

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

First Sunday of Advent • November 27, 2022 • 10:30 AM

## GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

*"[We] had turned from the contemplation of God above, and were looking for [God] in the opposite direction, down among created things and things of sense... The Word of God, in [God's] great love, took to [Godself] a body and moved [among them], meeting their senses, so to speak, half way."*

- St. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God"* - Matthew 5:8

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Ruth Caudill

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Raymond Cady

One: People of God, open your eyes! Look around!

**Many: The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here - among us and within us.**

One: God's salvation is close at hand - nearer than you know.

**Many: So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit, and let's worship God together!**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

## HYMN No. 66

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

## ADVENT READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

Harry and JoEllen Gaines

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Hope"

## ADVENT WREATH RESPONSE

"Advent Doxology"

IRBY

Words and Music Printed Below

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Raymond Cady

## 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. 130

"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

MORNING SONG

SCRIPTURE [Luke 1:26-38](#) Anita Laffoon

SERMON "Let it Be" Anita Laffoon  
*Sight*

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN No. 125 "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ is with you.

Many: **And also with you...**

### **Announcements**

#### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of November 27, we pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For families going through divorce; and for all in the midst of life transitions; for peace, reconciliation, and forgiveness among family members, whatever the distance, and however old the hurt or grievance.

#### **Leaning into Advent**

There will be an opportunity for conversation and fellowship before worship on the four Sundays of Advent. Listed below are suggestions for a book of daily readings you can order as well as some on-line resources, or feel free to use your favorite Advent devotional. These readings will be the springboard for the conversation each week. What speaks to you? What insights have you had? How are the readings opening your eyes to deeper meaning? How are you leaning into Advent?

We'll gather November 27, December 4, 11, 18. Come as often as you can for coffee, refreshments and time with one another - 9:15 - 10 a.m. in the Bible Study room in the Education wing

Resources:

- Book - *Watch for the Light* - see attached picture
- [d365 Daily Devotionals - devotions 365 days a year](#) - sponsored ecumenically by Passport, Inc., Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Presbyterian Mission Agency, and the Episcopal Church
- [Revised Common Lectionary \(vanderbilt.edu\)](#) - slideshows that present a daily selection from the Revised Common Lectionary Prayers for the Advent Season, with accompanying artwork.
- [Starry Black Night: A Womanist Advent Devotional - Unbound \(justiceunbound.org\)](#) - a Womanist Advent devotional

### **Women's Lunch and Cookie Swap**

Save the date of Sunday, December 11, for an after-worship lunch and cookie swap for women of the church. Cookie swap guidelines and more information will be available soon. For now, mark your calendars. This is a fun way to share Christmas cookies and go home with an assortment to enjoy.

### **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. Click the link below to sign up or ask Anita (alaffoon@ginterparkbc.org) about volunteering!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AACA72CA3FBC70-worship>

### **The Thursday morning Bible study...**

...is open to all who want to come and learn about the Acts of the Apostles and the joys and struggles of the early church. Come for coffee, fellowship, study and discussion. Contact Don Polaski at dpolaski@gmail.com if you have questions. The group meets at 10 a.m. in the education wing.

### **Back Pack Update!**

Yeah, we have coordinators for the entire school year!!! Thank you Kira and Miranda for taking the month of May! However, YOU are not off the hook...keep bringing in those grocery bags!!! We are packing 36 double bags each week! If you have questions about the process let Dixie know! Contact information can be found on REALM. PS...keep bringing in those grocery bags!!

### **Page Turners Book Club**

A new book has been chosen! The book to read and discuss in February is "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt. We will meet at 4pm. Location TBD.

### **Weeknight Bible Study**

Our last meeting will be Tuesday, November 29th at 7pm for "Faithful Curiosity." Be on the lookout for another weeknight study to begin after Christmas!



js

## Hymn Texts

### **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unshaking, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changest thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praises we render: O help us to see that only the splendor of light hideth thee.

## Advent Doxology

(Once in Royal David's City)

R. G. Huff

IRBY

Henry J. Gauntlett

Unison

Praise to God, the One who made us. Praise to Christ, the new - born Son.  
Praise the Spir - it, ev - er\_\_\_ with us. Praise the God - head, Three in\_\_\_ One.  
Clear a path! Pre-pare the way! Ad - vent leads to Christ - mas Day!

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### **My Soul Gives Glory to My God**

My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.  
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is her name.  
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.

From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,  
dispensing justice fare and near, dismissing selfish hearts.

Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure,  
leaves hungry spirits satisfied, the rich seem suddenly poor.

Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,  
remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

**Come, O Long-Expected Jesus**

Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free.  
From our fears and sins release us; Christ, in whom our rest shall be.  
You, our strength and consolation, come salvation to impart;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of many a longing heart.

Born your people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, born your gracious realm to bring.  
By your own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by your all-sufficient merit raise us to your glorious throne.