

Jazz Vespers

The Gayton Kirk

November 1, 2026

5:00 pm



"A Gathering of Spirits" by Jan L. Richardson

Gathering Music

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

Words of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Rebekah Motley

Music

** Please rise in body or spirit*

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Dr. Rebekah Motley

On this All Saints Sunday, we gather to remember teachers and storytellers who made God's stories come alive for us.

We give thanks!

We remember choir members, praise bands, organists, and all the musicians who sang and played your praises.

We give thanks!

We remember preachers and lay leaders who led our worship through the years.

We give thanks!

We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings who showed us how to hold fast to the faith.

We give thanks!

We remember our church families – this one and others we have loved. We remember all those who have been a part of this faith family with whom we grew our faith and our love for God and neighbor.

We give thanks!

We remember our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us to be here today.

We give thanks for the saints who came before us, are present here with us, and will continue after us. Thanks be to God!

Tonight's Theme

Considering those who have walked before us, those who are walking beside us, those who will walk behind us.

Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

Prayer of Illumination

Emily Phillips

Holy God, in the world of rapidly shifting narratives, speak your eternal Word that never fails. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive the Word that you would give us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Emily Phillips

Matthew 5: 1-12

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he began to speak and taught them, saying: ³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Art

Please see front cover

Larry Bedford

Imaginative Word

Sally Wambold

“For Those Who Walked With Us” by Jan Richardson

For those
who walked with us,
this is a prayer.
For those
who have gone ahead,
this is a blessing.
For those
who touched and tended us,
who lingered with us
while they lived,
this is a thanksgiving.
For those
who journey still with us
in the shadows of awareness,
in the crevices of memory,
in the landscape of our dreams,
this is a benediction.

Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

Holy Communion

Rev. Dr. Rebekah Motley

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.

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,
 To taste the feast,
 the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.
 Time and time again you've offered your grace,
 Even as we have stepped away,
 You continue to call us to be your people.
 You have never left us.
 We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances.
 You are ever-patient, always faithful.
 We give thanks for this time of celebration.
 For the One this meal remembers.
 For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 With those who have gone before us,
 Whose hands touched the bread,
 Whose lips embraced the cup,
 We worship you.
 We glorify you.
 And we lift our voice in the song of the saints of every time and place.

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!

God of all, send your Spirit to this place
so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment,
may know your presence.
As we eat the bread and drink of the cup,
make us one with the saints,
and with our sisters, siblings and brothers in faith around the world.
Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives.
Help us
To know you,
To be guided by the Holy Spirit,
And to live Christ.
Now and forever.

Prayers of the people

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. Please hold the cup until all are served. We will drink the cup together.

Prayer After Communion

Music

The Gayton Kirk Jazz Trio

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Rebekah Motley

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 website or scan the QR code.



Discussion of the Word

- 1) What surprised you about the text?
- 2) What did you take away from the poem?
- 3) How did the artwork support your understanding?

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.

Worship Notes

COVER ART "A Gathering of Spirits" Jan L. Richardson
<https://paintedprayerbook.com/2008/10/26/feast-of-all-saints-a-gathering-of-spirits/>

LITURGY Presbyterian Outlook | [UCC.org](https://www.ucc.org) All Saints liturgy

IMAGINATIVE WORD "For Those Who Walked With Us" by Jan Richardson
<https://paintedprayerbook.com/>

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