



*We are Disciples of Christ,
a movement for wholeness
in a fragmented world.*

**Gayton Road Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Ministers: Every Believer
Pastor: Jonathan Kruschwitz**

*January 28, 2018
Epiphany IV*



*As part of the one body of
Christ, we welcome all to
the Lord's Table as God
has welcomed us.*

*Please use the Narthex for conversation, gathering and visiting,
so that the Sanctuary may be used for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

GATHERING

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

"Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up."

(1 Corinthians 8:1)

PRELUDE

"Preamble"

Louis Verne

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28)

Thinking we know all the answers,
Yet wondering if we haven't missed something:
We enter this sanctuary in search of Truth.

In the company of sinners,
In cahoots with saints:
We gather to build up the body of Christ.

Standing by folks of deep, abiding faith,
Seated with those who stumble through the Kingdom:
We lift our praise to God.

***OPENING HYMN 90**

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

MADRID

***OPENING PRAYER**

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28)

**Holy God,
Who embraces the unclean,
Whose love brings new life:
Touch the fears and unhealthy desires
That possess us.
Shake us free.
And build us up
In the power of love.
In the name of our liberation, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

ANTHEM

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

Robert Lau

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 111

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER 310 (SUNG)

HAAS

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:21-28

SERMON

“What Did Jesus Teach That Day?”

***HYMN OF AFFIRMATION 504** “Heal Me, Hands of Jesus”

SOUTHWELL

During this song, all are welcome to come forward to become members of Gayton Road Christian Church by transfer of membership or baptism.

Deacons gather in the back of the sanctuary to prepare for the offering.

OFFERING INVITATION

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13)

OFFERTORY

“Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light”

J. S. Bach

***DOXOLOGY 528**

“Give Thanks”

GIVE THANKS

***OFFERING BLESSING**

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28)

**Liberating Spirit,
Gracious and merciful—
Sweep up these gifts
And our lives
Into your venture of love,
That the frail and fragile
May be built up
In the goodness of your life. Amen.**

CONFESSION

(Mark 1:21-28)

Lord, you rebuke and cast out
the powers of this world.

Christ, you build up in love.

Lord, you come that we might
have life.

**When we do not trust you to
address the problems of our
lives and our world:**

**When we knock down others
and ourselves:**

**When we hide
in lifeless habits:**

*In the silence we name the parts of
our lives and our world that we be-
lieve are too broken to ever be made
whole.*

*In the silence we name the things
we have done that have diminished
others and ourselves.*

*In the silence we name the patterns
of our lives and our world that keep
us dulled to the new life of Christ.*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

THE PEACE

(Mark 1:21-28)

Jesus confronts the powers that divide us. By his love, we are brought together as part of the same body.

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN 429 “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

FINEST WHEAT

(Elders and Deacons gather in the back of the Sanctuary to prepare to serve)

Communion is celebrated each Sunday. As a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation, we practice an open table where all are invited to the table. There is no barrier that prevents participation in the Lord’s Supper. The bread and the cup are taken in unison; hold each in your hands until you are signaled to partake. This communion bread is gluten free.

You are invited to bless the bread and the cup for your neighbor. As you pass the element, you may say, “The body of Christ, broken for you,” and, “The blood of Christ, shed for you.”

PRAYERS OF THE ELDERS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN 595

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

*BENEDICTION

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28)

**May the surprise of the Spirit shake us free,
The peace of Christ renew us,
And the love of God build us up together,
Today and in the week to come. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in C Major”

J. S. Bach

*Please stand if able.

As a courtesy to other worshippers, please silence phones. Bibles (electronic or book) are most welcome!

Acknowledgments: Call to Worship adapted from Thom Shuman, “Call to Worship, Prayer: January 29, 2012,” <https://re-worship.blogspot.ca/2012/01/call-to-worship-prayer-january-29-2012.html>, accessed January 22, 2018.

Scheduled to serve today:

Pastor	Jonathan Kruschwitz
Director of Music.....	Jack Fox
Intern	Emily Croxford
Lay Leader	Alex and Audrey Schuler
Elders	Gracie Tingle & Teresa Campbell
Deacons	Carl Schluter, Alexa McFarlane
	Anna McFarlane & Susan Campbell
Children’s Message	Judy Richardson
Acolytes	Schuler Family
Nursery	Darrah Davis & John Ennis

Welcome to Worship: *Whether you are a member, friend or visiting with us today, may God bless you during worship this morning. You ARE welcome and we’re very blessed that you are worshipping with us today!*

Communion is celebrated each Sunday.

