

The Worship of God

First Mennonite Church and Ginter Park Baptist Church
Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA
Ash Wednesday • February 14, 2023 • 7:00 PM

GATHERING & REFLECTING (6:50 PM)

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP (JOEL 2, PSALM 51)

Emily Nyce

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

One: Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart,

Many: With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

One: Rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Many: Return to the LORD, your God, for God is gracious and merciful,

One: Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Many: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

One: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

Many: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

One: Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Many: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

One: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;

Many: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise

INVOCATION PRAYER

Emily Nyce

HYMN No. 200

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

WONDROUS LOVE

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

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down;
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

CONFESSION (ALL)

Emily Nyce

O Prince of Peace,
from peace that is no peace,
from the grip of all that is evil,
from a violent righteousness
deliver us.

From paralysis of will,
from lies and misnaming,
from terror of truth
deliver us.

From hardness of heart,
from trading in slaughter,
from the worship of death
deliver us.

(Silence)

By the folly of your gospel,
by your choosing our flesh,
by your nakedness and pain
heal us.

By your weeping over the city,
by your refusal of the sword,
by your facing of horror
heal us.

By your bursting from the tomb,
by your coming in judgment,
by your longing for peace
heal us.

Grant us peace. Amen.

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. 527

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

MORE LOVE TO THEE

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
this is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
now thee alone I seek, give what is best;
this all my pray'r shall be, more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.

Let sorrow do its work, send grief and pain;
sweet are thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
when they can sing with me, more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.

Then shall my latest breath whisper thy praise;
this be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
this still its pray'r shall be, more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee, more love to thee.

SCRIPTURE	Matthew 6:5-13	Ryan Ahlgrim
SERMON	“When You Pray”	Ryan Ahlgrim
INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT		Anita Laffoon
IMPOSITION OF ASHES		Ryan Ahlgrim and Anita Laffoon
HYMN No. 581	“Near to the Heart of God”	MCAFEE

There is a place of quiet rest near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before you near to the heart of God.

There is a place of comfort sweet near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before you near to the heart of God.

There is a place of full release near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before you near to the heart of God.

BENEDICTION Anita Laffoon

PASSING OF THE PEACE

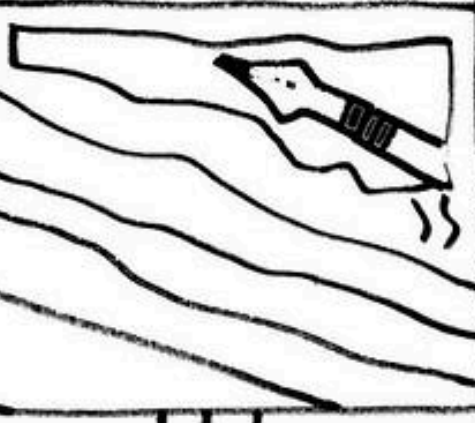
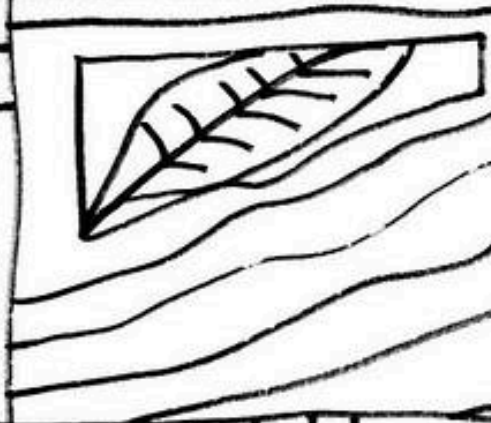
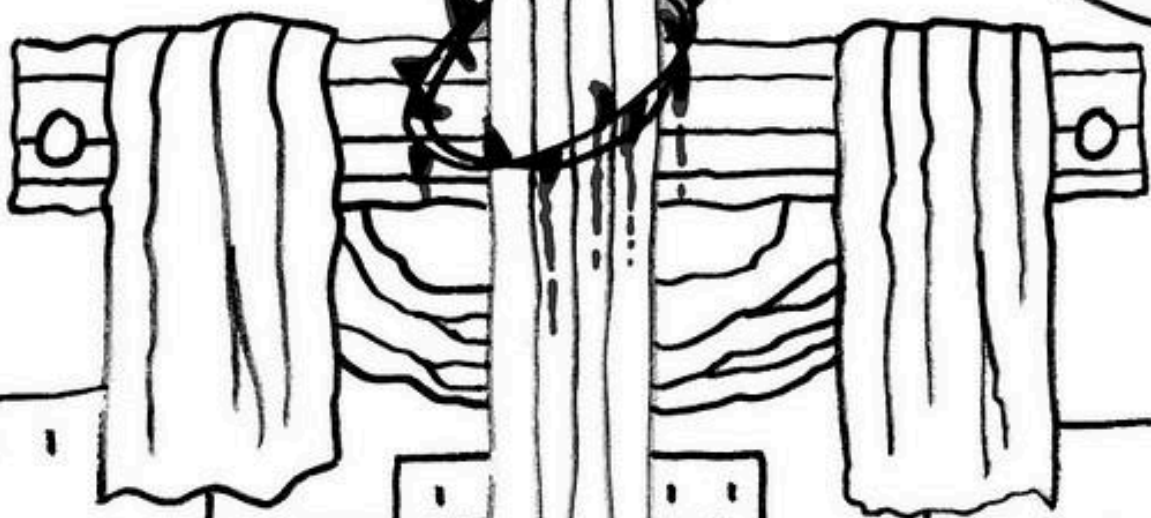
One: The peace of Christ is with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

Services at Ginter Park Baptist Church 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.

HEALING
A BROKEN
WORLD

INRI



LENT