

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Third Sunday of Advent • December 11, 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*

“From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived... any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.” - Isaiah 64:3-5

CHIMING THE TRINITY

Ruth Caudill

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sandra Polaski

One: Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God.

Many: And our spirits rejoice in you.

One: We will praise you as long as we live.

Many: We will sing praises to you our whole lives long.

One: We will not trust in the powerful of this world,

Many: But will trust in you—Creator of heaven and earth,

One: The One who gives food to the hungry,

Many: The One who enacts justice for the oppressed.

One: Our souls proclaim your greatness, O God

Many: As we worship you in this place. As we light these candles in hope, peace, and joy.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN No. 153

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

ADVENT READING

[Isaiah 35:5-7](#)

Kira Frescoln & Miranda Clay

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

“Joy”

ADVENT WREATH RESPONSE

“Advent Doxology”

IRBY

Words and Music Printed Below

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Sandra Polaski

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. 124	“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”	PICARDY
SCRIPTURE	Luke 1:5-22	Anita Laffoon
SERMON	“The Sound of Silence” <i>Sound</i>	Anita Laffoon
TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE	“The Sound of Silence <i>with</i> Nearer My God, to Thee”	Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN	“From Heaven Above” Text Below	SUSSEX CAROL
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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 December 11, we pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For the homeless and the hungry, for the provision of safe, affordable housing and low cost nutritious food, for the personal safety, dignity, and well being of those who are unable to work.

Leaning into Advent

There will be an opportunity for conversation and fellowship before worship on the four Sundays of Advent. Bring your favorite Advent readings and/or devotionals - 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 on December 18th. 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

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)!

The Thursday morning Bible study...

...will break for the holidays. Sessions resume January 12, 2023. All are invited to join this fascinating time together as we study the Acts of the Apostles. We meet in the education wing of the building at 10 a.m. for fellowship, prayer, refreshments and study.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve service will be in person on Saturday, December 24th at 5pm in the CHUMC Fellowship Hall (and also available by Zoom). Christmas Day service will be on Zoom on Sunday, December 25th at 10:30am.

Back Pack Update!

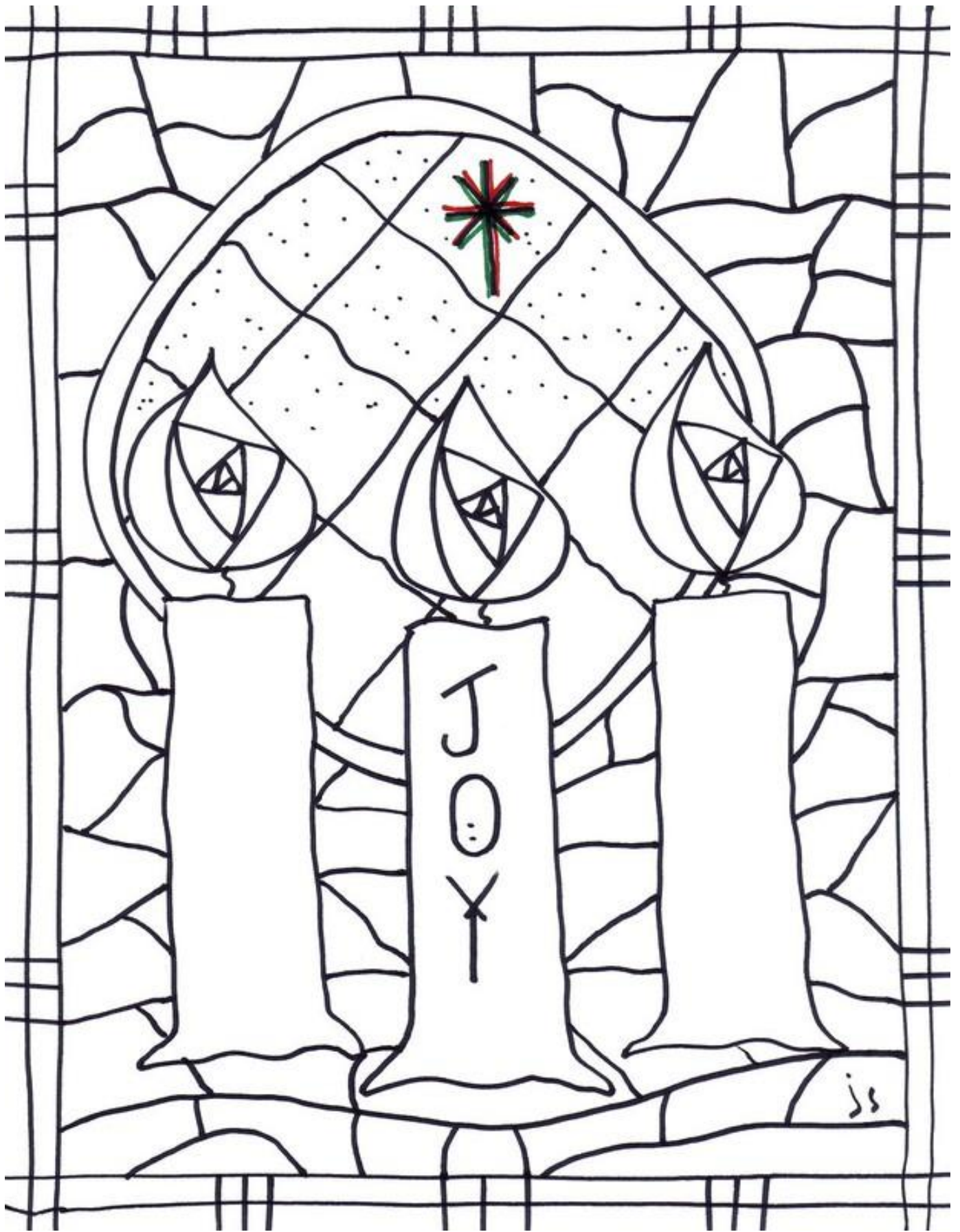
Yeah, we have coordinators for the entire school year!!! Thank you Kira and Miranda for taking the month of May! However, YOU are not off the hook...keep bringing in those grocery bags!!! We are packing 36 double bags each week! If you have questions about the process let Dixie know! Contact information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

