

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 18, 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*

*“May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.” - Psalm 141:2*

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Ruth Caudill

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Polaski

One: Immanuel, God with us; in muscle and sinew, breath and bone.

**Many: In vulnerability and risk, escape and refuge.**

One: In parable and healing, encounter and sign.

**Many: In suffering and death, word became flesh.**

One: Immanuel, God with us

**Many: Creator, Son and Spirit. Glory be to God. Amen.**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

## HYMN No. 119

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

## ADVENT READING

[Isaiah 7:14](#)

The Blazek Family

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

“Love”

## ADVENT WREATH RESPONSE

“Advent Doxology”  
Words and Music Printed Below

IRBY

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Don 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. 104**

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**SCRIPTURE**

[Luke 2:1-7](#)

Anita Laffoon

**SERMON**

“Better Days”  
*Smell*

Anita Laffoon

**TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE**

“Away in a Manger with Better Days”

Arr. Horn

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**HYMN 150**

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

**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 18, we pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For healthy relationships; for constructive, safe, and caring households for the bringing up and nurturing of children and caring for the elderly.

#### **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))!

#### **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 only on Sunday, December 25th at 10:30am.

#### **Back Pack Update!**

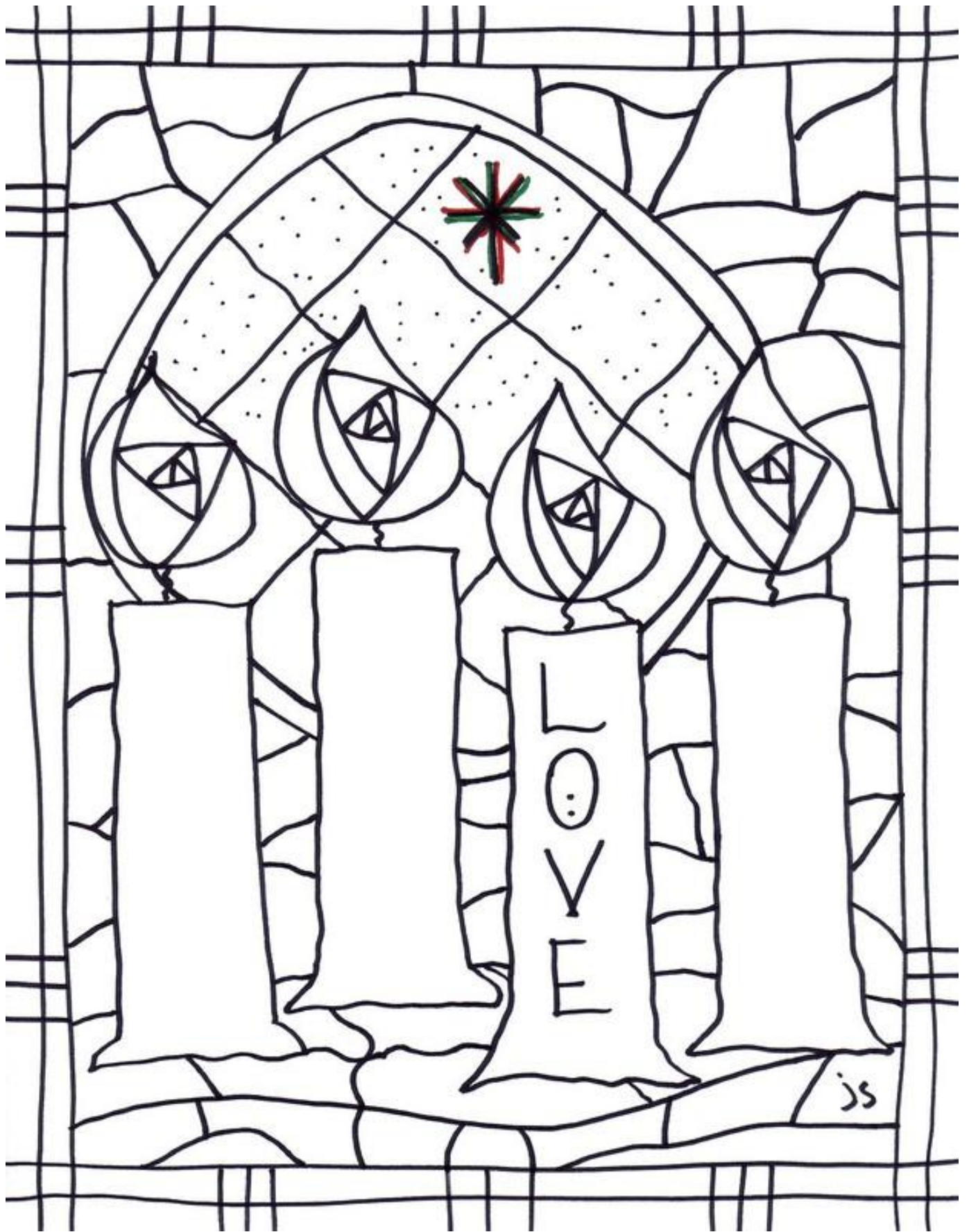
Yeah, we have coordinators for the entire school year!!! Thank you Kira and Miranda for taking the month of May! However, YOU are not off the hook...keep bringing in those grocery bags!!! We are packing 36 double bags each week! If you have questions about the process let Dixie know! Contact information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

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge of show, and cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## 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!

© WorshipRx

### Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
Christ is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he!

Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, sing praises; angels and archangels sing!  
And on earth let all the faithful now your joyous anthems ring,  
ev'ry tongue Christ's name confessing, countless voices answering, evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God Creator, and O Holy Ghost, to thee,  
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

**“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark, the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark, the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,  
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark, the herald-angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"