

Welcome to Worship

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 3401 Brook Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

Fourth Day of Christmas • December 28, 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

Anita Laffoon

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

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

Leader: Like Charlie Brown, we sometimes wonder what it all means once the decorations come down.

People: We come searching for meaning that lasts.

Leader: Like Pigpen, we carry our mess and our questions.

People: Yet grace meets us where we are.

Leader: Like Lucy, we struggle between cynicism and hope.

People: Still, the Light shines in the darkness.

Leader: Like Woodstock, we bring our small voices and simple songs.

People: And God delights in them all.

Leader: And like Linus, we listen again to the old, old story—

People: “The Word became flesh and lived among us.”

Leader: Christ has come. So what's now?

People: Now we worship. Now we listen. Now we live as people of the Light.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN NO. 164

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

IN DULCI JUBILO

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

Anita Laffoon

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. 104

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

SCRIPTURE

[John 1:1-14](#)

Braxton Wade

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

SERMON

“So What Now?”

Braxton Wade

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “We Three Kings’ with ‘Christmastime Is Here’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN NO. 167

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

CLOSING COMMISSION

Anita Laffoon

One: You have heard the stories of old, the stories of God’s salvation.
Many: With Mary, we have pondered these things in our hearts.
One: Go out into the world to love and do as Christ would have you do.
Many: With Joseph, we realize that our work has just begun.
One: As you depart, know that the love of God goes with you wherever you go.
Many: We are strengthened by Christ’s presence with us. Alleluia!

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.

Guest Speaker

Rev. Braxton Wade is a business leader and pastor in Richmond, VA. Braxton is a graduate of University of Richmond and Chicago Theological Seminary. Braxton has served in multiple pastoral roles across multiple churches and denominations. After years in multi-unit corporate leadership, he's returning to full-time ministry to pursue racial reconciliation and justice, spiritual formation, and the restoration of humankind.

Announcements

Metro Richmond at Prayer

During the week of December 28, we pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For an end to child abuse. For families going through divorce; for all in the midst of life transitions. For peace, reconciliation, and forgiveness among family members, whatever the distance and however old the hurt or grievance.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

Richmond Hill - Founded in 1987, Richmond Hill is an ecumenical Christian fellowship and residential community who serve as stewards of an urban retreat center within the setting of a historic monastery. Their Mission is to seek God's healing of Metropolitan Richmond through prayer, hospitality, racial reconciliation and spiritual development.

Left Brain News

Left Brain has some exciting news - a property that we have been looking at has become available to rent, and we think it would make a great home for GPBC! The property will be available February 1st, so we need to let the owner know ASAP whether we are interested in renting or not. **To that end, we would like to have a Church Check-in TODAY right after worship. Following that, we would like to have a called business meeting on January 4th right after worship.**

Page Turners' Book Club

The book club is reading "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans, and they will gather for discussion on January 18 at 4pm at the home of Dixie Leathers.

Day for All People

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's annual Advocacy Day in partnership with Virginia Interfaith Power and Light is coming up! They bring hundreds of people of faith and goodwill from across Virginia to Richmond to engage in the legislative process. Join them in- person for inspirational presentations, informative workshops, and effective advocacy on **January 21, 2026**. Register on their website -

www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org

Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday morning Bible study group will not meet January 1, 8 and 15. All are invited to join when the class resumes January 22, 2026 at 10 am at the Ashland location, 10981 Richardson Road.

Save the Date!

Our annual Chili Cook-off and Bingo night will be January 31st! Mark your calendars, and start preparing your favorite recipes!

Backpack Update

Our backpacks are being prepared at 10981 Richardson Rd, Ashland 23005. Dixie and Connie will continue as co-facilitators of the program. Contact one of them to volunteer. Don't forget to bring in your paper bags!

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

CCLI License # 21155203

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Listen now to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today.

Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now you hear of endless bliss; Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,

Christ is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he!

Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, sing praises; angels and archangels sing!

And on earth let all the faithful now your joyous anthems ring,

ev'ry tongue Christ's name confessing, countless voices answering, evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God Creator, and O Holy Ghost, to thee,

hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:

Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth:

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

