The Worship of God

GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

**Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Fourth Sunday in Lent • March 10, 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** Eric Johnson

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

One: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**Many: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.**

One: Know that God’s love is lavished upon you forever.

**Many: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

One: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

**Many: Amen!**

**Invocation Prayer**

**Hymn No. 16** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”NETTLETON

\*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.**

**Lenten Chorus** “In Christ Alone” IN CHRIST ALONE

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.

From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand.

Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**Confession**

**God of wisdom,**

**we confess the foolishness of our ways,**

**and our failure to follow you in your paths of right relationships –**

**with you and with others.**

**We have gone astray; we feel lost.**

**We have upheld our own interests first, to the detriment of others.**

**We have failed to be generous with the poor,**

**and abandoned our efforts to bring about justice.**

**We feel the weight of our mistakes, God;**

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**Help us to live more faithfully as your servants.**

**We seek your unfailing love**

**and ask for your guiding hand on our lives.**

**Assurance of forgiveness**

One: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward

us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

**Extinguish Candle**

**Hymn No. 339** “Just as I Am, Without One Plea”WOODWORTH

**Scripture** [Luke 15:1-10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+15%3A1-10&version=NRSVUE) Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God

**Many: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon** “What’s Love Got To Do With It?”Anita Laffoon

**Time of Reflection & Response** “‘The Ninety and Nine’ with ‘What’s Love Got To Do With It?’”Arr. Horn

**Announcements & The Work of the Church**

**Hymn No. 546** “Amazing Grace!”NEW BRITAIN

**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.\*\*



Are you visiting with us today? We’d love to get to know you better!

Scan the QR code to tell us more about you.

**Announcements**

**Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of March 10, we pray for the Spirit of the Resurrection in Metropolitan Richmond: To remove any spirit of contentiousness, prejudice, greed, jealousy, or enjoyment of others’ troubles.

**Pray for our Ministry Partners**

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is the largest statewide advocacy voice for the faith community in

Virginia. The organization focuses primarily on issues of racial, social, and economic justice. They include

Virginians of all faiths including people who identify as Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist,

Bahai, humanist, “spiritual, not religious,” "religious none," and people of goodwill.

**Guest Speaker**

March is Baptist Women in Ministry’s Month of Advocacy, and we are participating by welcoming Olivia Weah as our guest preacher on March 17th! Olivia holds a Bachelor of Theology degree from Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently a student at the Baptist House of Studies at UPSem, working on her Master of Christian Education degree. She is also the Founder and Director of Community Services for the Rescue Mission for Drug addicted Youth in her home country, Liberia.

**Study opportunities:**

* Bible Study: Book of Acts – Thursdays at 10am
* Sunday Morning – Sundays at 9am
* Ragamuffin Gospel, 2.0 – Wednesdays at 6pm.

**Church Check-in**

Please plan to stay after worship for a Church Check-in TODAY. We’ll be discussing the upcoming Civic Engagement workshop, and continuing our conversation on welcoming people to our church.



**Shamrock the Block**

Grab your green gear! We’ve been accepted as a vendor at Shamrock the Block on March 16th from 12pm-6pm! Scan the QR code below to sign up, or look for a link in Monday’s announcements.

**Holy Week Schedule**

* Palm Sunday - March 24th, 10:30am
* Maundy Thursday - March 28th, 7pm Potluck dinner and service
* Easter Sunday - March 31st, 9:15am brunch and 10:30am service

**Just for kids!**

We have 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)!

**Backpack Update**

We are running low on grocery bags for our Backpack Ministry! Please bring in grocery-sized paper bags with handles for our weekly food deliveries to identified food insecure students at Frances McClenney Elementary School.

**Page Turners**

The Page Turners Book Club will have their final meeting of the season on Sunday May 19th at 4pm. The book to be discussed is *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. Location TBA.

**Hymn Texts**

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**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar; hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

**Just As I Am, Without One Plea**

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown, hast broken ev'ry barrier down;  
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

**Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound**

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;  
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

