

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 predated 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.*

August 30, 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

Betty Doll

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.

PRELUDE

"God Leads Us Along"

Kaleb Brasee

BODHRAN CALL TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rusty Deyerle

Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.
Seek God in the sanctuary.
Seek God in the burning bush.
Seek God in the burning heart.
The Lord is here! This place is holy!
We are standing on holy ground.

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.*)

IMAGINATIVE WORD

Nancy Parkhouse

"Coming to God: First Days" by Mary Oliver

Lord, what shall I do that I
Can't quiet myself?
Here is the bread, and
Here is the cup, and
I can't quiet myself.

To enter the language of transformation!
To learn the importance of stillness,
With one's hands folded!

When will my eyes of rejoicing turn peaceful?
When will my joyful feel grow still?
When will my heart stop its prancing
As over the summer grass?

Lord, I would run for you, loving the miles for your sake.
I would climb the highest tree
To be that much closer.

Lord, I will learn also to kneel down
Into the world of the invisible,
The inscrutable and the everlasting.
Then I will move no more than the leaves of a tree
On a day of no wind,
Bathed in light,
Like the wanderer who has come home at last
And kneels in peace, done with all unnecessary thing;
Every motion; even words.

~ moment of silence ~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bland Weaver

Divine Light, shine on these pages that the stories may speak again to us today. Shine on our hearts that we might know how to respond. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Bland Weaver

Acts 10:17-33

¹⁷ Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. ¹⁸ They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. ¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three men are searching for you. ²⁰ Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation, for I have sent them." ²¹ So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" ²² They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish people, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." ²³ So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging. The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the brothers and sisters from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴ The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ On Peter's arrival, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, worshiped him. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled, ²⁸ and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is improper for a Jew to associate with or to visit an outsider, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?" ³⁰ Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. ³¹ He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. ³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' ³³ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Safwat Marzouk

SPECIAL MUSIC

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

Kaleb Brasee

HOLY COMMUNION

Dr. Safwat Marzouk

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.

You commanded light to shine out of darkness, divided the sea and dry land, created the vast universe and called it good. You made us in your image to live with one another in love. You gave us the breath of life and freedom to choose your way. You promised yourself in covenant with Abraham and Sarah, told us your purpose in commandments through Moses, and called for justice in the cry of prophets. Through long generations you have been faithful and kind to all your children.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

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

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. I Corinthians 11: 23-26

COMMUNION IS SHARED

You are invited to receive a piece of gluten-free bread and a cup of juice as they are passed. Please hold the cup until all are served. We will drink the cup together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

EXTINGUISHING 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

Dr. Safwat Marzouk

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 or scan the QR code.



We welcome all to worship today If you are visiting and would like to know about the Gayton Kirk, please be in touch with the pastor or any member. Welcome!

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BIOGRAPHY OF VISITING PASTOR

Safwat Marzouk, an Associate Professor of the Old Testament and an Egyptian Presbyterian, was ordained as a pastor in 2002 by the Delta Presbytery of the Synod of the Nile (the governing body of the Presbyterian Church in Egypt), and in May 2021 he joined the Wabash Valley Presbytery of PC(USA). As a Christian Egyptian and migrant to the U.S., he interprets the Bible in ways that are interreligiously and interculturally sensitive seeking God's shalom and justice for the vulnerable and the marginalized.

<https://www.upsem.edu/academics/faculty/safwat-marzouk>

WORSHIP NOTES

PRELUDE "God Leads Us Along" by Kaleb Brasee

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SJnIaPE33Q&list=RD6SJnIaPE33Q&start_radio=1

LITURGY Presbyterian Outlook, Carol Prickett

IMAGINATIVE WORD "Coming to God: First Days" by Mary Oliver

<https://yearsrisingmaryoliver.blogspot.com/2010/09/coming-to-god-first-days.html>

SPECIAL MUSIC "All the Way My Savior Leads Me" by Kaleb Brasee

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fgqEJE8EpAs>

Musical selections are used with permission of the artist.

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