

The Worship of God

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475 ,
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost • August 10, 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

Don Polaski

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

One: God of peace help us to rejoice in you always

Many: Make us gentle to everyone

One: Keep us from being anxious about anything

Many: Help us to ask you for what we need, with thanksgiving

One: May your peace guard our hearts and minds

Many: May we rejoice in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN NO. 2

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

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

In Philippians 4:4-9, the song “Stay Positive,” and the hymn, “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” we hear a shared invitation to anchor our hearts in joy, to dwell on what is good and true, and to carry a spirit of hope and resilience that shine even in life's most difficult seasons.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Don Polaski

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. 566**“Be Still, My Soul”**

FINLANDIA

In Philippians 4:4-9, the song, “Stay Positive,” and the hymn, “Be Still, My Soul,” we find a gentle yet steady call to rest in God’s peace, to trust through uncertainty, and to let hope quietly strengthen us in every trial.

SCRIPTURE[Philippians 4:4-9](#)

Anita Laffoon

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

Many: Thanks be to God

SERMON**“Stay Positive”**

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘Let There Be Peace on Earth’ with ‘Stay Positive’”

Arr. Horn

In Philippians 4:4-9, the song, “Stay Positive,” and the hymn, “Be Still, My Soul,” we hear a tender summons to let God’s peace dwell deeply within us, guiding our thoughts toward hope and our steps toward joy as we join in the sacred work of fostering harmony in the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**HYMN No.****“O for a World”**

AZMON

In Philippians 4:4-9, the song, “Stay Positive,” and the hymn, “Be Still, My Soul,” we hear a shared longing to center our hearts on what is just and good, allowing joy and hope to take root within us as we join hands in building a world shaped by peace and compassion.

CLOSING COMMISSION

One: We have sung, we have prayed, we have worshiped together.

Many: Now we go back out into the world.

One: We came together to build relationships,

Many: Relationships with each other, and our relationship with Jesus.

One: We go out as people who are strengthened by our connections

Many: Ready to love and to serve. Ready to carry God's love to the world.

One: As you journey through the ups and the downs of the coming week,

Many: Let us remember that God, who has invited us into relationship, is always with us.

One: Go with God, as the people of God.

Many: So be it! Amen

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 August 10, 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

The Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty is one of our new ministry partners! Founded in 1936, The BJC brings a uniquely Baptist perspective of "soul freedom" to protecting religious liberty for all faiths and defending the separation of church and state. BJC is the only faith-based group working on the national level with this singular focus. They file briefs in pivotal Supreme Court cases, advocate for and against legislation, testify in Congress and unite with others across faiths to ensure that all Americans have, and will always have, the right to follow their spiritual beliefs.

Church Check-in

Please mark your calendars for a Church Check-in immediately after worship NEXT SUNDAY August 17th. Left Brain will be giving an update on possible new spaces for us, and we will need to vote on what is presented.

Business Meeting

Our next business meeting will be on Sept 7th, immediately after worship. Please plan to attend either via Zoom or in person.

Page Turners' Book Club

The Page Turner's Book Club will be having their first meeting of the 2025/2026 season on Sunday September 7th at 4pm. Location TBA. We will be discussing all the books that members have read over the Summer. For information, please contact Kelly Schmitt

The Blue Circle

In 2023 we made a circle map of our near and far neighbors, and in the blue circle were the people that we kind of knew were out there, but we didn't know much about them or have a lot of contact with them. With that in mind, we're beginning a series of conversations about "The Blue Circle." We'll be inviting guest speakers to teach us about the people we don't know yet, and challenging ourselves to get to know our neighbors. The first of these conversations will be on Saturday, Sept 13th, and the topic is "What is a Biblical Sexual Ethic?" This first conversation is both a way to look beyond "purity culture," and sets us up for other relationship based topics. Dr. Anna Sieges-Beal, professor at the Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity, will be joining us as our guest speaker.

VA Pride

We have a booth at Pride again this year! Mark your calendars for Sept 27th, 12pm-6pm. Details and sign-up sheet coming soon!

Summer Playlist

Our Summer Playlist sermon series is almost complete! If you want to start listening now, you can find all of the songs that we'll be using this summer (in order) on Spotify -

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/48MMPHifkuqnetXoVfiwrJ?si=1b3c5c664f5b4cdb>

Backpack Update

Backpack shopping/bagging/delivering for 2025-26 is just around the corner! Thank you for all the grocery bags...with handles...that you have collected and donated! Keep 'em coming! More info soon!!

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)!

Hymn Texts

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Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive our fear and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou the Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus; stars of morning, take your part;
love divine is reigning o'er us, binding those of tender heart.
Ever singing, move we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Trust in your God, your savior and your guide, who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a peaceful end.

