

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Fifth Day of Christmas • December 29th, 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: Come and hear, all you in awe of God,

Many: and we will tell what God has done for us.

One: Truly God has listened;

Many: God has given heed to the words of our prayers.

One: Blessed be God, because God has not rejected our prayers;

Many: God has not removed God's steadfast love from us.

One: Come and worship, all you in awe of God,

Many: Let us tell the story of God's love together.

INVOCATION PRAYER

CAROL SING

Choose Your Favorite Carol to Sing

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

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

“Through Christ, Our Hope Restored”

CHRISTMAS

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

Through Christ, we stand in grace and peace, our hearts with joy are filled.

By faith, we trust love will not cease, the promise is fulfilled.

The promise is fulfilled.

When trials come, we persevere, through suffering, hope grows.

The Spirit whispers, ever near, the love that freely flows.

The love that freely flows.

While yet in sin, a life was given, to save us from our fall.

Such mercy reached beyond death's prison, a grace that claims us all.

A grace that claims us all.

Rejoice in God, who reconciled, through Christ, our debt is paid.

Now justified, each wayward child finds hope that will not fade.

Finds hope that will not fade.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 5:1-11

Grace Maguire

SERMON

“Given and Received”

Grace Maguire

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN No. 167

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

CLOSING COMMISSION

One: If you choose, you can be instruments of hope in the world.

Many: We so choose, so we go to spread the hope and promise of a coming child.

One: If you choose, you can counter the voices of anxiety and despair in the world.

Many: We so choose, so we sing songs of hope because the world can be changed

One: If you choose, you can fight against the fear that freezes the hearts of many.

Many: We so choose, so we will tell of the love that conquers fear, the love of a child in a manger.

One: The choice is ours to make, how we live into the possibilities of Christmas,

Many: the beauty is that we do not live out the choice by our own strength.

One: Go with God, who feeds our hopes and quiets our fears

Many: Always and everywhere. 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.

Grace Maguire is a final year seminarian at Union Presbyterian Seminary, she is working towards her dual Master degree - Divinity and Public Theology. Grace grew up in the Bon Air area and graduated from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland in 2019. Grace is passionate about making time to be with God in nature spaces, so you can often find them on one of Richmond's many beautiful trails with their two Boykin Spaniels or a group of friends. Feel free to come by the office to say hello, if you hear music coming from the office then

Grace is in!

Announcements

Metro Richmond at Prayer

During the week of December 29th, we pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For peace, reconciliation, and forgiveness among family members, whatever the distance and however old the hurt or grievance.

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.

Lunch and Baptism

TODAY we're celebrating Sully's baptism! Join us after worship for lunch (baked potato bar) and then we'll head to Grace Baptist Church for the baptism. We hope you can join us!

Business Meeting

We will have a very brief business meeting on January 12th BEFORE worship at 10:15am. Please plan to attend via Zoom or in person as we vote on our 2025 cast of characters (a.k.a. committee members).

Day for All People

Registration is now open for the Day for All People 2025. This is the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's annual lobby day and an incredible opportunity to join with other people of faith and goodwill as we advocate for others at the General Assembly session. Hope you can join us on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 from 7:30am to 3:15pm at Centenary United Methodist Church! Visit their website to register -

<https://virginiainterfaithcenter.org/>

Study Opportunities

- **Sunday Morning Small Group** - meets at 9am, and they are studying the book *Our Greatest Gift - a Meditation on Dying & Caring*, by Henri Nouwen. Contact Raymond Cady for more information.
- **Thursday Morning Bible Study** - will resume studying Acts in February, on Thursdays from 10-11:30 a.m. Contact Don Polaski for more information.

Backpack Update

We are in need of paper bags with handles for our weekly backpack food program. The business that was donating bags is no longer able to do so, and we are running low! Please continue to bring in your bags from your shopping trips, and if you are able please purchase extras. See Dixie Leathers or Connie Bak for more details.

Page Turner Book Club

Our next read is *The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires* by Grady Hendrix! The book will be discussed in February. Date and location TBA.

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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Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth:

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Psalm 148

Praise Him....

... Sun, Moon + stars!

js

