

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany • February 16th, 2025 • 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

Annie Campbell

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

One: From the comfort of our Western homes and prosperous lives,

**Many: We come hungry for a better world for all.**

One: In our society divided by power struggles and prejudice,

**Many: We affirm the power of Your healing love.**

One: With the honesty of our doubts and insecurities,

**Many: We rejoice in Your love for each one of us; seeking Your blessing to make us whole.**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN No. 707

“Marching to Zion”

MARCHING TO ZION

\*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

Annie Campbell

\*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. 589

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

SCRIPTURE

[Luke 6:17-26](#)

Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God

**Many: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Higher Love”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘Through It All’ with ‘Higher Love’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN

“Only Trust Him”

STOCKTON

Come, every soul by sin oppressed, there's mercy with the Lord,  
and He will surely give you rest by trusting in His word.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, only trust Him now;  
He will save you, He will save you, He will save you now.

For Jesus shed His precious blood rich blessings to bestow;  
plunge now into the crimson flood that washes white as snow.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, only trust Him now;  
He will save you, He will save you, He will save you now.

Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way, that leads you into rest;  
believe in Him without delay, and you are fully blest.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, only trust Him now;  
He will save you, He will save you, He will save you now.

Come, then, and join this holy band, and on to glory go,  
to dwell in that celestial land where joys immortal flow.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, only trust Him now;  
He will save you, He will save you, He will save you now.

CLOSING COMMISSION

One: Magi, braving distance and desert to find you, and bewildered shepherds, compelled by an angel's invitation,

**Many: allowed light to be their guide.**

One: And it is still the light that calls us to you; the light of beauty that whispers its truth

**Many: in surprising ways and places;**

One: the light of compassion that kneels, and washes road-soiled, life-battered feet;

**Many: the light of joy that glows even in the darkness of grief and suffering;**

One: It's always been about the light with you, Jesus; and it's always about the light for us.

**Many: Please lead us, now and always, out of darkness and into your marvellous light.**

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 February 16th, we pray for the coming of God's realm in Metropolitan Richmond: For redemption of the divisions, prejudices, pettiness, despair, and discrimination of the past.

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

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia is one of two Baptist associations that Ginter Park Baptist is aligned with (CBF and the Alliance of Baptists). CBFVA is committed to walking alongside congregations as they live out their unique call through Advocacy, Partnerships, and Theological Education. This year's General Assembly will be on September 17th at First Baptist Church in Newport News.

#### **Clothing Drive**

If you have gently used clothing (clean, and as free from pet hair as possible) that you would like to donate, Phases Therapy is hosting a clothing drive on Feb 23rd. Clothing donations, as well as hygiene products, can be dropped off at GPBC until February 22nd, and Anita will deliver them to Phases. To learn more about Phases Therapy and their commitment to inclusive care, visit their website – [www.phases-therapy.com](http://www.phases-therapy.com)

#### **Ash Wednesday**

This year's Ash Wednesday service will be on March 5th at 7pm. We hope you will join us as we mark the beginning of the season of Lent.

#### **Study Opportunities**

- **Weeknight Study** topic will be introduced in February.
- **Sunday Morning Small Group** – is reading *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23: Discovering God's Love for You* at 9am on Sunday mornings. Contact Raymond Cady for more information.
- **Thursday Morning Bible Study** - is studying Acts on Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m. Contact Don Polaski for more information.

#### **Page Turner Book Club**

Sunday February 16th at 4pm, location TBA! If you would like to host, touch base with Kelly Schmitt and/or Melissa Blazek! We are reading The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires by Grady Hendrix!

#### **Backpack Update**

We are in need of paper bags with handles for our weekly backpack food program. 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.

## **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](mailto:alaffoon@ginterparkbc.org))!

## **Hymn Texts**

CCLI License # 21155203

### **Marching to Zion**

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord  
and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;  
but children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King  
may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets  
before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields,  
or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets.

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;  
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,  
to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;  
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

### **Lord, I Want to Be a Christian**

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).

Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)

Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, in-a my heart; Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, (in-a my heart,) in my heart, (in-a my heart,)

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, (in-a my heart).

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus teaches the people