Be still, my soul: for God will undertake to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know the voice that calmed them in this world below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall dwell with forever more,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

O for a World

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn, outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

“Stay Positive” - The Hold Steady

I've got a lot of old friends that're getting back in touch
And it's a pretty good feeling yea it feels pretty good
I get a lot of double takes when I'm coming round the corners
And its mostly pretty nice its mostly pretty alright

'Cause most kids give me credit for being down with it
When it was back in the day back when things were way different
When the youth of today and the early seven seconds
Taught me some of life's most valuable lessons

There's gonna come a time when the scene will seem less sunny
It'll probably get druggy and the kids will seem too skinny
There's gonna come a time when she's gonna have to go
With whoever's gonna get her the highest

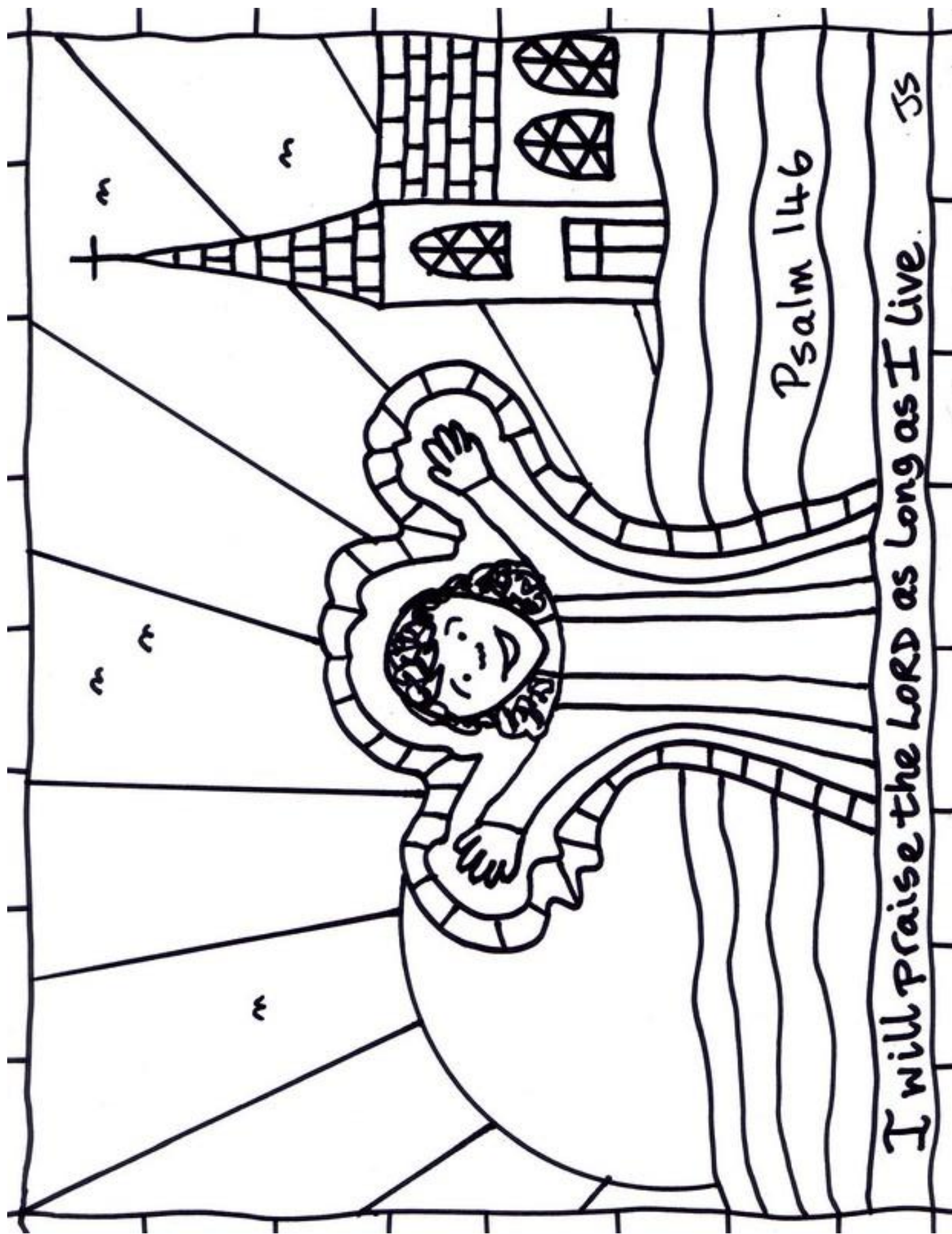
There's gonna come a time when the true scene leaders
Forget where they differ and get big picture
'cause the kids at their shows, they'll have kids of their own
The sing-a-long songs will be our scriptures

We gotta stay positive
We gotta stay positive
We gotta stay positive
We gotta stay positive

When the chaperon crowned us the king and the queen
I knew that we'd arrived at a unified scene
And all those little lambs from my dreams
Well they were there too

'Cause it's one thing to start it with a positive jam
And it's another thing to see it all through
And we couldn't of even done this if it wasn't for you

We gotta stay positive
We gotta stay positive
We gotta stay positive



Psalm 146

I will praise the LORD as long as I live.