

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost • August 18th, 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.

*Been working so hard  
I'm punching my card  
Eight hours, for what?  
Oh, tell me what I got  
I've got this feeling  
That time's just holding me down  
I'll hit the ceiling  
Or else I'll tear up this town*

*You're playing so cool  
Obeying every rule  
Deep way down in your heart  
You're burning, yearning for some  
Somebody to tell you  
That life ain't passing you by  
I'm trying to tell you  
It will if you don't even try...*

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Lisa Horn

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Harry Gaines

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

One: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**Many: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.**

One: Let us celebrate the patient faithfulness of God.

**Many: For God is always teaching us to love more broadly and boldly.**

One: Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

**Many: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

One: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

**Many: AMEN!**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN No. 517

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

BEECHER

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Harry Gaines

\*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. 86

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

SCRIPTURE

[Luke 15:11-32](#)

Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God  
**Many: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Footloose”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘Softly and Tenderly’ with ‘Footloose’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMNS No. 554 & 555

“You Are My Hiding Place”  
“Through It All”

HIDING PLACE  
THROUGH IT ALL

CLOSING COMMISSION

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.

## **Announcements**

### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of August 18, we pray for the workplaces and businesses of Metropolitan Richmond: For economic development in depressed portions of the city; for the establishment of businesses that will create new employment opportunities.

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

Richmond Hill - Founded in 1987, Richmond Hill is an ecumenical Christian fellowship and residential community who serve as stewards of an urban retreat center within the setting of a historic monastery. Their Mission is to seek God's healing of Metropolitan Richmond through prayer, hospitality, racial reconciliation and spiritual development.

### **Reclaiming Faith**

We're partnering with Grace Baptist Church, Tabernacle Baptist Church, and Seventh Street Christian Church to host author Trent Clifford for a weekend of reflection, healing, and creating based on his new book *Reclaiming Faith: Learning to Reimagine Church, God, and Ourselves*. Please mark your calendars for August 23rd (6-8pm) and 24th (9:30am-12:30pm). We also have books for sale if you want to read *Reclaiming Faith* before the event. Look for a sign-up link on Realm!

### **Guest Speakers**

Anita will be on vacation August 26th to September 5th, so we're welcoming two guest speakers in September! Our own Bill Nieporte will be preaching on September 1st, and Laura Davis from CBFVA will be joining us on September 8th.

### **Business Meeting**

Our next business meeting will be on September 8th immediately after worship. Please plan to attend in person or on Zoom.

### **Study Opportunities**

Our study opportunities and Children's worship will be resuming soon!

- **Children's Worship** - if you haven't already, let Anita know if you would like to be added/removed from the list of volunteers by August 18th.
- **Sunday Morning Small Group** - will begin on September 8th, contact Raymond Cady for more information.
- **Thursday Morning Bible Study** - will resume their study of Acts on Thursdays from 10-11:30 a.m., beginning September 12th. This is a deep dive into the scriptures and covers theology, history, languages, authorship, contextual examination and how The Story of all stories has spoken to people through the ages and still speaks today. Contact Don Polaski for more information.

- **Weeknight Small Group** - will begin in September and will be reading *Unclobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality*. This book reexamines six passages in the Bible - often known as the "Clobber Passages" - to talk about what the Bible says (and does not say) about homosexuality. We will talk about outdated and inaccurate assumptions and interpretations in this study, as well as learn how to articulate our own theology. Time and date TBD. Let Anita know if you are interested in joining this study!

### **VA Pride**

We have our official acceptance to be a vendor at Pride! If you can help on Saturday, September 14th from 12pm to 5pm, look for a sign up link on Realm.

### **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)!

### **Backpack Update**

Our deliveries will begin soon! If you are interested in helping this year, let Dixie Leathers or Connie Bak know. As always, please continue to bring in your paper grocery bags (with handles!).

### **Hymn Texts**

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#### **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;  
take away the love of sinning, alpha and omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

### **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

### **You Are My Hiding Place**

You are my hiding place, you always fill my heart  
with songs of deliverance. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.  
I will trust in you; let the weak say "I am strong in the strength of my God."  
You are my hiding place, you always fill my heart  
with songs of deliverance. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.

### **Through It All**

Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God;  
through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon God's word.

The Prodigal Son

