



*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**

*March 31, 2019
Fourth Sunday in Lent*



*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

*"I doubt God keeps track of how many arguments we win;
God may indeed keep track of how well we love." (Philip Yancey)*

PRELUDE

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Robert Hobby

*During this time, you are invited to come forward to receive a Lenten anointing on your wrists,
symbolizing the cross we share and the powerful love of God made perfect in our weakness.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Mark 8:27-38)

Those who want to save their lives—
Have good health insurance,
Pay their bills on time
Exercise and eat right—
**Those who want to save their lives
Will lose them.**

Those who lose their lives for the sake of the good news—
Who abandon the world's values,
Who live generously and faithfully,
Who listen to a voice beyond—
**Those who lose their lives for the sake of the good news
Will find life.**

May we learn the value of loss.
May we know the value of life. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN 108**

"Lift High the Cross"

CRUCIFER

***OPENING PRAYER**

(Mark 8:27-38)

**God of dispossession,
Who rebukes us when we refuse
To give up our idols of security and success:
Send us with Jesus on the way of the cross,
That we might lose our love of death
And take the risk of life.
Through Jesus Christ, Lord of the cross: Amen.**

ANTHEM "Lord God, Hear My Prayer" Brad Steed
(Psalm 102:1-2, 11-12)

SCRIPTURE Psalm 32

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER 310 (SUNG) HAAS

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:27-38

SERMON "Getting It Right in the Wrong Way"

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION 594 "Dear Lord, and Father of Mankind" REST

*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 (Mark 8:27-38)

OFFERTORY "Offertory on 'Penitence'" Janet Linker

*DOXOLOGY 48 "Praise God" TALLIS' CANON

*OFFERING BLESSING (Mark 8:27-38)

**Giving God,
In Christ you lost your life
For the sake of the world.
Teach us this loss that saves.
Make these gifts and our lives
To bear the weight of the cross
And to give birth to new life.
Amen.**

CONFESSION (Mark 8:27-38)

Lord, your life comes from loss. Christ, your way is the cross. Lord, you give life to the dead.

**When we cling too tightly to
our own lives:**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

**When we conform to the way
of competition:**

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

**When we keep silent in the face
of death:**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(Mark 8:27-38)

THE PEACE

(Mark 8:27-38)

May the peace of Christ empower us to lose our life in faithful ways.

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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN (INSERT) “This Is the Body of Christ”

JOHN BELL

(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 621** “‘Are Ye Able,’ Says the Master”

BEACON HILL

***BENEDICTION**

(Mark 8:27-38)

May God—**who lives in our lack,**
Christ—**who lives in our loss,**
And Spirit—**who lives in our longing:**

Lead us beyond the self—

And into the kingdom, today and every day. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Pastorale on ‘In the Cross’”

Janet Linker

***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 Katherine Hawker, “Call to Worship: Finding Life,” <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/08/call-to-worship-finding-life.html>; Opening Prayer from Shakespeare, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (New York: Church Publishing, 2009), ebook loc. 360.

Scheduled to serve today:

Preacher	Jonathan Kruschwitz
Director of Music.....	Jack Fox
Lay Leader	Cinda Caiella
Children’s Message	Rev. Virginia Taylor
Elders	Becky Ennis and Carl Schluter
Deacons	Audrey Schuler
.....	Debbie Derr, and Carol Malla
Acolytes	Debbie Cook & Gracie Tingle
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 worshiping with us today!*

Communion is celebrated each Sunday.

GRCC NEWS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITES

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

Yard Sale: Just in time for Spring cleaning, the next yard sale will be held **Saturday, April 6**. Clean out your closets and donate your unwanted items. Tell your neighbors and ask your friends to donate their unwanted items, too. Please use your best judgment and price your items before bringing them in. Stickers are available at the church if you prefer to price there. No need to price clothing, books, CDs, tapes, or DVDs.

Please consider spending a few hours to help with this important fundraiser. The work that needs to be done includes some lifting and moving of items. There are some “sit down” jobs such as putting clothes on hangers, hanging jewelry, and pricing. Nancy and Debbie can assist with determining prices. No previous yard sale experience is needed. Please see the calendar for all yard sale preparation dates and times.