Be on the lookout for another weeknight study to begin after Christmas!



Hymn Texts

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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.

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!

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

Truly God, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
word of God, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
Christ will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, God most high!"

From Heaven Above

Words by Martin Luther

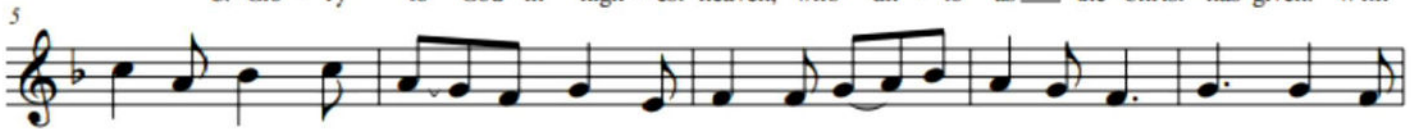
SUSSEX CAROL

Music by English Carol
arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams

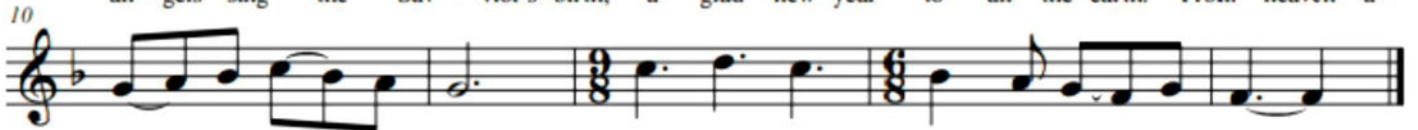
♩ = 60



1. From heaven a - bove to earth I come to bring good news to ev - ery - one! Glad
2. This new - born child of low - ly birth shall be the joy — of all the earth. This
3. "Glo - ry to God in high - est heaven, who un - to us — the Christ has given." With



tid - ings of great joy — I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing: To you this
is the Christ, God's Son — most high, who hears your sad — and bit - ter cry; he will him -
an - gels sing the Sav - vior's birth, a glad new year to all the earth. From heaven a -



night is born a child of Ma - ry, cho - sen vir - gin mild. —
self — your Sa - vior be and from all sin will set — you free. —
bove to earth I come to bring good news to ev - ery - one. —