

# The Worship of God

## GINTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

First Sunday in Lent • March 9th, 2025 • 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

Tracy Cady

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

One: As darkness gives way to light and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,

**Many: We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.**

One: Like the green shoots of renewed life, stirring beneath the soil,

**Many: We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.**

One: In this time of reflection and repentance,

**Many: We affirm our identity, we claim our security, as children of God.**

### INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN No. 180

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

ST. FLAVIAN

\*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

Tracy 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

"Where Are You, God? We Long to Know"

O WALY WALY

Where are you, God? We long to know. At times, our sorrows overflow.

Then others ask the question, too. "Where is your God?" — they say of you.

## CONFESSION

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## 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. 211** “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” LONESOME VALLEY

**SCRIPTURE** [Luke 4:1-13](#) Anita Laffoon

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

**SERMON** “Under Pressure” Anita Laffoon

**TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE** “‘Seek Ye First’ with ‘Under Pressure’” LONESOME VALLEY

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

**HYMN** “Grace, Greater Than All Our Sin” MOODY

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,  
yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.  
Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.  
  
Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, what can veil to wash it away?  
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today.  
Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe;  
you who are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive?  
Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.

#### CLOSING COMMISSION

One: Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to

**Many: walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God**

One: walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High

**Many: walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you.**

One: O God, who makes all things new,

**Many: new stars, new dust, new life;**

One: take our hearts, every hardened edge and measured beat,

**Many: and create something new in us.**

#### 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 9, we pray for churches and religious institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all who seek God on behalf of others; for pastors, ministers, missionaries, lay leaders, congregants, intercessors, and other servants of Christ.

##### **Pray for our Ministry Partners**

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (Global) is a Christian network of individuals and churches working together to spread the hope of Christ. Their understanding of Baptist faith and practice is expressed by their emphasis on freedom in biblical interpretation and congregational governance, the participation of women and men in all aspects of church leadership and Christian ministry, and religious liberty for all people.

## **Shamrock the Block**

We've been accepted to be vendors at Shamrock the Block on March 15th! More information about exact times to set up and clean up will be available when we get a little closer to the date. But for now, if you'd like to help out in the tent you can sign up using the link on Realm. Volunteers helping in the tent can contact Sandra Polaski, who has graciously agreed to shuttle people to the event so no one has to fight for parking.

## **Study Opportunities**

- **Weeknight Study** - In *Holy Envy*, Barbara Brown Taylor contemplates the myriad ways other people and traditions encounter the Transcendent, both by digging deeper into those traditions herself and by seeing them through her students' eyes as she sets off with them on field trips to monasteries, temples, and mosques. If you would like to study *Holy Envy* with us, let Anita know by March 16th.
- **Sunday Morning Small Group** – is reading *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23: Discovering God's Love for You* at 9am on Sunday mornings. Contact Raymond Cady for more information.
- **Thursday Morning Bible Study** - is studying Acts on Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m. Contact Don Polaski for more information.

## **Guest Preachers!**

March is Baptist Women in Ministry's Month of Advocacy! This month we will celebrate with two guest preachers - Rev. Dr. Sandra Hack Polaski on March 23rd, and our seminary student (and office manager) Grace Maguire on March 30. Visit <https://bwim.info/bwim-month-of-advocacy/> for more information about advocacy for women in ministry!

## **Save the Dates!**

Holy Week services for GPBC:

- Palm Sunday - April 13th, service at 10:30am
- Maundy Thursday - April 17th, service at 7pm
- Good Friday - April 18th, prayer stations from 4-8pm
- Easter Sunday - April 20th, Brunch at 9am, service at 10:30am

## **Page Turner Book Club**

The Page Turners Book Club will next meet on Sunday May 18, 2025. Location TBA. The book for discussion will be: *The Guilty One* by Kiersten Modglin.

## **Backpack Update**

We are in need of paper bags with handles for our weekly backpack food program. Please continue to bring in your bags from your shopping trips, and if you are able please purchase extras. See Dixie Leathers or Connie Bak for more details.

## **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))!

## **Hymn Texts**

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### **Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days**

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,  
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,  
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to conquer sin.

And thro' these days of penitence, and thro' your passiontide,  
forevermore, in life and death, O Christ, with us abide.

Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,  
an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!

### **Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley**

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself;  
O, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves;  
O, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial, you have to stand it by yourself,  
O, nobody else can stand it for you, you have to stand it by yourself.

*If you are the Son of God...*

*...turn these stones into bread.*