GRCC NEWS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer Gathering: In the new year, there will continue be a simple prayer gathering each Sunday evening at 5 pm in the sanctuary. The gathering will include spoken prayer, scripture, silence for meditation, and open prayers for others. People of silent prayer are especially welcome to join and participate in the silence of their hearts.

Offering Envelopes: Beginning in 2018, we will no longer be distributing boxes of offering envelopes to members and friends. Instead, we will have a container of offering envelopes in the narthex for common use. If you plan to give cash and desire records of your giving, please be sure to place your offering in an envelope and to write your name on the outside.

Sunday Morning Lenten Study: “Explore the meaning of Lent, its importance in spiritual formation, its significance in the preparation of Easter, and the holy season of Easter itself.” Join us this year as we rediscover the meaning of Lent. **Each Sunday morning during Lent at 9:45 am (February 18-April 1)**, we will gather for a time of shared study and exploration, led by Jonathan and based on the book *God for Us* (eds. Greg Pennoyer and Gregory Wolfe). This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to share together our Lenten journey, which “is not about becoming lost in feelings of brokenness, but about cleansing the palate so that we can taste life more fully.” (Speaking of “taste”: coffee and pastries will accompany each gathering. Participants who would like to gather for a moment of refreshment and fellowship are invited to arrive around 9:30 am.)

A Common Table: If there's one thing Jesus enjoyed—and was particularly good at—it was eating together! We happen to like it too. :) Please join us at the table every third Wednesday of the month for a hearty meal. This year, our Common Table gets a reboot. We will occasionally welcome an “outside voice”—someone from the community who will share with us a perspective perhaps different than our own. After all, if the Bible is any indication, we often encounter God in the stranger. Come, then, for an adventure of food, friendship, and faith! We meet next **on Wednesday, February 21 at 6 pm**. Our special guest this next gathering will be Carolina Velez, who will be sharing about the experiences of undocumented immigrants.

Pastor's Class: During Lent, Jonathan will meet with anyone thinking about baptism. If you or your child is interested in this class and the possibility of an Easter baptism, please let Jonathan know.

From Outreach: Thanks to Jonda Taylor, the GRCC congregation donated 50 pairs of hats and gloves to Henrico Christmas Mother as well as 20 senior gifts and boy's coats. Thank you for your compassionate hearts! **January** we are collecting items and monetary donations to support Carver Elementary as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. Ms. Emily Croxford is the contact and she has emailed more information. **February** will be a month of Compassion! Outreach will collect for this special offering. To kick off the season of Lent, Sunday, February 11th is Bring a Friend/Stranger to church! **The church continues to collect** used eyeglasses to help children learn and parents maintain their jobs; tab tops from dink cans, soup cans, & cat/dog food cans, etc. to support Ronald McDonald house; box tops found on cereal boxes, soup cans, Kleenex, etc. to support our educational system. The collection boxes are in our narthex.

From Where I Sit: Faith is an experience. As a community of faith, we share our faith experiences to encourage and inspire each other, and to learn about the ways that God is moving among our community and our world. We invite you to write and share an experience of your own, however great or small. Please send any entries to grccdoc@verizon.net. These will be shared with the church through email.

Amazon Smile: GRCC has enrolled in a fundraiser through Amazon called Amazon Smile. Purchases that you make with the Amazon Smile logo will raise funds for our church.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1241622>

The above link will take you to a special Amazon page, and when you shop, Amazon will donate money to our church. A special savings account has been opened to receive these funds, so start shopping! Please spread the word by sharing this link with your friends and relatives. See how many supporters outside the church you can get to sign up!

This year's **Week of Compassion Offering** will be received on Sundays, February 18 and 25.

Lectionary Scripture

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

CALENDAR

TODAY

Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Worship @ 11 am
Prayer Gathering @ 5 pm

THIS WEEK

1/30 Girl Scouts @ 4 pm
1/31 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm

COMING UP

2/4 Elders Meeting (after worship)
2/6 Symphony Manor Gathering @ 10:30 am
2/7 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
2/10 Youth Game Night @ 6-8 pm
2/13 Girl Scouts @ 4 pm
2/14 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Ash Wednesday Special Service @ 7 pm
2/18 Week of Compassion Offering
Board Meeting (after worship)
2/21 Common Table @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7:15 pm
2/25 Week of Compassion Offering
2/27 Girl Scouts @ 4 pm
2/28 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER...

