

# The Worship of God

## GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Second Sunday in Lent • March 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

Sandra Polaski

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

One: God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**Many: God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble, and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

One: Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of God's holy love:

**Many: O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us. Be our guide and our light.**

One: One thing we ask of God: That we may live in God's dwelling place all the days of our life,

**Many: and never cease to behold the beauty of God's home.**

One: Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving, for God is among and within us!

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

### INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN No. 632

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

LANCASHIRE

\*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.**

LENTEN CHORUS

“Where Are You, God? We Long to Know”

O WALY WALY

We've seen the wages of our sin; we've dreamed of things that might have been.

We've given in to hate and fear; we've pushed away those you hold dear.

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CONFESSION

**God of all mercy,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,**

**the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and serve only your will. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

EXTINGUISH CANDLE

HYMN No. 601

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

I AM THINE

SCRIPTURE

[Psalm 27](#)

Anita Laffoon

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

**Many: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Losing My Religion”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘Fairest Lord Jesus’ with ‘Losing My Religion’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN 583

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

LEAD ME GUIDE ME

CLOSING COMMISSION

One: Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to

**Many: walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God**

One: walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High

**Many: walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you.**

One: O God, who makes all things new,

**Many: new stars, new dust, new life;**

One: take our hearts, every hardened edge and measured beat,

**Many: and create something new in us.**

#### **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 March 16, we pray for the churches and religious institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all religious communities, abbeys, orders, brotherhoods, sisterhoods, religious societies, and para-church organizations.

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

Baptist Women in Ministry seeks to be a catalyst in Baptist life, drawing together women and men, in partnership with God, to illuminate, advocate, and nurture the gifts and graces of women. Their newest documentary, *Midwives of a Movement*, is now available for free on YouTube.

#### **Study Opportunities**

- **Weeknight Study** - In *Holy Envy*, Barbara Brown Taylor contemplates the myriad ways other people and traditions encounter the Transcendent, both by digging deeper into those traditions herself and by seeing them through her students' eyes as she sets off with them on field trips to monasteries, temples, and mosques. If you would like to study *Holy Envy* with us, let Anita know TODAY!
- **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.

#### **Guest Preachers!**

March is Baptist Women in Ministry's Month of Advocacy! This month we will celebrate with two guest preachers - Rev. Dr. Sandra Hack Polaski on March 23rd, and our seminary student (and office manager) Grace

Maguire on March 30. Visit <https://bwim.info/bwim-month-of-advocacy/> for more information about advocacy for women in ministry!

### **Church Check-in**

We have the updated logos from Parable Media to share with you! Let's plan for a Church Check-in after worship on the 30th so we can take a look and give feedback to Parable Media. Hope to see you then!

### **Save the Dates!**

Holy Week services for GPBC:

- Palm Sunday - April 13th, service at 10:30am
- Maundy Thursday - April 17th, service at 7pm
- Good Friday - April 18th, prayer stations from 4-8pm
- Easter Sunday - April 20th, Brunch at 9am, service at 10:30am

### **Page Turner Book Club**

The Page Turners Book Club will next meet on Sunday May 18, 2025. Location TBA. The book for discussion will be: *The Guilty One* by Kiersten Modglin.

### **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**

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#### **Lead On, O King Eternal**

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home;  
through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;  
for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;  
with deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears;  
thy cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

### **I Am Thine, O Lord**

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;  
but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;  
draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the pow'r of grace divine;  
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in thine.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;  
draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

O the pure delight of a single hour that before thy throne I spend,  
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God, I commune as friend with friend!  
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;  
draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;  
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;  
draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

### **Lead Me, Guide Me**

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.



Wait for the Lord;  
be strong  
and take heart  
and wait for  
the Lord.

Psalm 27:14

