

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost • August 25th, 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.

*Never put much heart in anything before.
You strut into my life and help me go for something
more.
Now I stand up for myself.
Now I stand out from the crowd...*

*If you hit the dust
Let me raise you up.
When your bubble busts,
Let me raise you up
If your glitter rusts
Let me raise you up.*

CHIMING THE TRINITY

Lisa Horn

CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Polaski

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

One: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,
Many: your steadfast love finds us.
One: No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,
Many: your steadfast righteousness sustains us.
One: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,
Many: your steadfast presence gives us hope.
One: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,
Many: you hear our cries and answer our prayers. Thanks be to God!

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN No. 73

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

WELLESLEY

Some of us stand while singing, and others don't. Please join us in song in whatever way you are comfortable.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Don Polaski

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. 542

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

ABERYSTWYTH

SCRIPTURE

[John 7:53-8:11](#)

Anita Laffoon

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

SERMON

“Raise You Up”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘God Will Take Care of You’ with ‘Raise You Up’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN No. 540

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

ST. MARGARET

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 25, we pray for the workplaces and businesses of Metropolitan Richmond: For full employment opportunities for our young people and heads of families. For the long-term unemployed and for the under-employed.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is the largest statewide advocacy voice for the faith community in Virginia. The organization focuses primarily on issues of racial, social, and economic justice. They include Virginians of all faiths including people who identify as Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Bahai, humanist, "spiritual, not religious," "religious none," and people of goodwill.

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!

- **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.

Sophia Farms

Sophia Farms is beginning their second season of CSA soon! Buy a share of farm's produce now, and when harvesting begins (around September 19th), you receive your share of the produce each week. More information can be found on Realm.

Book Club

The Page Turners book club will meet on Sunday September 22, 2024 at 4pm. We will discuss all the books that we have read over the Summer. Location TBA.

Church Picnic

Save the date for our church picnic - October 6th! More details will be coming soon.

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!).

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)!

Hymn Texts

CCLI License # 21155203

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, we would rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of the Lord.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.

All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

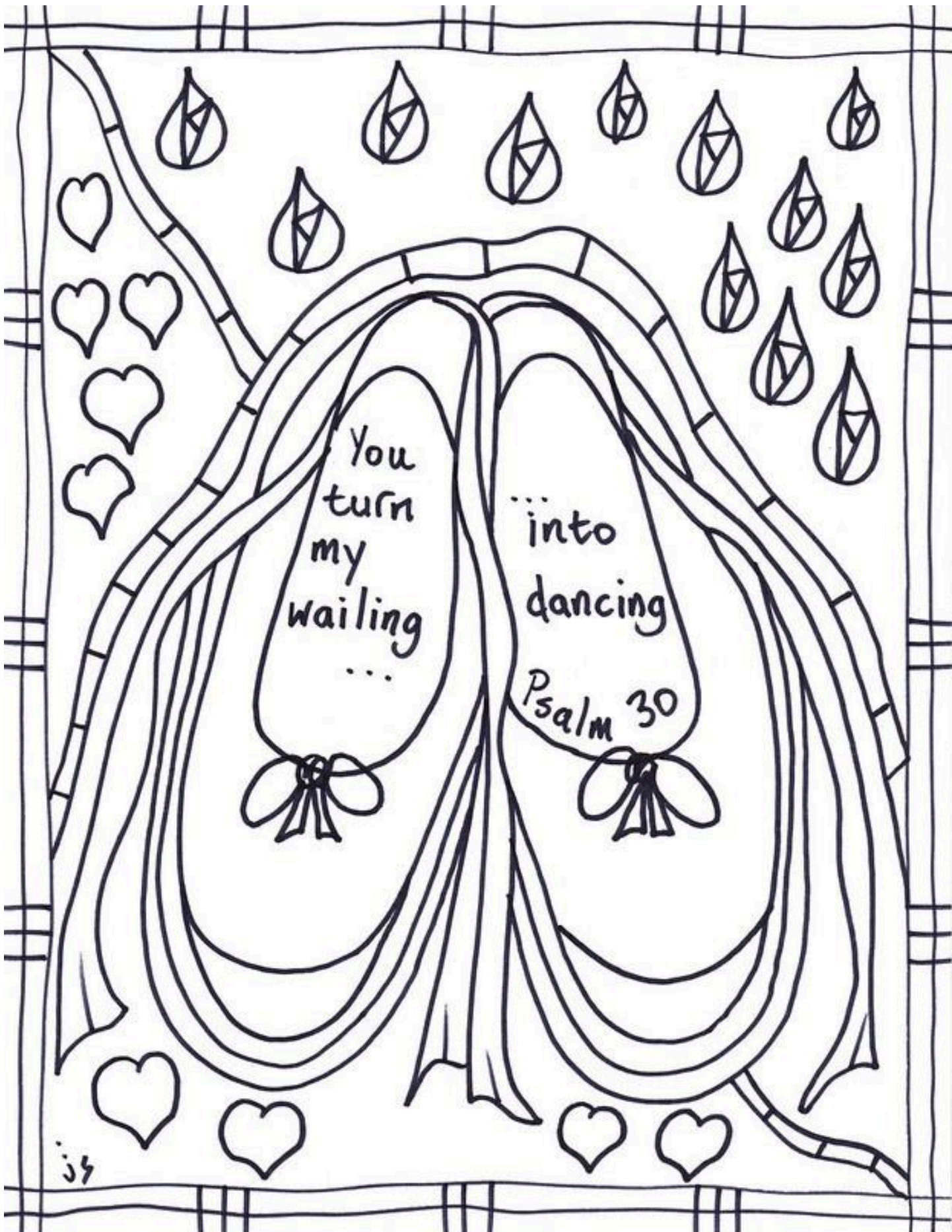
O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.



You
turn
my
wailing
...

... into
dancing

Psalm 30