

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Christmas Day • December 25, 2022 • 10:30 AM

GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

*We are here
because we have heard a promise of peace
and we have faith its day will come
we have heard a rumour of justice
and we have faith its day will come
we have heard a whisper of hope
and we have faith its day will come
we have heard a hint of love
and we have faith its day will come
we have heard of the birth of the Christ-child
and we have faith his day is here.
Welcome to Christmas
Welcome to worship*

— written by Cheryl Lawrie

CALL TO WORSHIP

Anita Laffoon

One: Come away, come away, come today to Bethlehem.

Many: Come adore on bended knee, one whose birth the angels sing.

One: Come away, come away from your noisy celebration, to a place of quietness and peace.

Many: Come with wonder, come with awe. Take your place among sheep and cattle.

One: Sing with joy, praise God, for the time of promise has come.

Many: Sing the good news of Emmanuel: God-with-us! Christ has come!

INVOCATION PRAYER

Anita Laffoon

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Scripture

[Isaiah 9:2, 6-7](#)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hymn No. 119

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

VENI EMMENUEL

Scripture

[Isaiah 11:1-9](#)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Hymn No. 160

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

ES IST EIN ROS

Scripture

[Micah 5:2-4](#)

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Hymn No. 144

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

Scripture

[Luke 1:26-38](#)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Hymn No. 125

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

Scripture

[Matthew 1:18-23](#)

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her

quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, “God is with us.”

Hymn No. 143

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

ANTIOCH

Scripture

[Luke 2:8-16](#)

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

Hymn No. 150

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

Scripture

[John 1:1-14](#)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own,^[a] and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Hymn No. 148

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

BENEDICTION

Announcements

Metro Richmond at Prayer

During the week of December 25, we pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For the inclusion of all (regardless of race, age, or residency) in the economic health of Metropolitan Richmond; for effective, affordable, regional public transportation to support job access.

Sweet Baby Jesus Diaper Drive

The Magi brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh - we have more practical gifts to celebrate the sweet baby Jesus: diapers and wipes! We continue our tradition of collecting diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6 requested) and wipes to give to Housing Families First, an organization helping families facing homelessness find a path to a permanent home. Bring your diapers and wipes to worship through January 8, or arrange to drop them off at the church office.

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.

Back Pack Update!

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.

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 appears.
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 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.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose, e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung;
it came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter
when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior
when half-spent was the night.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
Your voices raise to God in praise; and peace to all on earth;

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the joys of highest heaven.
No ear may hear Christ coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel.

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.

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come!

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

“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!"

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angels:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation, Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!