

# The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany • February 4, 2024 • 10:30 AM

## GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

During this time of reflection, we invite you to take a few moments to prepare yourself for worship. Take a few deep breaths and settle into the quiet. Center yourself through art by coloring the attached picture. Slip off your shoes and remember that you are on holy ground. No matter what this time looks like for you, your whole self is welcome in this space.

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Lisa Horn

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Raymond Cady

\*Responsive readings like this one are a part of worship. The congregation's part is in **bold**.\*

One: Have you not known?

**Many: Our God is the everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth.**

One: Have you not heard?

**Many: God does not faint or grow weary.**

One: Have you not known?

**Many: God's understanding is unsearchable.**

One: Have you not heard?

**Many: God gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.**

One: Have you not known?

**Many: Those who wait for God will renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.**

One: We come to hear.

**Many: We come to know. Thanks be to God.**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

## HYMN No. 6

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN ZART

\*Some of us stand while singing, and others don't. Please join us in song in whatever way you are comfortable.\*

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Raymond Cady

\*Prayer requests are shared out loud with the gathered community. If you have a joy or a concern to share, please raise your hand to request the microphone\*

## 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. 77** "On Eagle's Wings" ON EAGLE'S WINGS

**SCRIPTURE** [Isaiah 40:21-31](#) Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God  
**Many: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON** "I'm the Only One" Anita Laffoon

**TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" with "I'm the Only One" Anita Laffoon

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**HYMN No. 725** "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" NATIONAL HYMN

**BENEDICTION**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ is with you.  
**Many: And also with you.**

**\*\*Our services are hybrid, meaning there are cameras in the worship space to allow those joining us via Zoom to fully participate. If you would rather not be on camera, we have marked the areas where our cameras can't see you.\*\***

## **Announcements**

### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of February 4, we pray for the coming of God's realm in Metropolitan Richmond: For a spirit of unity and cooperation among all people in all jurisdictions; to earnestly seek the common welfare of this metropolitan city; to express compassion and care for our natural environment.

### **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.

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

This year's Ash Wednesday service will be on February 14th at 7pm, and will be a joint service with First Mennonite Church (hosted by us in the CHUMC Fellowship Hall). We hope you will join us as we mark the beginning of the season of Lent.

## **Study opportunities:**

- Bible Study: Book of Acts – Thursdays at 10am
- Sunday Morning – Sundays at 9am
- Ragamuffin Gospel, 2.0 – TBA. Sign up on Realm to let Anita know if you are interested!

## **Baptist Women in Ministry**

The Baptist Women in Ministry Documentary Tour (in partnership with CBF Virginia, Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry, Baptist Women in Ministry, and Church Benefits Board) is coming to Richmond! If you are interested in attending on Tuesday, March 5 at 7pm at the Byrd Theater, please fill out the interest form at [churchbenefits.org/bwimdoctour](http://churchbenefits.org/bwimdoctour).

This feature documentary film chronicles the stories of the women who boldly birthed a movement to seek greater visibility and opportunities for women in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Despite great opposition, their courage blazed pathways for advancing women in ministry and leadership among Baptists. But challenging religious patriarchy, and specifically Baptist patriarchy, is not only a subject of the past. It is as relevant today as it was forty years ago. In this film, audiences today will find heartfelt stories, painful anecdotes, profound insights, and lighthearted remembrances which will inspire continued confrontation of patriarchy and advocacy efforts so that women find equality and equity among Baptists.

## **Just for kids!**

We now offer lessons and activities for kids during worship! Thanks to all who have volunteered to make this possible!

## **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))!

## **Page Turners Book Club**

Next meeting will be February 18th at 4pm, location TBA. We will be reading and discussing *Go As A River* by Shelley Read.

## **BP Update**

We are now delivering 36 bags of food weekly to identified food insecure students at Frances McClenney Elementary School. THANKS TO ALL, all volunteer bases are covered to make this happen again this year! PLEASE, continue to bring in those grocery bags...gotta' have those!!!

## **Hymn Texts**

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## **Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above**

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled: to God all praise and glory!

Our God is never far away, but through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.

As with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band; to God all praise and glory!

Then all my gladsome way along I sing aloud your praises  
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.

Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body take your part; to God all praise and glory!

Let all who name Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory;

let all who own God's power proclaim around the wondrous story!

Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone; to God all praise and glory!

### **On Eagle's Wings**

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life,  
say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock, in whom I trust!"

And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;  
under God's wings, your refuge, God's faithfulness your shield.

And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.

And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

For to God's angels is given a command to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And I will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

And hold you in the palm of my hand.

### **God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand**

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past, in this free land with thee our lot is cast;  
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense;  
thy true religion in our hearts increase, thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on our toilsome way, lead us from night to never-ending day;  
fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

THEY WILL  
*Soar*



ON  
*Wings*  
LIKE

*Eagles*