Our GRCC family: Mary Harris, Jim Harris, Dolores Cadet, Ankie Moore, Julie Round, Ivan Round, Pat Carter, Tom and Candice Nguyen, Leslie Hess, Marion Paitsel, Jonda Taylor, Gracie Tingle, Lu Roberts, and **Betty Taylor**.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Jim Harris; Stuart Wilkinson; Anna Lee Werner; Marion Stinnett; Betty Taylor; June & Bubba Galbraith; Marion Paitsel.

Friends of GRCC:

Theda Mundy, mother of Teresa Campbell

Dana Doupe', a family friend of Debbie Cook.

Family of Tara Harrell, first cousin once removed of Susan Campbell

Bruce and Carol Sharp, parents of Julie Round

Ziva and Billy Gagatay, friends of John Schuler

The Keel Family, esp. Hunter, friends of June & Bubba Galbraith

Ima Tart, friends of June Galbraith

Bart Martorell, friend of June & Bubba Galbraith

Charlie Davis, brother-in-law of Cinda Caiella

Chris Atkinson, cousin of Carol Malla

John Treaster, neighbor of Marc Wingo

Velma Huggins, grandmother of Emily Croxford

Trina Soto and Bo Casillas, friends of Candice Nguyen

David French, cousin of Cinda Caiella

Nikki Caiella, niece of Cinda Caiella

Donna Bell, sister-in-law of Barbara Chapman

Devon Schuler, nephew of John Schuler

Jean Cook, aunt of Debbie Cook

Family and Friends of Jim Tomasello, friend of Jeff and Rebecca Wilber

Helen Payne, aunt of Peggy Wingo

John Long, uncle of Peggy Wingo

Cherie Holberg, friend of Daniela Larew

Giannini Family, friends of Seth Spivey

Kathy Ely, friend of Amanda Carlton

Bev Price and Family, friends of Debbie Cook

Becky Garrett, cousin of Debbie Cook

Frank and Mary Alice Hancock, friends of Jonda Taylor

Dot Janutolo, sister of Betty Taylor

Ken Arno, brother-in-law of Peggy Wingo

*During the month of **January**, please be in prayer for these Mission Personnel of the Global Ministries for our church.*

Jan 7-13: Bethany Waggoner, Lebanon

Jan 14-20: Lindley Kinerk and Andy Jepson, Sri Lanka

Jan 21-27: Ann Gregory, Thailand

Jan 28-Feb 3: Cara McKinney, Mexico

For more information and weekly prayers for these specific areas please visit www.globalministries.org

*Together with other churches in Richmond, we pray this **January** to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism in metropolitan Richmond.*

For the week of January 28, 2018: We pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: to proclaim in word and deed the establishment of a beloved community in metropolitan Richmond.

(www.metroprayrva.org)

We extend our deepest sympathies to Carol Malla and her family up on the passing of her dear mother Pat Messersmith.

Please keep Carol and her family in your heart and prayers.

***People listed in bold added this week. (Please email or call the church with updates.)**

**Gayton Road Christian Church
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12050 Ridgefield Parkway Henrico, VA 23233
www.GRCCDOC.org
(804) 360-4464

Pastor: Jonathan Kruschwitz
Phone: 804-316-8434
Email: grccdoc@verizon.net
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 11am-3pm

Director of Music: Jack Fox
Phone: 804-447-3863 (home)
Email: jack_fox_1998@yahoo.com

Intern: Emily Croxford
Phone: 804-687-5710
Email: emilycroxford@yahoo.com

Moderator: Seth Spivey
Phone: 804-873-5629
Email: jsethspivey@gmail.com

Chair of Elders: Nancy Patterson
Phone: 804-301-0322
Email: nancy.patterson@yahoo.com

GAYTON ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

“Where everybody is welcome”

Gayton Road Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a family of friendly, accepting, God-centered people. With our come-as-you-are attitude and non-judgmental philosophy, we believe we are called to love and care for one another and share the Good News of God’s love and grace with the community through our words and actions.