



*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**



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

*February 24, 2019
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany*

*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.

*"If a gift comes with strings attached, if it has a why and a wherefore, then it is not a gift....
The gift is for free, given for nothing. [G]race has a special good-for-nothingness about it."
(John D. Caputo)*

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Luke 6:27-38)

We do not give
In order to get.
We sow
And then look—it grows!

Even among curses,
Let us sow blessing.
Even among closed fists,
Let us sow giving.
Even among enemies,
Let us sow love.

And today let us not forget to celebrate
All that grows. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN 655**

“Community of Christ”

LEONI

***OPENING PRAYER**

(Luke 6:27-38)

**God of kindness,
Interrupting our vicious cycles
Of resentment and revenge:
Teach us to walk the way of forgiveness
Beyond all accounting
And to love the gift
That has no measure;
Through Jesus Christ, who died for all.
Amen.**

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 37:1-11; 39-40

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN)

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:27-38

SERMON

“Without Return”

***HYMN OF AFFIRMATION 526**

“The Gift of Love”

O WALY, WALY

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 15:35-38, 42-50)

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY 50**

“Praise God”

LASST UNS ERFREUN

***OFFERING BLESSING**

(Luke 6:27-38)

**Uncalculating God,
Whose love never plays the odds—
Shower these gifts
And our lives
On all the world,
Especially among dry, desperate lives,
So that the mustard seed
Of your kingdom
Might grow
And take us all by surprise.
Amen.**

CONFESSION

(Luke 6:27-38)

Lord, you call us to let go of
what we do not need:

Christ, you call us to give
without return.

Lord, you calls us to love our
enemies.

**When we hoard time or re-
source:**

**When we put rigid
conditions on our care:**

**When we love only those
with whom we can identify:**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(Luke 6:27-38)

THE PEACE

(Luke 6:27-38)

The peace of Christ knows no enemy.

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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN 419 “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

HOLY MANNA

(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 658**

“Restless Weaver”

BEACH SPRING

***BENEDICTION**

(Luke 6:27-38)

**May God who is good,
Christ who is giving,
And Spirit who is gratuitous,
Turn us away from gain
And toward the growth of all creation.**

**We go now in peace
To love and serve Christ in others. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

***Please stand if able.**

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

Scheduled to serve today:

PreacherJonathan Kruschwitz
Accompanist.....Don Moro
Lay Leader
Children’s Message Anna McFarlane
Elders Teresa Campbell and Carl Schluter
DeaconsKathy Habib, Bill Malla,
..... Alexa McFarlane, and Radek Larew
Nursery Darrah Davis

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!*

A Special Welcome Back to Don Moro, who returns to accompany our music this Sunday.

Communion is celebrated each Sunday.

GRCC NEWS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITES

Stewardship/Capital Campaign: Thank you for your pledges and here are the results of our 2018-2019 Stewardship/Capital Campaign:

- GRCC’s budget is \$99,485 per year and \$8,290 per month.
- Pledges received: Stewardship: \$3,810/mo. Capital Campaign: \$1,588/mo.
Total: \$5,398/mo.

If you have not submitted your pledge and would like to, please see Nancy Patterson.

Picture-Your-Pet Wall 2019: We are all God’s creatures, humans and pets alike! This **February**, anyone whose last name begins with C is invited to share their pet pictures with Teresa. These will then be shared on a display in the Fellowship Hall! (Anyone whose last name begins with D-E, start gathering your photos. Your turn will be in March!)

Week of Compassion Offering: On **this Sunday, February 24**, we will receive a special offering for Week of Compassion. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It seeks to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development, and the promotion of mission opportunities.

Linger Longer (Birthday Bash): After worship **today**, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a small piece of cake, a quick birthday singalong, and a time of celebration for **February’s** babies! This birthday-theme Linger Longer will happen the last Sunday of each month in 2019.

Souper Salad Sunday Luncheon: On **Sunday, March 17**, after worship, you are invited to a special luncheon: there will be fun for everyone. There will be some Irish trivia, you get to wear your favorite green item, and it's time to make note of the Saint(s) in your life. More information to come as the date gets closer.

Mark for Lent: Lent is a season of preparation for Easter. As crucifixion precedes resurrection, so during Lent we die to ourselves that we might be raised to new life in Christ. One way that we die to ourselves is through reading scripture and allowing the Word within the words to confront us and reshape us. Rather than be subjected to the world and its narrative of power, possessions, and prestige, we subject ourselves to the Word, which promises new life in an altogether different story of love.

This year, you are invited to join us as we read together the gospel of Mark from front to finish. Each week we will read a few chapters. For those who are interested, there will be available in the narthex a printed guide for the weekly reading. Additionally, there will be a gathering for coffee/breakfast each week, which will be a time for sharing our personal reflections on the reading. All are invited. More details on these plans next week!

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

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

small. Please send any entries to grccdoc@verizon.net. These will be shared with the church through email.

Lectionary Scripture

CALENDAR

TODAY

Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Worship @ 11 am
Linger Longer: Birthday Bash (after Worship)

THIS WEEK

2/27 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm

COMING UP

3/3 Elders Meeting (after Worship)
3/6 **Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 pm**
(Season of Lent Begins)
3/9 Movie Night @ Crump Park (more details forthcoming)
3/13 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
3/16 Yard Sale: Donation Drop-Off Begins
3/17 Souper Salad Sunday Luncheon (after Worship)
3/20 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
3/27 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
3/30 D. D.'s Bears at St. Mary's @ 10 am
4/6 Yard Sale

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER...

Our GRCC family: Mollie Caiella, Stuart Wilkinson, Ivan and Julie Round, Marion Paitsel, Ben Croxford, Tom and Candice Nguyen, Jeremy Borden, **Jeff Wilber**.

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

Friends of GRCC:

Carol Sharp, mother of Julie Round

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

Ken and Liz Carpenter and family, friends of Anne Waring

Dale Garrett, cousin of Debbie Cook

Kathleen McGinnis, mother of Rob McGinnis

Barbara Pietschman and family, friends of the Wingo family

Sandy Row, friend of the Wingo family

Family of Cherie Holberg, friends of Daniela Larew

Bernadette McCabe, friend of Carl Schluter

Jerry Galbreath, brother-in-law of Virginia Taylor

Drudy Carlton, sister of Paul Carlton

Doug Cramer, friend of Jeff Wilber

Terri Kenner, daughter of June and Bubba Galbraith

David Ninesling, step-brother of Jeff Wilber

Nancy Arno, sister of Peggy Wingo

Family and friends of Oscar Silvay, friend of John Malla

Joan & Doug Borden, parents of Jeremy Borden

Sandy Roy—friend of the Wingos

Wendy Evans—friend of the Wingos

Family and Friends of Leila Hanna, godmother of Anna McFarlane

Lisa Clements, sister-in-law of Mark Clements

Ann McDaniel, sister of Nancy Patterson

Lillie May Slaven, grandmother of Julie Round

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

Feb 3: Ben Drolet, Lebanon

Feb 10: Nia Sullivan, Sierra Leone

Feb 17: Danielle Lee, Thailand

Feb 24: Priscilla Yang, Hungary

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

*Together with other churches in Richmond **this February**, we pray for the coming of God's Kingdom in metropolitan Richmond.*

For the week of February 24, 2019: We pray enhancement of our common life in Jesus' name through the Holy Spirit, and for the resurrection of metropolitan Richmond as a modern metropolitan city of hope for the world.

(www.metroprayrva.org)

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

**Gayton Road Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

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Director of Music: Jack Fox
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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.