



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



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

*October 14, 2018  
Ordinary Time: Proper 23*

*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.*

*"Following Jesus will mean surrendering the power that masquerades as security in order to love the neighbor and welcome the stranger. It will mean avoiding the safe path in order to pursue the good."  
(Scott Bader-Saye)*

**PRELUDE**

"Preludio in E Flat"

J. S. Bach

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Deuteronomy 10:17-19; Hebrews 13:1-2, 8)

We gather this morning among friends,

**We who were once strangers.**

We have been brought together

**By a Love that goes out of its way.**

"Let our love of one another continue,

**And may we not forget to love the stranger."**

For we once were strangers,

**Embraced by the love of Christ—**

"Who is the same yesterday—

**And today—**

And forever."

**The welcome of God is without end. Amen!**

**\*OPENING HYMN 722**

"This Is My Song"

FINLANDIA

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

(Deuteronomy 10:17-19)

**Loving God,**

**You alone are our security.**

**In our going out and coming in,**

**Deliver us from fear,**

**So that we may let down**

**Our defenses in love**

**And encounter Christ**

**In the stranger.**

**In Christ, who took the risk of love:**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER (SPOKEN)**

**SCRIPTURE** Deuteronomy 10:17-19; Hebrews 13:1-2; Romans 12:13

**SERMON** “Not the Hero”

**\*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION 680** “O God of Every Nation” NYLAND

*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** (Romans 12:13)

**OFFERTORY** “Menuet (#114)” J. S. Bach

**\*DOXOLOGY 50** “Praise God” LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**\*OFFERING BLESSING** (Deuteronomy 10:17-19)

**Mighty and awesome God,  
Whose might is love,  
Whose excellence is welcome—  
Galvanize these gifts and our lives  
With your steadfast care,  
That they might convey  
Your love and welcome  
To the needful, near and far.  
In Christ, who cares for us.  
Amen.**

**CONFESSION** (Deuteronomy 10:17-19)

Lord, you are not partial. Christ, you are the stranger. Lord, you bless all creation, friend and stranger alike.

**When we take sides:**

**When we reject you  
in our midst:**

**When we cannot see  
redemption in others:**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### THE PEACE

(Hebrews 13:2)

The peace of Christ draws us into the embrace of strangers.

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

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

#### COMMUNION HYMN 353 “Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”

AUSTIN

*(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 709 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” AUSTRIAN HYMN

#### \*BENEDICTION

(Deuteronomy 10:17-19)

**May the welcoming God,  
The wandering Christ,  
And the surprising Spirit  
Draw us and others together  
Into the kingdom, today and every day.  
Amen.**

### POSTLUDE

“Melody Based on Air for a G-String”

J. S. Bach

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#### \*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: World Communion Sunday,” <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/09/call-to-worship-prayer-world-communion.html>; Opening Prayer adapted from Steven Shakespeare, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (New York: Church Publishing, 2009), ebook loc. 537.

**Scheduled to serve today:**

Pastor .....	Jonathan Kruschwitz
Director of Music.....	Jack Fox
Intern .....	Emily Croxford
Lay Leader .....	Seth Spivey
Elders .....	Debbie Cook and Cinda Caiella
Deacons .....	Audrey Schuler, Jeff Wilber, .....Debbie Derr, and Carol Malla
Acolytes .....	Gracie Tingle and Debbie Cook
Children’s Message .....	Seth Spivey
Nursery .....	Darrah Davis & John Malla

**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.

**We welcome back today as accompanist Dan Fortuna!** Dan has been playing piano since age five, and has served as organist/accompanist for several churches, from Catholic to Unitarian. Over the years, he has been in musical groups spanning jazz to rock. Welcome back, Dan! We are happy to share in worship with you.

**GRCC NEWS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

**Homeless Ministry:** We are currently supplying **water and Gatorade** to Rhonda Sneed’s Blessing Warriors homeless ministry. Anyone who wishes to help can bring these items to the outreach area of the narthex.

**L’Arche Gold Chicken Players:** L’Arche Metro Richmond’s Gold Chicken Players present their annual variety show this year on October 27 at 2 pm at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. This year’s show, *This Is Me!*, will feature over 70 performers of all abilities, singing, dancing, playing music, telling jokes, and sharing a magical evening. Tickets \$10 now ([goldchickentickets.eventbrite.com](http://goldchickentickets.eventbrite.com)), \$12 at the door.