Picture-Your-Pet Wall 2019: We are all God’s creatures, humans and pets alike! This **March**, anyone whose last name begins with D or E 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 F-G, start gathering your photos. Your turn will be in April!)

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 is 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. We will meet at **10 am on Fridays at Around the Corner** (2711 Willard Rd; Henrico, VA 23294).

Palm Sunday Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt: On **Palm Sunday, April 14**, all are invited for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9 am. An Easter Egg Hunt will follow for our children.

Sonrise Service: After our Sonrise Service on **Easter morning (April 21)**, please join us in the Social Hall for a morning “bite.” We’ll have coffee, doughnuts, bagels—a light breakfast.

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.

Directory Updates: Larew Family
2019 Stonequarter Road
Henrico, VA 23238

Candice Nguyen
4501 Calle Agrada Drive
Fort Mohave, AZ 86426

Lectionary Scripture

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11^b-32

CALENDAR

TODAY

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

THIS WEEK

4/1 BBQ @ 6:30 pm (Ricos; 2316 John Rolfe Pkwy.)
4/2 Memory Care Gathering at Symphony Manor @ 10:30 am
4/3 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
4/5 Lenten Coffee/Breakfast @ 10 am (Around the Corner; 2711 Willard Rd.)
Yard Sale: Friends and Family Early Sale @ 1 pm–5 pm
4/6 **Yard Sale @ 8 am –12 pm**
Yard Sale: Clean Up @ 12 pm–2 pm

COMING UP

4/7 Elders Meeting (after worship)
4/8 BBQ @ 6:30 pm (Ricos; 2316 John Rolfe Pkwy.)
4/10 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
4/12 Lenten Coffee/Breakfast @ 10 am (Around the Corner; 2711 Willard Rd.)
4/13 Symphony Manor Easter Egg Hunt @ 2 pm
4/14 **Palm Sunday Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt**
4/15 BBQ @ 6:30 pm (Ricos; 2316 John Rolfe Pkwy.)
4/17 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
4/18 **Maundy Thursday Service @ 7 pm**
4/19 Lenten Coffee/Breakfast @ 10 am (Around the Corner; 2711 Willard Rd.)
4/21 **Easter Sunday (including Sunrise Service, Breakfast Bites)**
4/22 BBQ @ 6:30 pm (Ricos; 2316 John Rolfe Pkwy.)
4/24 Girl Scouts @ 6 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER...

Our GRCC family: Mollie Caiella, Stuart Wilkinson, Ivan and Julie Round, Marion Paitsel, Ben Croxford, Candice Nguyen, Jeremy Borden, Ankie Moore, Jeff Wilber, James Fiorello and family, Darrah Davis, and Jim Caiella.

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
Family of Cherie Holberg, friends of Daniela Larew
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
Family and friends of Oscar Silvay, friend of John Malla
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
Lillie May Slaven, grandmother of Julie Round
Doug & Joan Borden, parents of Jeremy Borden
Linda Grubbs, cousin of David Campbell
Layne Hembree, son of Kathy Habib's cousin
Nathan McCarry and Family, brother-in-law of Jeremy Borden
Brenda Clements, mother of Mark Clements

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

Mar 3: Debbie Colvin, Ghana
Mar 10: Karen Campbell-Nelson, Indonesia
Mar 17: Jeanette Salley, Nicaragua
Mar 24: Carlos Sediles-Real, Mexico
Mar 31: Robert Breckenridge, Zambia

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

*Together with other churches in Richmond **this March**, we pray for health care in metropolitan Richmond.*

For the week of March 31, 2019: We pray for a national health care system which promotes and encourages health, wellness, and well being for all people.

(www.metroprayrva.org)

We extend our deepest sympathies to Candice Nguyen upon the passing of her husband, Tom Nguyen. Please keep Candice and her family in your heart and prayers.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Teresa and David Campbell upon the passing of Teresa's mother, Theda Mundy. Please keep Teresa 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
(Disciples of Christ)**

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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

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.