

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Christmas Eve • December 24th, 2024 • 5:30 PM

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Raymond Cady

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

One: Welcome tonight to a celebration like no other!

Many: This is the night of the Holy Birth!

One: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirits!

Many: Open our hearts to receive this blessed gift, Loving God.

One: Rejoice, good friends, the Good News is here!

Many: Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah! AMEN.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN No. 155

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

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

LIGHTING THE FINAL CANDLE: THE CHRIST CANDLE

When all of our preparation has come to an end, we light the final candle, the Christ candle, on Christmas Eve as a symbol of the light of God coming at last to us in the birth of Christ.

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Many: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

One: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Many: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

One: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

Many: In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity.

RESPONSE

“Advent Doxology”

IRBY

Praise to God, the One who made us. Praise to Christ, the soon-born Son.

Praise the Spirit, ever with us. Praise the Godhead, Three in One.

Clear a path! Prepare the way! Advent leads to Christmas Day!

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HYMN No. 153

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

SCRIPTURE

[Luke 2:1-20](#)

Anita Laffoon

SERMON

“Don't Forget the Star”

Anita Laffoon

HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to participate in Communion here, and you are also welcome to remain at your seat if that is more comfortable for you. Communion is received by intinction, where you are handed a piece of bread to dip in the chalice. We use non-alcoholic juice in the chalice, so that this is a safe table for all.

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE

HYMN No. 145

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

STILLE NACHT

SHARING THE LIGHT

Deacons will receive the light from the Christ Candle and pass it to the congregation as we sing “Silent Night.”

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.

Supporting reading at Ginter Park Elementary

Books for the Weekend Backpack Ministry students were given to the glory of God and in honor of or in memory of loved ones by the following persons:

Nadene Eads in memory of Melvin Swartzentruber
Katherine Baucom and Alison Seger in memory of their parents
Shawne Soper in memory of Herb Soper
Shirley Douglass in memory of Bruce, Pepper, and Travis
Josh Walters in honor of Ryan Ramsey
The Cadys in memory of Raymond Cady, Sr.
The Cadys in memory of Russell Snyder
The Cadys in memory of Wayne Slaughter
Paul and Keene Irwin in memory of Paul and Charlotte Irwin
Paul and Keene Irwin in memory of George and Mildred Adams
Paul and Keene Irwin in honor of young people
Carole Bradley in memory of Nancy Bradley Williams
Gordon & Dixie Leathers in memory of Don K. Kelly
Gordon & Dixie Leathers in memory of Thurman Barnett
Gordon & Dixie Leathers in memory of J.W. Kelly and Tennie Kelly
Gordon & Dixie Leathers in memory of Dr. and Mrs.W.W. Leathers
Fred & Lisa Horn in honor of Mason and Parker Ansley
Dick Transill in memory of Bonnie Transill
Dick Transill in memory of Dad
Ann Keller in memory of Ed Keller
Ann Keller in honor of Sister Marie Kerns
Don & Sandra Polaski in honor of Pat Polaski
Kelly Schmitt in memory of Susanna Schmitt
Connie Bak in memory of the Very Rev. Boleslaw Bak & Marie Bak

Hymn Texts

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Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth.
Come, adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to all from heaven's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing;
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.

And you beneath life's crushing load whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way, with painful steps and slow,
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years, shall come the time foretold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night. shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior is born, Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace:
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.

