

The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost • August 20, 2023 • 10:30 AM

GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

STUBBORN BLESSING

*Don't tell me no.
I have seen you
feed the thousands,
seen miracles spill
from your hands
like water, like wine,
seen you with circles
and circles of crowds
pressed around you
and not one soul
turned away.*

Don't start with me.

*I am saying
you can close the door,*

*but I will keep knocking.
You can go silent,
but I will keep shouting.
You can tighten the circle,
but I will trace a bigger one
around you,
around the life of my child,
who will tell you
no one surpasses a mother
for stubbornness.*

*I am saying
I know what you
can do with crumbs
and I am claiming mine,
every morsel and scrap
you have up your sleeve.*

*Unclench your hand,
your heart.
Let the scraps fall
like manna,
like mercy
for the life
of my child,
the life of
the world.*

Don't you tell me no.

*—Jan Richardson
from The Cure for Sorrow: A
Book of Blessings for Times of
Grief*

CHIMING THE TRINITY

Carol Bradley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sheryl Johnson

One: Who are we to stand before God and ask for anything?

Many: Petitioning God is an act of boldness.

One: Believing that you hear us because of your compassion is an act of faith,

Many: Calling on that compassion is an act of courage.

One: Hear our cries once more, and be merciful to us.

Many: Hear our pleas, and be gracious to us.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN No. 91

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

CORONATION

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Sheryl Johnson

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. 576 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" OLIVET

SCRIPTURE [Matthew 15:21-28](#) Anita Laffoon

SERMON "Don't Stop" Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE "O For a Thousand Tongues' with 'Don't Stop'" OLIVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN No. 552 "Standing on the Promises" PROMISES

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 August 20, we pray for the workplaces and businesses of Metropolitan Richmond: For owners and managers: for servant leadership, civic responsibility and ethical decision-making.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

JourneyPartners is an ecumenical and interfaith not-for-profit ministry working nationally and internationally to develop networks and partnerships for mutual learning and spiritual growth, through cross-cultural immersion experiences, educational endeavors, construction and renovation projects, and service-learning opportunities. Their work primarily focuses on education, clean water, and health in Zimbabwe.

Small group studies begin soon!

Our small group studies will resume this fall, but here's a quick look at what's coming:

- Sunday Morning - [Curveball: When Your Faith Takes Turns You Never Saw Coming](#) by Peter Enns. "Life throws us "curve balls"—from devastating personal losses to world tragedies. These events often leave us doubting God, the Bible, and our faith. But instead of pushing away our reservations, we should embrace them, Peter Enns argues. God is bigger and more mysterious than anyone's expectations. We need a faith that can grow just as deeply." The first time we meet (9/10) will be a time of table fellowship (we can all bring something to share)

and reconnection. We will also discuss the timetable for the class and if others would like to facilitate a discussion over the weeks that we meet. Look over the chapters and see if there is one or two that really speak to you for leading. Helping to lead weekly discussions is encouraged and welcomed. :)

- Thursday Morning - We will resume our study of the book of Acts Thursday mornings at 10am beginning in September.
- Weeknight (TBA) - We'll be reading and discussing *The Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning. "Most of us believe in God's grace—in theory. But somehow we can't seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet. Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we've done. We come to Him as ragamuffins—dirty, bedraggled, and beat-up. And when we sit at His feet, He smiles upon us, the chosen objects of His "furious love." Time and start date TBA.

Business Meeting

Our quarterly business meeting will be on September 10th, right after worship, Please plan to attend either in person or via Zoom.

VA Pridefest

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept 23rd - we have a booth at Pridefest! More info to come about signing up for time slots at the booth.

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)!

Page Turners Book Club

ALL YE who like to READ & Share!!! Mark your calendars: September 24 @ 4pm, at the home of Nadene Eads! We will meet to share books read during the summer and decide upon our first read for the year!

BP Volunteers Needed for 2023-2024!

School starts for Frances W. McClenney School (GPESchool's new name!) on August 21st. just around the corner! Now is the time to SIGN UP for the piece of the WHOLE "Weekend BackPacks of Food Project" for which you would like to volunteer! Volunteers needed are: Monthly Coordinators to purchase food items and pack the 36 bags of food weekly, to double bag the grocery bags, to break down & recycle the boxes, and to deliver weekly the filled bags of food to FWMCES! First Semester BP Coordinators are needed for the months of October, November, December & January. If you have questions about the process or to volunteer, let Dixie know! Contact information can be found on REALM. PS...keep bringing in those grocery bags!!

Hymn Texts

CCLI License # 21155203

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

O Sinners, who can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all;
go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all;
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
oh, let me from this day be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

Standing on the Promises

Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, list'ning every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.



"Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

LS