**Bites, Brews, and Big Questions:** If Jesus went missing, where would you look for him? According to the gospels, tables with food and drink and questions would be a good place to start. Join us this **October** as we gather weekly around tables with food, drink, and questions. We will begin meeting this **Monday, October 15**. Join us at Rico's Mexican Grill on 2316 John Rolfe Pkwy at **6 pm** (same mall as Publix Market, at the far right end.

In this BBQ installment, we will discuss a recurring question from our summer series: Just what is God's job description? As a guide for our conversation, we will be using James Bryan Smith's *The Good and Beautiful God*. (If you'd like to purchase the book, you can do so *and* support GRCC at the same time! Please use this Amazon link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1241622>. Reading the book alongside the gatherings may enrich your experience, but it is not necessary.)

**The Song Everlasting**, a sacred musical composed by Joseph M. Martin will be presented by the GRCC Choir on **Sunday, November 4, 2018**. The Song Everlasting tells the story of the ministry, passion and death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through the use of early American hymn tunes and texts. It will be the central portion of our worship on that day and will be accompanied by a small instrumental ensemble and piano. Invite your friends to come and experience **The Song Everlasting** with you. You'll be glad you did!!

**The church continues to collect** used eyeglasses and hearing aids to help children learn and parents maintain their jobs; tab tops from drink cans, soup cans, & cat/dog food cans, etc. to support Ronald McDonald house; and 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. As Gayton Road is a church that celebrates the diversity of the body of Christ and welcomes each voice to the congregation, we invite you to write and share an experience of your own, however great or small. Please send any entries to [grccdoc@verizon.net](mailto:grccdoc@verizon.net). These will be shared with the church through email.

### **Lectionary Scripture**

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Psalm 22:1-15

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

# CALENDAR

## TODAY

Sunday School @ 9:45 am  
Worship @ 11 am  
Elders Meeting (after Worship)

## THIS WEEK

10/15 Bites, Brews, and Big Questions Returns @ 6 pm (Rico's on John Rolfe)  
10/17 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm

## COMING UP

10/22 Bites, Brews, and Big Questions @ 6 pm  
10/24 Girl Scouts @ 6:00-7:30  
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm  
10/27 L'Arche's Gold Chicken Players Presents *This Is Me!* @ 2 pm (Mount Vernon Baptist Church)  
10/29 Bites, Brews, and Big Questions @ 6 pm  
10/31 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm  
11/4 Worship through Music: "The Song Everlasting"  
Elders Meeting (after Worship)  
11/6 Memory Care Gathering at Symphony Manor @ 10:30 am

**LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER...**

**Our GRCC family:** Mollie Caiella, Tom and Candice Nguyen, Debbie Derr, Stuart Wilkinson, Ivan and Julie Round, and **Teresa and David Campbell.**

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

**Friends of GRCC:**

Carol Sharp, mother of Julie Round  
Lillie May Slaven, grandmother of Julie Round  
Joan & Doug Borden, parents of Jeremy Borden  
Valerie McCarry, sister of Jeremy Borden  
Don Campbell, father of Cliff Campbell  
Keel Family (esp. Hunter), friends of June and Bubba Galbraith  
Donna Bell, sister-in-law of Barbara Chapman  
The Allen Family, friends of Barbara Chapman  
Cherie Holberg and Abby, friends of Daniela Larew  
Ken and Liz Carpenter and family, friends of Anne Waring  
Joe Butler, father of Carrie Wingo  
Andy Hrabovsky, friend of the Wingo family  
Linda Albimino, sister of Debbie Cook  
Dale Garrett, cousin of Debbie Cook

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

Oct 1-6: Robert Breckenridge, Zambia  
Oct 7-13: Jerri Handy, Mexico  
Oct 14-20: Paul Turner, Democratic Republic of Congo  
Oct 21-27: Marilyn Cooper, Ecuador  
Oct 28-Nov 3: John Campbell-Nelson, Indonesia

*For more information and weekly prayers for these specific areas please visit [www.globalministries.org](http://www.globalministries.org)*

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*Together with other churches in Richmond **this October**, we pray for public, non-profit, and religious social service work and ministries in metropolitan Richmond.*

*For the week of October 14, 2018: We pray for all in need of mental health services, all mental health workers, counselors, and treatment facilities.*

*([www.metroprayrva.org](http://www.metroprayrva.org))*

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

**Gayton Road Christian Church  
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**Pastor:** Jonathan Kruschwitz  
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**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

**Elder Chair:** Debbie Cook  
**Phone:** 804-360-0565  
**Email:** debbiecook1283@verizon.net

**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.