

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost • June 23rd, 2024 • 10:30 AM

## GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

During this time of reflection, we invite you to take a few moments to prepare yourself for worship. Take a few deep breaths and settle into the quiet. Center yourself through art by coloring the attached picture. Slip off your shoes and remember that you are on holy ground. No matter what this time looks like for you, your whole self is welcome in this space.

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Lisa Horn

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Anita Laffoon

\*Responsive readings like this one are a part of worship. The congregation's part is in **bold**.\*

One: O Lord, save us from hardness of heart,

**Many: where your word cannot take root.**

One: O Lord, save us from shallowness of mind,

**Many: where your word withers away.**

One: O Lord, save us from the deceitfulness of riches,

**Many: where your word is choked by everyday cares.**

One: But Lord, grant that our hearts may be fertile soil,

**Many: where your word flourishes and yields a harvest. Amen.**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN No. 53

“Morning Has Broken”

BUNESSAN

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Anita Laffoon

\*Prayer requests are shared out loud with the gathered community. If you have a joy or a concern to share, please raise your hand to request the microphone\*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL)

**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.**

### HYMN No. 638

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

PROMISE

SCRIPTURE

[Mark 4:1-9](#)

Erica Saunders

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God

**Many: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Peace Rooted in Justice”

Erica Saunders

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE

“Marching to Zion”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Anita Laffoon

HYMN NO. 227

“In the Garden”

GARDEN

CLOSING COMMISSION

Anita Laffoon

One: We have sung, we have prayed, we have worshiped together.

**Many: Now we go back out into the world.**

One: We came together to build relationships,

**Many: Relationships with each other, and our relationship with Jesus.**

One: We go out as people who are strengthened by our connections

**Many: Ready to love and to serve. Ready to carry God's love to the world.**

One: As you journey through the ups and the downs of the coming week,

**Many: Let us remember that God, who has invited us into relationship, is always with us.**

One: Go with God, as the people of God.

**Many: So be it! Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ is with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

\*\*Our services are hybrid, meaning there are cameras in the worship space to allow those joining us via Zoom to fully participate. If you would rather not be on camera, we have marked the areas where our cameras can't see you.\*\*



Are you visiting with us today? We'd love to get to know you better!

Scan the QR code to tell us more about you.

\*\*\*\*

The Rev. Erica Saunders will be joining us as our guest preacher today! She is the communications manager of BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz, and has served congregations in Ohio and North Carolina. One of the first openly trans women ordained to ministry in Baptist life, Erica sits on the boards of the Alliance of Baptists and the Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists. She holds the Master of Divinity from Wake Forest University and a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy & religion and French & Spanish from Queens University of Charlotte. Erica enjoys corny puns; tending her balcony garden; playing with her cat, Biscuit; and anything to do with turtles and sloths.

## **Announcements**

### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of June 23, we pray for the criminal justice system in Metropolitan Richmond: For the victims of violent crime and for those who perpetuate violent crime. For situations and institutions that condone, promote, or encourage violent behaviors.

### **Pray for our Ministry Partners**

BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz (Baptist Peace Fellowship) is the largest Baptist network of peacemakers in the United States inclusive of other denominational faiths, non-confessional groups and individuals. They are a progressive, intercultural organization of peacemakers and are gender-diverse, inclusive, and affirming. They seek to empower the poor, liberate the oppressed, free the captive, and pronounce a new day of grace for all of creation.

### **Church Check-in**

Join us for a brief Church Check-in next Sunday, June 30th BEFORE worship at 9:15am to discuss two new opportunities for GPBC in August and October.

### **Graduate Recognition**

We'll have a special time during worship next Sunday, June 30th to celebrate our graduates! If you will be graduating high school, college, or grad school please send your info to Anita and plan to be in worship with us if you can.

### **Ghana Presentation**

Addison Schmitt and Noah Morgan will be presenting pictures and stories from their recent intercultural trip to Ghana, with insight into the multifaceted history and witness of the Church in West Africa. Join us to hear from their experience and gain a deeper appreciation for the work of God in the world after worship on July 7th. We'll have a potluck lunch along with the presentation. Hope to see you there!

### **Summer Break**

Our study opportunities and Children's worship are both on break for the summer. We'll see you again in the fall!

### **Worship isn't the same without you...**

...and we'd love to have your help! We need volunteers to help on Sunday mornings by leading the Call to Worship and the Prayers of the People, and to facilitate the Zoom room. Contact Anita to sign up ([alaffoon@ginterparkbc.org](mailto:alaffoon@ginterparkbc.org))!

### **Backpack Update**

Thanks to all who have shopped, packed, delivered, and worked hard to make this year possible. Please continue to bring in your paper grocery bags (with handles!) during the summer so we can stock up for the fall!

## Hymn Texts

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### **Morning Has Broken**

Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

### **In the Bulb There Is a Flower**

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;

in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

in our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

### **In the Garden**

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;  
and the voice I hear falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,  
and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice, is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,  
and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

I'd stay in the garden with him though the night around me be falling,  
but he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,  
and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

