN # 692

“Spirit, Open My heart”

Margaret Storti, piano

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Marney Titmus

Gracious God, we confess that we are better at looking than at going. We stand at the places of our last encounter with you, staring at the sky, afraid that if we move, we will lose you. We have confused motion with faithfulness and stillness with devotion, when you have called us to both. Forgive us for the times we have clung to what was instead of trusting what you are making new. Forgive us for looking only up when you meet us at eye level, in the faces of our neighbors, in the breaking of bread, in the ordinary holiness of daily life. Turn our faces from the empty sky toward the living world where you have already arrived ahead of us.

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

IMAGINATIVE WORD

Sally Wambold

“In the Leaving, A Blessing” by Jan Richardson

In the leaving,
in the letting go,
let there be this
to hold onto
at the last:
the enduring of love,
the persisting of hope,
the remembering of joy,
the offering of gratitude,
the receiving of grace,
the blessing of peace.

Acts 1: 1-14

¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

HYMN # 282

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Margaret Storti, piano

CALL TO OFFERING

Marney Titmus

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

Marney Titmus

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.

It is right and it is the peculiar, baffling, work of this people, your church, to gather week after week with no intention of being useful or productive, but only to declare things we cannot prove about a God we cannot see. We give you thanks, Holy God, for the long faithfulness of your presence with us: in the wilderness and in the promised land, in exile and in homecoming, in the manger and at the cross and at the empty tomb. We thank you for Jesus, who ate with his friends, who showed them his hands, who spoke to them about the kingdom, who promised that they would not be left alone.

Therefore, with all the saints who have gone before us, with all who gather at tables near and far, we join our voices in 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.

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 # 317

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

Margaret Storti, piano

HYMN # 286

“Breathe on Me Breath of God”

Margaret Storti, piano

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Rev. Mary Kay Scott

POSTLUDE

Margaret Storti, piano

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 "The Creation" by Douglas Aaron
<https://www.arthistoryproject.com/artists/aaron-douglas/the-creation/>

LITURGY © Presbyterian Outlook, 2026

IMAGINATIVE WORD "In the Leaving, A Blessing" by Jan Richardson
<https://uuwestport.org/in-the-leaving-by-jan-richardson/>

Copyright License B 11296699 Streaming License B 20310094

*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