

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost • September 1st, 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

Sandra Polaski

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

One: Loving God, you call us to turn away from our own selfish interests, to take up our cross, and to follow you.

Many: To find our lives, may we live them in service of your mission.

One: As we come before you this morning, give us open hearts and open hands.

Many: Make us eager to hear your voice and seek your guidance.

One: Open our minds to your ever-present spirit that is always moving within and around us

Many: Open our spirits to your nudging and open our lives to your love.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN NO. 273

“Built on the Rock”

KIRKEN DEN ER ET

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

Sandra 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. 561	“It Is Well With My Soul”	VILLE DU HARVE
SCRIPTURE	Matthew 10:24-39	Bill Nieporte
	One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God Many: Thanks be to God	
SERMON	“Fear Free”	Bill Nieporte
HOLY COMMUNION		Bill Nieporte
TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE	“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”	Arr. Horn
ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH		Sandra Polaski
HYMN No. 82	“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”	SPARROW
CLOSING COMMISSION		Sandra Polaski

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.

Our guest preacher today is our own Bill Nieporte! Thank you Bill!

Announcements

Metro Richmond at Prayer

During the week of September 1st, we pray for schools and educational institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all superintendents, school boards, school administrators, PTAs, teachers, students, and staff.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

The Alliance of Baptists seek to cultivate beloved community, claiming our identity within the body of Christ in the world and our solidarity with all creation. They welcome and affirm all persons with full respect to gender, sexual, racial, and ethnic identities and hold space for all persons with varying abilities, social standing, or economic status. Their core values are to create a theological Home, pursuit of God's Justice, and partnership in Mission.

Guest Speaker

On September 8th, our guest preacher will be Rev. Laura Davis! Laura serves as Associate Coordinator with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia. She grew up in the beautiful foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains in Sperryville, Virginia and currently lives in Stuarts Draft. She received her Master's of Divinity from Campbell University Divinity School where she is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree. Laura desires to equip and inspire people to live out their God given passions in their communities, especially through advocacy, education, and community relationships. She is married to Kenny Davis and has three young adult children.

Business Meeting

Our next business meeting will be NEXT SUNDAY, 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.

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

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Built on the Rock

Built on the rock the church shall stand even when steeples are falling;
Christ builds the church in every land; bells still are chiming and calling,
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.

Not just in temples made with hands God, the Most Holy, is dwelling.
Hidden from sight God's temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.
The one whom heavens cannot contain chose here among us to remain, built in our bodies a temple.

We are a house of living stones built for God's own habitation;
God fills our hearts, these humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Were two or three to pray for grace, Christ in their midst would show his face, blessings upon them bestowing.

It Is Well

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control:
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

May God haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

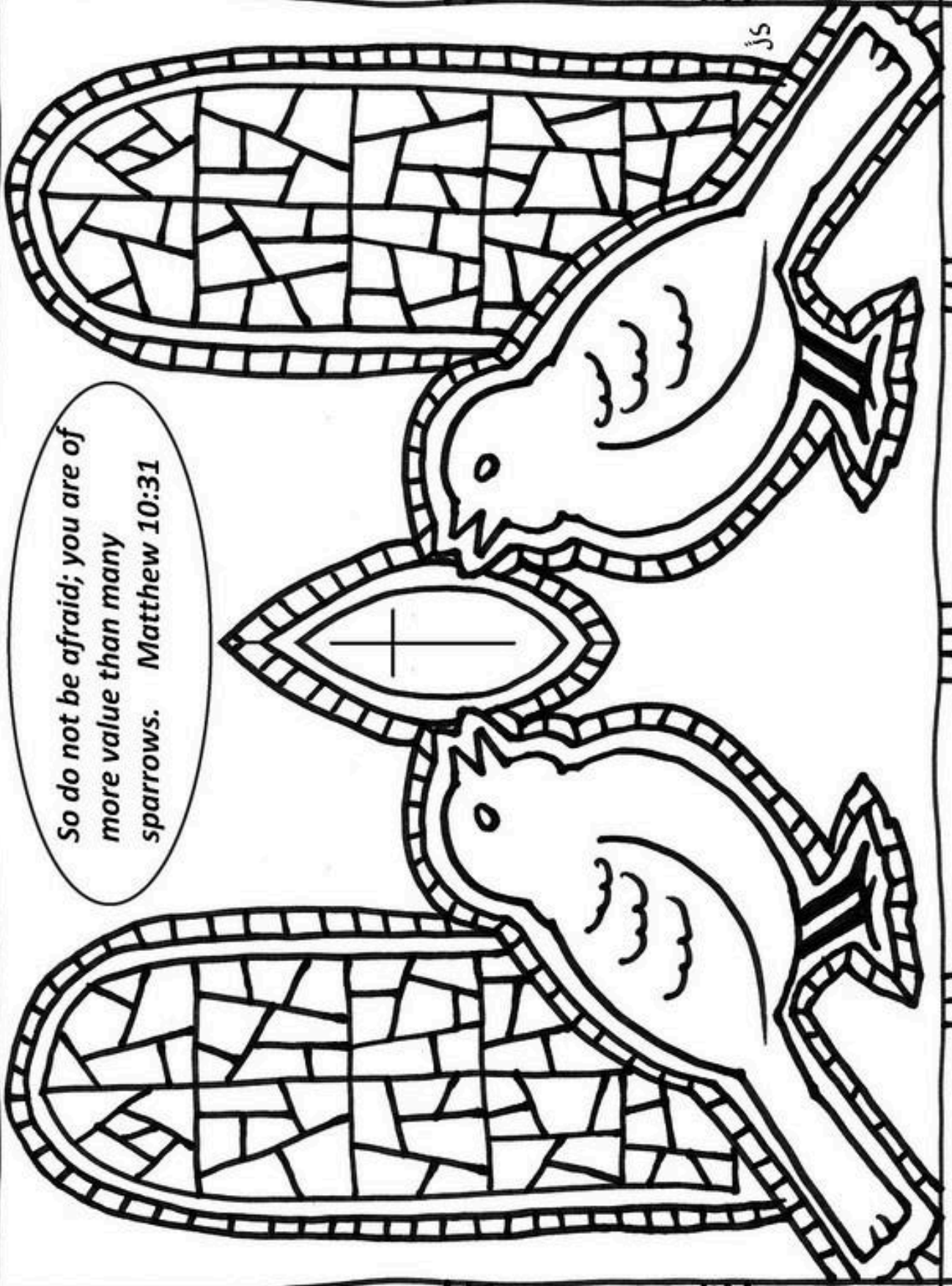
His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is he:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled," his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
though by the path he leadeth, but one step I may see;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him, from care he sets me free;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Matthew 10:31



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