

The Worship of God

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 6100 Chamberlayne Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475 ,
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost • August 17, 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

Connie Bak

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

One: Give to the Lord the glory God deserves!

Many: Bring your offering and come to worship the Lord.

One: Worship the Lord in all his holy splendour.

Many: Let all the earth tremble before our God.

One: For our God is great,

Many: Our God is worthy of our praise!

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN NO. 560

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

SHOWALTER

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

In the centurion's trust (Luke 7:1-10), the heartfelt cry of "Need a Favor," and the joyful confidence of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," we find the same hope—that when we cannot stand on our own, we can rest fully on the strength and mercy of Jesus.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Connie Bak

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. 503**“O Christ, the Healer”**

ROCKINGHAM

In the faith of the centurion (Luke 7:1-10), the raw honesty of “Need a Favor,” and the prayer of “O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come,” we meet the same truth—that we come to Jesus unworthy yet trusting, asking boldly for mercy only He can give.

SCRIPTURE[Luke 7:1-10](#)

Anita Laffoon

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

Many: Thanks be to God

MESSAGE IN MUSIC**“Sanctuary”**

Newcomer

Rachel Pierce

In the centurion’s bold yet humble plea (Luke 7:1-10), the raw honesty of “Need a Favor,” and the gentle promise of “Sanctuary,” we are reminded that God meets us in our deepest need, offering a refuge of mercy where worthiness is not the measure, but faith and trust open the door.

SERMON**“Need a Favor”**

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE **“I Need Thee Every Hour’ and ‘Need a Favor”**

Arr. Horn

Rachel Pierce

In the centurion’s humble faith (Luke 7:1-10), the heartfelt cry of “Need a Favor,” and the constant prayer of “I Need Thee Every Hour,” we confess that in every moment—especially when we cannot help ourselves—we depend fully on the mercy and power of Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**HYMN No. 339****“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”**

WOODWORTH

In the centurion’s trustful humility (Luke 7:1-10), the raw confession of “Need a Favor,” and the open surrender of “Just As I Am,” we discover that Jesus meets us exactly where we are—unworthy yet welcomed, and wholly reliant on His grace.

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

Guest Musician: Reverend Rachel Pierce

Reverend Rachel Pierce is a longtime pastoral and nonprofit leader who currently serves as the Faith Liaison and Engagement Coordinator for Facts & Faith Fridays at VCU's Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she fosters meaningful conversations at the intersection of faith, health, and community. Holding a B.S. in Music from Radford University and an M.A. in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, she brings over two decades of experience connecting congregations, health professionals, and community groups around well-being and spiritual resilience.

Metro Richmond at Prayer

During the week of August 17, we pray for the workplaces and businesses of Metropolitan Richmond: For financial institutions, sustainable and just investment policies, and effective development efforts to benefit the entire community.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

River City Faith Network is a network of churches that work together to serve the city of Richmond through a variety of ministry opportunities. Ministry Centers include Camp Alkulana, The Church Hill Christian Wellness Center, Oregon Hill Baptist Center, South Richmond Baptist Center, Central Virginia Raceway Ministry, and the WMU.

Church Check-in

TODAY after worship! Please plan to attend in person or on Zoom.

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. Sign up on Realm to let us know if you're coming!

VA Pride

We have a booth at Pride again this year! Mark your calendars for **Sept 27th**, 12pm-6pm. Sign-up using the link in Monday's announcements on Realm!

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!

Hymn Texts

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Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning (leaning on Jesus), leaning on the everlasting arms.

O Christ, the Healer

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed:
yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

How strong, O Christ, are our desires, how weak our knowledge of ourselves!
Release in us those healing truths unconscious pride resists or shelves.

In conflicts that destroy our health we recognize the world's disease:
our common life declares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.

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!

“Need a Favor” - Jelly Roll

I only talk to God when I need a favor
And I only pray when I ain't got a prayer
So, who the hell am I, who the hell am I
To expect a Savior, oh
If I only talk to God when I need a favor?
But God, I need a favor

I know Amazing Grace, but I ain't been livin' them
words
Swear I spend most Sundays, drunk off my ass, than
I have in church
Hard cover King James only been savin' dust on the
nightstand
And I don't know what to say by the time I fold my
hands

I only talk to God when I need a favor
And I only pray when I ain't got a prayer
So, who the hell am I, who the hell am I
To expect a Savior, oh
If I only talk to God when I need a favor?
But God, I need a favor
Amen, amen

Yeah, I owe you more than one and beggars can't be
choosers
But I'll pay for all I've done, just please don't let me
lose her

I only talk to God when I need a favor
And I only pray when I ain't got a prayer
So, who the hell am I, who the hell am I
To expect a Savior, oh
If I only talk to God when I need a favor?
But God, I need a favor
Amen, amen
Amen, amen

Hangin' in there, just barely
Throwin' up prayers, like Hail Mary's
If You're still there, Lord, spare me
Oh my God, oh my God, Hail Mary

Hangin' in there, just barely
Throwin' up prayers, like Hail Mary's
If You're still there, Lord, spare me
Oh my God, oh my God, Hail Mary

I only talk to God when I need a favor
And I only pray when I ain't got a prayer
So tell me, who the hell am I to expect a Savior
When I only talk to God if I need a favor?
God, I need a favor
Amen
God, I need a favor, woah
Amen

